

made significant developments since then with the development of a new restaurant, Prime 44, The Tavern Casino, and the announcement of the new PGA Tour 'The Greenbrier Classic'. Mr. Justice has worked hard to improve 'The Greenbrier' all the while increasing tourism to the county and state.

Russell Williams and Annamarie Visclosky were this year's recipients of the Greenbrier County Ambassador Award, which honors those who have assisted the tourism community by going above and beyond the call of duty. Mr. Williams and Ms. Visclosky have spearheaded a number of impressive activities in the community, including the Lewisburg Chocolate Festival, Carnegie Hall's Taste of Our Towns, and the Rhythm and Blues Festival.

The State Fair of West Virginia was named as this year's recipient of the Hometown Hero Award, which recognizes an individual or group that has gone above the call of duty in securing conferences or meetings in Greenbrier County. Board Member Kathryn Tuckwiller accepted the award of behalf of the State Fair of West Virginia.

The Friend of Tourism Award is chosen by the Convention and Visitors Bureau to recognize an individual or group that has excelled in promoting tourism in partnership with the Bureau. This year's winner was Brier Properties which was recognized for their significant hotel development in the area and their outstanding willingness to partner with the Greenbrier County CVB in marketing initiatives.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the winners of this year's Spirit of Tourism Awards who have contributed in unique ways to the growth and development of the economy in the Third Congressional District of West Virginia—a district that I am very proud to represent here in Washington, DC.

HONORING A.C. REYNOLDS HIGH SCHOOL FOR THEIR VICTORY AT THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the recent accomplishments of the A.C. Reynolds High School football team, the Rockets.

On Saturday, December 12, the Rockets won the North Carolina 4-A State Football Championship against Hartnett Central High School, with a score of 14-13. They finished the season with a record of fourteen wins and only two losses. A.C. Reynolds is the first high school in the history of Buncombe County to win three State High School Football Championships in 1999, 2002 and 2009.

I especially wish to congratulate A.C. Reynolds Head Football Coach, Shane Laws. I know from experience that teams do not rise to this level of success without a strong coach. It takes a great leader to instill the determination and work ethic that lead to victories on the football field.

The A.C. Reynolds Rockets Football team is known throughout the mountain area for their strong defense. This season's championship

and stellar defensive play only continue that legacy. These young men have well represented the mountains of Western North Carolina throughout their drive to this year's State Football Championship. It is my privilege to recognize their accomplishments today in this chamber.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our congratulations to this group of young men and their coaches for their accomplishments on the football field this season.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE REVITALIZING CITIES THROUGH PARKS ENHANCEMENT (RECIPE) ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I strongly believe that open spaces and community parks are a critical part of urban infrastructure. That's why today I am reintroducing the Revitalizing Cities Through Parks Enhancement (RECIPE) Act, that would establish a \$10 million grant program for qualified, non-profit, community groups, allowing them to lease municipally owned vacant lots and transform these areas into parks. Parks and gardens created with the grants will not only provide safe places to gather, but will increase property values as well. The grants will be available from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to groups who have met standards of financial security, and who have histories of serving their communities. To further ensure that these grants are used to make lasting positive changes, land improved and made into open community space under this legislation must be available for use as open space from the local government for at least seven years.

CONGRATULATING THE SOUTH JOHNSTON HIGH SCHOOL 2009 VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the South Johnston High School Trojans football team in Four Oaks, North Carolina for a historic season and trip to the 3-AA North

Carolina High School Athletic Association State Championship football game this past Saturday, December 12, 2009 at Kenan Stadium in Chapel Hill. South Johnston finished the season with an impressive record of 14 and 2 and were the 2009 Conference and 3-AA Regional Champions. This is the third conference title for South Johnston, the first ever appearance in the third round of Regionals and the school's first trip to the State Finals.

I am extremely proud of the dedication, determination, sportsmanship, and discipline of this talented football team. The members of the 2009 team are to be commended for their drive and perseverance. They include Dee

Williams, Brandon Bussiere, Willie Jefferson, Brandon Beasley, Dan Atkins, Alex Barbour, Vivek Patel, Justin Sanders, Jim Abdalla, Anthony Crumity, Shawn Williams, Blake Ingram, Shaun Write, Josh Barbour, Matt McClendon, Rohelio Morales, Mitch McLamb, Marcus Faison, Aaron Anderson, Unek Lloyd, Matt Stanley, RonJonek Gill, Dan Stanley, John Jefferies, Javonte Burns, Woody Thornton, JohnTavious Chrisp, Jon Farmer, Tyler Benson, Devon Smith, Pat Dunigan, Stacy Thornton, Mike Purvis, Erasto Simmons, Jovonte Cox, Trevor Beasley, Adam Hockaday, and Tyvon Small.

South Johnston Head Coach Joe Salas and his great team of assistant coaches worked tirelessly behind the scenes and are the architects of the behind the team's success.

I am proud to have the honor of representing this outstanding high school and I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring these fine young athletes.

TERRORISTS BELONG AT GITMO, NOT A NEIGHBORHOOD JAIL

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, the Obama Administration has announced its plan to transfer 75 Guantanamo Bay detainees to the United States.

The Administration claims that transferring these detainees from Guantanamo Bay will somehow lessen al Qaeda's desire to attack America. But a change in location of detainees is not going to reduce terrorists' hatred of America.

However, the transfer of any Gitmo detainee to the U.S. will give them additional constitutional rights, making it harder for prosecutors to obtain convictions.

The Administration claims that it can detain these terrorists indefinitely. But many agree this is an impossible goal. Civil liberties groups were quick to point out that indefinite detention inside the United States without a trial is little more than a change in zipcode.

It is clear to all but those in the Administration that this decision will likely result in the almost immediate challenge to detention as soon as these terrorists arrive in Illinois.

The Guantanamo Bay facility in Cuba, not a prison in America's heartland is the right place for terrorists.

225TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRENTON'S TIME AS CAPITAL OF THE UNITED STATES

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 225th anniversary of the city of Trenton's tenure as the capital of the United States.

Students of American history are familiar with the Compromise of 1790. James Madison

and Thomas Jefferson won permanent residence for Congress on the Potomac in exchange for the Federal Government's assumption of State debts from the Revolution—a priority of Alexander Hamilton. What followed was the Residence Act, which established what we now know as the District of Columbia.

What is less understood is the capital's journey through eight other towns, the abandoned proposals and the near-misses before Congress settled here on the Potomac. During the Revolutionary War, Congress moved frequently to avoid British troops—meeting famously in Philadelphia then in Baltimore, York, and Lancaster. Upon ratification of the Articles of Confederation, Congress returned to Independence Hall only to be removed abruptly in the summer of 1783.

That June, approximately 500 mutinous Pennsylvania militiamen demanding back pay from their service during the Revolution, encircled Independence Hall and refused to let Members of Congress leave the building unless their demands were met. Uncertain of their safety and the integrity of Congress, the delegates fled across the Delaware to Princeton, New Jersey.

In Princeton, Congress redoubled its efforts to select a permanent seat of government. To settle regional animosity, Congress agreed on two permanent capitals on the Delaware and Potomac, while designating Annapolis and Trenton as interim capitals.

On November 1, 1784, Congress convened in Trenton. Travel-weary legislators reluctantly trickled into Trenton—then a town of roughly 500 people—and it began official business at the French Arms Tavern on the corner of Warren and State Streets.

When Congress finally reached a quorum on November 29 it considered matters of foreign affairs and finance, appointing ministers to Britain and France and selecting commissioners to the Board of Treasury.

The highlight of Trenton's time as the capital was a visit by the Marquis de Lafayette. During his visit he petitioned Congress to take official leave to France and addressed a joint session of the New Jersey State Legislature. In honor of Lafayette, one of George Washington's most trusted generals, Congress drafted a letter to the King of France praising Lafayette's service and passed a resolution commending Lafayette for his bravery during the siege of Yorktown.

As the session concluded before Christmas, Congress scrapped the plan for two capitals and took up a resolution to establish a permanent capital in Trenton. Unfortunately for Trenton, debate stalled, and on Christmas Eve Congress agreed to meet in New York City after the New Year.

The rest as they say is history. The bustling, city life of New York was more appealing to Members of Congress than the calm of small-town Trenton. They quickly forgot their plans and continued to meet in New York until 1790.

Still, Congress's brief visit to Trenton offers a fascinating glimpse into the early history of the United States and should remind us that the remarkable Capitol building in which we conduct the people's business should not be taken for granted.

I commend the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area, the Trenton Historical Society, and the other organizations that make up Trenton 1784—The Na-

tion's Capital Committee, for their excellent work, schedule event and lectures and preparing exhibits and online resources to bring to life this fascinating yet fleeting moment in American history. Trenton was then and is today a town with great appeal.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATRICK W. HENNING'S OUTSTANDING CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to offer the following statement, in recognition of Patrick W. Henning upon his retirement, on behalf of myself and the following members of the California congressional delegation: Representatives PETE STARK, HOWARD BERMAN, SAM FARR, LYNN WOOLSEY, ZOE LOFGREN, ANNA ESHOO, HENRY WAXMAN, DORIS MATSUI, JERRY MCNERNEY, JIM COSTA, BARBARA LEE, GRACE NAPOLITANO, LAURA RICHARDSON, BRAD SHERMAN, MIKE HONDA, LINDA SANCHEZ, JOE BACA, and other colleagues.

We rise in honor of Patrick Henning, upon his retirement from public service as the director of California's Employment Development Department, EDD. With nearly 40 years of experience in the field of labor, Mr. Henning brought to his office a deep and unmatched commitment to strengthening California's workforce.

Throughout his career, Mr. Henning has worked to improve the lives of California's workers—from his early days as a union organizer to his appointment to one of the state's largest Departments.

Prior to joining the Employment Development Department, Mr. Henning served the California Legislature for 17 years as a key labor policy consultant—first in the Assembly, and then in the Senate's Labor and Industrial Relations Committee headed by now-Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis. In the early 1980s, Mr. Henning served as California Labor Commissioner, and later as a member of the Agricultural Labor Relations Board. As a union representative in Southern California in the 1970s, Mr. Henning helped hundreds of workers bargain for improved wages, benefits, and working conditions.

Other major achievements include his tenure as chair of the state Developmental Disabilities Area Board for Los Angeles County. He also served several years in the United States Marine Corps Reserve.

Without a doubt, California's working families have benefited from Mr. Henning's lifelong contributions to the labor field. We would like to thank Mr. Henning for everything he has achieved for California's workers, and we give him our very warmest wishes for many happy years of retirement.

HONORING BALBINA "BARBIE" HERNANDEZ

**HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, on December 11, 2009, San Antonio lost a great public servant when Balbina "Barbie" Hernandez passed away at the age of 62. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Barbie Hernandez as we celebrate her life, which was highlighted by decades of community service, philanthropy, and leadership.

Balbina Hernandez was born on November 2 and was named after her paternal grandmother. She was nicknamed "Barbie" in high school and was by known by this name the rest of her life.

She was an active member of her community, serving countless organizations and served the City of San Antonio for 18 years, which included being part of then Mayor Henry Cisneros' administration. As a single parent, Barbie passionately worked to be a role model for young women and boldly carried a red purse to remind people of the disparity in pay between men and women. Also, as a proud Vok, Barbie was dedicated to Lanier High School and worked to make a difference for the students attending her alma mater.

After working tirelessly to earn her bachelor's degree from the University of the Incarnate Word she set out to work for the Mexican American & Hispanic Physicians Association, MAHPA, as Executive Director. At MAHPA, Barbie took great joy in working to make college and medical school a reality for so many kids.

The City of San Antonio and the State of Texas feel a little emptier now, but we have all lived richer, better lives because of the life of Balbina "Barbie" Hernandez. Her life may have ended, but her contributions will live on and generations shall enjoy the fruits of her labor.

STOP ANY TARP EXTENSION ACT OF 2009

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I have cosponsored the Stop Any TARP Extension Act of 2009. The position of the Treasury Department—that it is free to reuse any repaid TARP funds—is entirely contrary to the law. Due to the Department's unwillingness to adhere to the statutory language of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, it is necessary to terminate that Act.

My office has inquired with the Treasury Department as to whether it possesses any legal opinion justifying the recycling of funds repaid by the banks. It should be noted that the Department has hundreds of lawyers and rarely does anything without a legal opinion, certainly not anything involving hundreds of billions of dollars. The Treasury Department refused to provide any legal opinion to Congress, implying that this is a case where he cannot find even one Department lawyer to reach the conclusion the Department would prefer.