

This nationally renowned zoological park opened in Trinity Park in 1909 with just two bears, a lion, a coyote, an alligator, a peacock, and a few rabbits. Today, it is home to over 5,000 exotic and native animals.

The Zoo moved to its present home in Forest Park in 1912 after flooding from the Trinity River killed all of the animals. The first permanent structure was built to house Queen Tut, the Zoo's first Asian elephant.

The Zoo's early years saw many changes. In 1924, amusement rides were added. This included the Zoo train, which is still in use today. Throughout the 1930s, many improvements were made to include additional exhibits. In the 1940s, another elephant was added, as well as a hippo. The 1950s brought exciting changes. The Zoo not only formed the Fort Worth Zoological Association, but the aquarium opened with 100 tanks and 400 species. The herpetarium was added in 1960. The 1980s and 1990s included the opening of the Asian elephant breeding facility, the World of Primates, Asian Falls, and numerous exhibits featuring animals such as penguins, meerkats, koalas, and flamingos. The eight-acre Texas Wild! Complex opened in 2001 and showcases seven separate exhibits with animals that are all native to our great state.

The future is bright with the planned Museum of Living Art, which will house amphibians and reptiles. It will also serve as an educational facility so that visitors can learn about wildlife conservation.

All of these incredible additions have made the Fort Worth Zoo one of the most popular attractions locally, as well as a destination for people from across the United States.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Fort Worth Zoo on its 100th anniversary and to offer my sincere congratulations to an outstanding facility and its staff that have provided countless memories to children and adults over the years.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
ZACK BAKER FOR WINNING THE
BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Zack Baker showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Zack Baker was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Zack Baker always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Zack Baker on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

RECOGNIZING THE NIGHT
MINISTRY

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of The Night Ministry and their Response Ability Pregnant and Parenting Program, a program that is devoted to providing supportive services to pregnant and parenting homeless teens to strengthen family support systems, reduce subsequent pregnancies, keep teens in school, improve parenting skills and increase the safety and stability in their living situations.

The Night Ministry's RAPP Program is this year's recipient of the Healthy Teen Network's National Outstanding Emerging Innovation Program Award. This award is given out annually to a program that has demonstrated commitment to the prevention of teen pregnancy or excellence in teen pregnancy and parenting services. The RAPP Program assists teen parents while focusing on both short- and long-term goals such as medical and mental health care, acquiring stable housing, vocational training, accessing public aid and general assistance by offering services in the community and at the eight-bed, eight-crib Open Door Shelter in Lake View.

The Night Ministry's RAPP Program assists homeless teens while they deal with the stresses and strains of pregnancy and parenting. I am proud to recognize the hard work, ingenuity and charity of The Night Ministry as the RAPP Program continues to improve teenager's lives and the prospects of their futures.

ACORN DESERVES EQUAL JUSTICE
UNDER THE LAW

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I oppose the final version of the Legislative Branch Appropriations bill, which includes language that would ban funding for the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN). While ACORN has fallen under media scrutiny for actions reported by the media, no criminal charges have been filed against ACORN, no indictment has been reached against ACORN, and no trial by jury has taken place regarding ACORN.

I support an investigation of ACORN, and ACORN has already moved forward with an objective, unbiased investigation of these allegations. Instead of acting on factual data, Congress is reacting based on media reports of alleged wrongdoing. All Americans have the presumption of innocence. With this vote, Congress has ignored this presumption, and the Constitution, as well. This vote against ACORN—or any liberal, conservative, or independent organization without merit—is wrong. In these economically and socially difficult times, Congress must utilize leadership, reason, sense, and sanity. This vote is not sound leadership, and it is not what the American people expect or need.

Congress should not, and must not, start punishing individuals, businesses, or groups

without a fair trial. Congress must not assume guilt based on media reports, Internet chat rooms, or anything less than a complete and full investigation of the facts by the appropriate law enforcement agency. Some Members of Congress have even questioned the Constitutionality of Congress' refusing funds to inflict punishment on individuals without a fair trial. While I am not an expert on the Constitution, I do know that we must protect the rights of all individuals. The language in this bill, which would ban federal funds for ACORN for the length of any Continuing Budget Resolution, is wrong. It is wrong to punish organizations or individuals without a trial, and it is wrong because it totally obscures the good work that groups like ACORN have done for years. It is wrong because Congress must lead and not follow.

ACORN has operated for almost 20 years fighting for poor people. The organization has registered voters and attained housing for low income individuals and families.

This vote sets a very chilling precedent of acting first and asking questions or investigating later. I do not know the merits, or lack thereof, of ACORN's alleged wrongdoing. I do know that when Congress acts without the complete set of facts and does not consider the ramifications that this precedent sets, it hurts all Americans.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
TREY PORTER FOR WINNING
THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE
BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:
Whereas, Trey Porter showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and
Whereas, Trey Porter was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Trey Porter always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Trey Porter on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES AND
CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
JUDGE JERRY BUCHMEYER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a trailblazing legal mind that changed the face of public housing and city elections, The Honorable Jerry Buchmeyer.

Judge Buchmeyer, a retired U.S. District judge, was first appointed to the bench by President Jimmy Carter in 1979. His unwavering pursuit of fairness, in spite of the discriminatory practices that prevailed during this era,

led to laws being changed in the name of equality. Most notably, his work with public housing desegregation allowed lower income individuals access to neighborhoods once denied to them because of racial grounds.

As a Representative from the Dallas area, I appreciate Judge Buchmeyer's contribution to fair housing in addition to city elections. It is important to note that in the early 1990s the Judge ordered an election system that required more single-member districts which increased the opportunity for fair representation city-wide.

As much as he was known as a proponent of equality and fairness, he was also known for his great sense of humor and legal wit. I urge my colleagues to join me in expressing condolences and celebrating the life of Judge Jerry Buchmeyer.

HONORING CONDUCTOR ERICH
KUNZEL

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great loss in the world of music. I ask that this tribute penned by Albert Caswell of the Capitol Guide Service be placed in the Congressional Record. The Conductor Erich Kunzel, known as "The Prince of Pops," was always a colorful showman who sold well over ten million recordings and for over two decades conducted the National Symphony on Memorial Day and Fourth of July concerts at the United States Capitol in Washington. As the founding conductor, he has directed the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra since its inception in 1977. He will be missed.

ORCHESTRATING A LIFE

Orchestrating, a life . . .
The beats and measures, that which now forever so burn bright . . .
All in the rhythms of our lives . . .
Are all of those songs which we now so leave behind . . .
Are all of those beats of our lives so in time . . .
Composing, something so sublime . . .
All in how we lead, all in these our lifetimes . . .
Composed, all in these our short lives . . .
In this, The Symphony of our lives . . .
which we so now leave behind!
Of this the leader of The Band, so very fine . . .
As Erich, you so stood there so waving your baton . . .
All in what you so invoked, so inspired, so beautiful we now so find . . .
Such emotion and masterpieces, with such rhyme . . .
As one of the greatest of all Maestros of our time . . .
As why Eric, for you the violins now so cry . . .
And the drums so beat, for you now that you've died . . .
As that lone bugle plays taps, one last time . . .
Thinking of you, the smiles and the tears we now so find . . .
Of a gentle warm man, so very kind . . .
All because of the life you so conducted, which now so comes to mind . . .
Like a great symphony Erich, what you so orchestrated all in your time . . .

Thinking of you, we hear a rhapsody in blue . . . and now so cry . . .
Knowing, that we have so lost such a wonderful guy . . .
But life, has only so many beats . . . and measures to define . . .
What it is, that we have so left behind . . .
All in what we have so composed, all in these our times . . .
Magnifica, Maestro as is your life's Masterpiece so very fine!
And now, Erich . . . there is music in Heaven so sublime . . .
All because of the kind of life, that you have so orchestrated in your time!
In heaven now, waving his baton . . .

A PROCLAMATION HONORING TANNER ECKSTEIN FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Tanner Eckstein showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and Whereas, Tanner Eckstein was a supportive team player; and Whereas, Tanner Eckstein always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Tanner Eckstein on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, on September 29, 2009, my flight to Washington, DC, was delayed because of inclement weather, and I missed rollcall vote No. 740. If I had been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO MR. LESLIE M. GREEN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of America's unsung heroes, Mr. Leslie M. Green. Mr. Green is a retired Corporal of the 118th Army Air Forces Base Unit who has recently celebrated his 90th birthday. He is an ordinary man who has led an extraordinary life, one that deserves our recognition.

Leslie Green was born in East Point, Georgia on August 14, 1919. He was educated in the only high school available to him at the

time, the all-black Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta. After graduation, he worked on the family farm and in his father's business, which was unusual at the time. However, Leslie was drafted into the United States Army at Fort Benning, Georgia, in 1941, and was sent to New Orleans for basic training with the 9th Aviation Squadron.

After basic training, he was sent to Maxwell Field in Tuskegee, Alabama, where he received on-the-job training in aircraft maintenance. He became an aircraft crew chief with the rank of Corporal. For his outstanding work, Corporal Green received the American Defense Ribbon, the American Theater Ribbon, Good Conduct Ribbon and the World War II Victory Medal. He was discharged in 1945.

Madam Speaker, there have been many honors and recognitions bestowed upon the pilots known as the Tuskegee Airmen. However, the crews that supplied and serviced these pilots and their aircraft have gone unnoticed by comparison. I want to take this opportunity to thank Corporal Leslie Green and all of his fellow crew members. Our country owes them a debt of gratitude for their role in the remarkable success of the Tuskegee Airmen.

However, his military service is not the only extraordinary aspect of Leslie Green's life. Upon his discharge from the Army, Mr. Green joined his brother in Detroit, Michigan where they opened the first barber school in the city. Mr. Green served as an instructor and helped operate this successful business until 1985. In 1991, he returned to his roots in East Point, Georgia.

Yet Mr. Green knew he wanted to accomplish even more in his life. During most of his adulthood, he had been overweight. His weight led to diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and arthritis. Mr. Green knew he had to get his weight under control to improve his quality of life. He changed his diet and started working out in the fitness center. Over time, he was able to lose seventy pounds, wean himself off insulin, and reduce his other medications. Today he exercises in the fitness center nearly every day serving as a positive example at ninety years old to those much younger. He is an ambassador for healthy living and a motivator for countless people in his community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Mr. Leslie Green's lifetime of achievement. This ordinary man has spent his life doing extraordinary things. He is a war hero, an entrepreneur, and a role model for healthy living. Mr. Green has never met a challenge he wasn't willing to take on wholeheartedly. Through hard work and dedication, he has succeeded time and again. He is a testament to American dedication and ingenuity. I applaud Mr. Leslie Green, and wish him a belated happy 90th birthday.

HONORING LORI WEINSTEIN AS AN ANGEL IN ADOPTION

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Lori Weinstein as a 2009 Angel in Adoption for her exceptional work in Montgomery County, Maryland's