

commitment and a desire to help others that is not just admirable, but contagious. Indeed, the food drive that was once run out of his shop has grown today to need a warehouse.

In addition to being a committed community member, Val is a loving husband and devoted father. He and his wife, Mary, recently celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary, and Val's family members share in his mission of giving, enabling Val's Needy Family Fund to be a year-round effort. With his dedication to the hungry and less-fortunate, Val has done and continues to do our great state of Delaware an immeasurable service.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Val's Needy Family Fund, I would like to recognize the unequalled devotion of Valentino W. Nardo, Sr. Val has given his time, his energy, and his heart in support of Delawareans. His influence and contributions have reached far and wide, affecting all of our communities. I commend Mr. Nardo for his tireless dedication and look forward to his continued success in serving those in need.

**CONGRATULATING EAGLE SCOUT
BRADLEY GARR FOR RECEIVING
THE SILVER HORNADAY MEDAL**

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bradley Garr, a young Eagle Scout from my district, for his inspiring and conscientious efforts to protect Arizona's fragile Sonoran Desert.

Bradley, an 8th grader at Copper Ridge Middle School in Scottsdale, recently developed and led a day-long conservation effort to remove and relocate cacti and other delicate desert plants along a major power line corridor. The plants would otherwise be destroyed to provide maintenance access to the lines.

Bradley first built a partnership between the Boy Scouts, the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, Arizona Public Service and the City of Scottsdale. He then led a team of more than 50 volunteers to complete the work. This was Bradley's fourth major conservation project completed as part of his Eagle Scout responsibilities. In addition, Bradley is also a past winner of the Boy Scouts Medal of Heroism for helping his father, Bill Garr, pull a woman from a wrecked and burning vehicle two years ago.

For his outstanding conservation and environmental efforts, the Boy Scouts of America have nominated Bradley for the prestigious Silver Hornaday Medal. Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Bradley on these outstanding accomplishments and in wishing him well in his future endeavors.

**HONORING THE KEARNEY HIGH
SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM**

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to congratulate Coach Greg Jones and

the Kearney High School football team for winning the Missouri Class 4 state championship. The Bulldogs, led by seniors Tyler Funk, Stephen Juergens, Joe Windsor and many others, displayed the work ethic, teamwork, and sportsmanship of true champions during their 27–15 victory Friday afternoon.

After two disappointing early season defeats, this team pulled together and let their true colors show by winning their final 10 games and a state title. A state championship not only reflects the outcome of one final game but also the hard work and dedication these young men have shown over several years. I join the entire Kearney community in expressing how very proud we are of the success the players and coaches of the Kearney football team have attained.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully request you join with me in commending the Kearney Bulldogs on their state championship.

**A TRIBUTE TO OREGON CATTLEMEN'S
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT
BILL MOORE**

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share with you and my colleagues the story of Bill Moore and his life-long efforts in support of agriculture and the western ranching industry. Bill is the president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, OCA, and a tremendous friend to rural America. At the end of this week, Bill will turn over his gavel to another to lead this fine organization but he will continue his leadership in the field of agriculture. Before he relinquishes his current role, I would like to pay tribute to his leadership over the last several years.

A long list of organizations have recognized Bill's enduring support and promotion of the agriculture community's continued viability. Prior to serving as OCA president, Bill served as president of the Malheur County Cattlemen's Association. In his current role as leader for family ranchers throughout Oregon, he serves on the National Cattlemen's Beef Association board of directors. He was honored by the Ontario Oregon Chamber of Commerce in 2000 as the Agriculturalist of the Year. He has served on the local Farmer's Supply Cooperative board of directors, the Burnt River Irrigation District's board of directors and, in what is surely one of the most difficult positions anyone can have, as a member of the Burnt River School District budget board.

During his tenure as OCA president, Bill promoted and protected the interests of the cattle ranchers of Oregon. He initiated a new "Positive Producer Image Project," which utilizes a combination of traditional media and DVD production to showcase the valuable impacts ranchers have on Oregon's economy, wildlife, clean water, open space, and cultural heritage. This is the first ever video created by OCA, and it has received national accolades and become the blueprint for other states to follow as they also embark on positive producer image projects.

Born in Ontario, Oregon to William and Christine Moore, Bill has a rich history in eastern Oregon. Bill grew up with his five brothers

and sisters on a small family ranch near Vale, Oregon. After high school, Bill graduated with honors from Oregon State University with a bachelor of science degree in wildlife management in 1977. He worked for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for 5 years during and after college. In 1978 Bill married Nancy Ingle and that same year they began their own cattle herd with the purchase of eight cows. They leased land and began to grow their business. During the growth years, Bill worked for Arco Seed Company eventually becoming vice president in charge of seed production. Bill later owned his own seed distribution company.

In 1999, Bill and Nancy purchased a ranch near Unity, Oregon where they now center their ranching operation. It is truly a family operation where they have very little hired or outside help and rely on the American tradition of neighbor-helping-neighbor and family-helping-family to grow their business. Bill and Nancy have two children and three grandchildren which they treasure. Bill and Nancy take great pride and joy seeing yet another generation value and learn the ranching business and lifestyle that has meant so much to them.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Bill Moore, who has served so ably as president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association.

**ENHANCED S.E.C. ENFORCEMENT
AUTHORITY ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I stand here today in support of H.R. 2873, the Enhanced S.E.C. Enforcement Authority Act, which will give the Securities and Exchange Commission, SEC, nationwide service of process. I support this legislation because I believe that it is important that the agency responsible for oversight of our financial system have the necessary tools for legal action against potential violations of the law.

I would like to first thank my colleague, Congressman JOHN CAMPBELL, for introducing this valuable piece of legislation. On December 11, 2008, nearly one year ago, Bernard Madoff was arrested for securities fraud, money laundering, and perjury in one of the largest Ponzi schemes in the history of this country. Estimates of the magnitude of the Madoff scheme were between \$50 and \$65 billion. The presiding judge in the case declared the crimes, "extraordinary evil." Congress and the American people were appalled by this scandal. The country wondered how our regulatory agencies could fail to recognize fraud of this magnitude for so long.

In the year since the Madoff scandal first came to light, both the Securities and Exchange Commission and Congress have worked to enhance the ability of the SEC to conduct oversight. Internal procedures have been reformed to make it easier for the SEC to open investigations into violations of securities law. New personnel at the SEC, such as the Director of Enforcement, have been hired to ensure that oversight efforts were carried out with the appropriate level of enthusiasm.

Congress has also worked to improve the tools of the SEC to conduct oversight. This bill is in line with the effort to reform the oversight of securities and ensure that massive fraud that was committed on the scale of Bernard Madoff never happens again.

Currently, the Securities and Exchange Commission has to issue subpoenas in the judicial district where the trial takes place or within a "100-mile bulge" of the courthouse. This unnecessarily burdens the staff, which has to travel to the courts where the trial takes place, wasting both time and money. Furthermore, by requiring the SEC to seek action in remote district courts, civil cases may be weakened. Witnesses in cases filed by the SEC are frequently located outside of the trial court's subpoena range. Because witnesses who are not able to travel would have to provide an alternative to live testimony, such as a videotaped deposition or written testimony, the impact of their statement is lost. Additionally, securities violations using the internet involve persons across jurisdictions.

H.R. 2873 will streamline the SEC's ability to investigate potential cases of violations of securities law. This bill will allow nationwide service of subpoenas in civil actions brought by the SEC in Federal courts. By granting the SEC this authority, this legislation will eliminate repetitive depositions. While the Congressional Budget Office has not scored this legislation, logically, this legislation will reduce costs for the SEC. The costs of creating and presenting videotaped depositions will be reduced. Additionally, SEC staff will no longer have to travel to file motions in remote district courts, saving the staff time and the taxpayer money.

Other agencies with similar mandates have long had the authority for nationwide service. This body has already considered and passed this provision: during the 110th Congress, the House of Representatives passed a law of this nature in Section 19 of H.R. 6513, the Securities Act of 2008. Furthermore, the SEC already has this authority in administrative proceedings.

HONORING THE MOUND CITY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to recognize the outstanding achievement of the Mound City Panthers High School football team in defeating St. Joseph Christian, by a score of 50-8, to claim victory in this year's Show-Me Bowl.

Once again, the Panthers were able to be crowned champions this season through hard work and tireless effort. This is the second straight year that the Panthers have beaten the Lions in the 8-man title game. These young men have worked tirelessly for years on sharpening the skills needed to achieve the success they most definitely deserve. I join with the community of Mound City in expressing how proud we are of the team under the leadership of Coach Brian Messer and his coaching staff. I wish them the very best and look forward to continued success in the future.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully request you to join me in congratulating the Mound City High School football team on their state championship.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN BRADHAM COMMEMORATING HIS RETIREMENT FROM SCRA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the extraordinary efforts of Dr. John Bradham, a life-long patriot and public servant to the citizens of South Carolina and the United States. Born and raised in Sumter, John's unyielding desire to learn and succeed led him to the University of South Carolina for his undergraduate studies and to Texas A&M for multiple advanced degrees. John has a rich history of putting others' needs before his own with the utmost honesty and integrity. He served 24 years in the United States Air Force where he filled numerous leadership roles including command of Air Force Command, Control, Communications, and Computer, C4, programs, as well as environmental research on aircraft systems, radar, and various energy communications systems. John's contributions and service to his country have gone above and beyond the call of duty, evident by the fact that he retired from the Air Force as a full colonel before joining the South Carolina Research Authority, SCRA.

I have had the pleasure of working with John during his tenure at SCRA on a variety of high-level programs that have benefited South Carolinians, our warfighters, and the United States' national security. As the Senior Vice President at SCRA and head of the Institute for Solutions Generation, ISG, John has been an impetus for ingenuity and a driving force for upholding the highest standards of professionalism.

Dr. Bradham's technical knowledge has been crucial in SCRA programs and other projects for pushing the limits of technology and expanding the capabilities of our manufacturing sector to increase America's defense readiness.

I commend Dr. John Bradham for his outstanding service to the United States and for embodying the ideals and morals of what we hold a true American to be. His dedication to his family, friends, and colleagues is unmistakable and seen through the respect and honor he has earned and so righteously deserves. I wish John the best of luck in his future endeavors including his decision to teach and share his technical expertise with the youth of South Carolina. May God bless John, his wife Becky, their two children, and five grandchildren.

HONORING JOHN J. RUFÉ

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John J. Rufe of Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Serving his community as a presiding judge in the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas for twenty years, John J. Rufe has embodied what it means to be a public servant.

He has been responsible for authoring several landmark decisions on open space preservation zoning and has presided over the county's asbestos liability litigation for over a decade. In addition, John has been recognized by many for his attentive and considerate mediation in the complex and difficult field of child custody litigation.

John has also served as the President of the Bucks County Bar Association. He has been a contributor to Continuing Legal Education panels and has been a valuable resource for many beginning lawyers by offering constructive comment and guidance.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Honorable John J. Rufe for his outstanding commitment to public service, his community and his country. I am extremely honored to serve as his Congressman.

PROTECT RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN IRAQ

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution designed to raise awareness and express support for Iraqi religious minorities. The war in Iraq and the subsequent ethnic and sectarian violence has created a massive humanitarian crisis, and led to the displacement of millions of people. Iraqi religious minorities are particularly vulnerable, and are often specifically targeted in gruesome and random acts of violence, such as murder, rape, and abductions.

Many who have escaped Iraq to seek refuge in neighboring countries are forced to live in poverty, unable to legally work and lacking sufficient support from their host government. Those who remain in Iraq live a life of constant fear. They are forced into hiding and are vulnerable to emotional and physical attacks. Iraqi religious minorities lack the resources and sturdy community foundation necessary to defend themselves, and thus remain underrepresented politically, legally, and economically. Muslims and non-Muslims alike are exposed to such attacks, but the smaller religious sects remain more vulnerable, including Chaldeans, Syriacs, Assyrians, and other Christians, Sabeen Mandeans, and Yazidis. Catholic Christians have witnessed the killing of Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahho and the ancient Iraqi Jewish community has seen itself diminish to a population of only ten members.

This resolution calls upon the combined efforts of the United States Government and United Nations to ask the Iraqi Government to protect religious minorities by encouraging free and fair elections, training Iraqi security forces and providing safe places to worship. It also seeks an investigation into human rights violations, and calls for an end to the abuse of Iraqi religious minorities. Finally, the resolution calls for United States to work with the Iraqi government to ensure the physical and economic safety of those wishing to return to Iraq.

It is no longer possible to stand by and watch as millions of religious minorities are