

out of good, honest work and a love of food, people, and the community. Along the way, each generation has shown a flair for imagination and innovation in the hospitality and food industry. In an era of many constant challenges that face our daily lives, the tireless efforts of establishments like Schuler's help to make our community, state and country an outstanding place to live and work. It is with deep appreciation of the significance of this milestone that I commend Schuler's Restaurant & Pub as they celebrate 100 years of exemplary service to the Marshall community and the State of Michigan.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MIRIAM WITHERSPOON

HON. ARTUR DAVIS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to extend my condolences to the family of Miriam Witherspoon, a city council member whose death on April 21 is being mourned by the entire city of Birmingham, Alabama. Ms. Witherspoon was a note of grace in Birmingham politics: if you knew her, you had to appreciate that she was genuinely kind and generous in a profession known more for its sharp edges.

Miriam was the kind of individual who excelled at whatever she did. Academically, that meant graduating with high honors from Alabama A&M, and second in her class at Miles Law School. Professionally, it meant crafting a career as one of the leading experts on elder law in the state of Alabama. Politically, it meant forging a political career in her adopted community of Birmingham on her own, independent terms. She lost her first council race, but came back so strong that in 2005, she won easily, the only non-incumbent to win outright without a runoff. Miriam won the confidence of her peers so quickly that in her first days, they elected her president pro tempore of the council.

Miriam Witherspoon happened to have a disability. An automobile accident twenty-one years ago ruined her spinal cord. Her spirit only grew stronger. When she entered public life, disabled citizens in Birmingham finally had their voice. Miriam pushed Birmingham and its city buildings to live up to the obligations of the Americans with Disabilities Act. When told that following the law cost money, her answer was, in effect, "we are Americans by way of Birmingham, Alabama, and we belong here too". Her passion reminded us that Birmingham of all places has no business keeping people out.

She goes home to rest now, having fought the good fight. Her legacy will be the people she inspired, who used to have an excuse for why they couldn't compete or excel. That is, they had an excuse until the moment they met Miriam Witherspoon, and felt the spirit that was standing upright around her wheelchair.

CELEBRATING EARTH DAY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, the Los Angeles basin holds one of the greatest concentrations of humanity in the world. People have come from all over the Earth to live there—when one walks down a street in Glendale or Alhambra one can hear a language from ten thousand miles away on one block and read signs in a vastly different language on the next. But if you look up a little higher, above the signs and above the buildings, you'll see gray-green mountains looking down on it all. In my district, we're right up against the Verdugo, Santa Monica and San Gabriel Mountains, and they surprise you all the time, appearing at street corners from behind the buildings, playing hide-and-seek with intervening hills and highways.

Though few of my constituents live up there, I try to get up into the hills as often as I can, and I'm often surprised by how many of my neighbors I run into on the trail. I think that, like me, they wander in the chaparral and oak forests to get away for a while, and find some perspective in the process. Among the families, teenagers and retirees I pass, I see all of the cultures I know from the streets of my district, all enjoying the fact that they can find some peace and quiet just a few minutes away from one of the largest cities in the world.

Our green spaces play an irreplaceable role in our communities, and on this Earth Day, I would like to celebrate them. This is a day to think globally, but it is also a day to act locally, by taking your family to the park and exploring all that you find there. In the words of John Muir, "When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world."

A TRIBUTE TO RON SAILOR

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the dedication, service and commitment of Ron Sailor to the veterans of Maine.

Ron was born in Orono, Maine, and is a graduate of George Stevens Academy in Blue Hill. He attended Husson College and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in accounting in 1968. He then briefly worked for Great Northern Paper Company and the Internal Revenue Service.

Ron served 32 years in the Maine Air National Guard, attaining the rank of Colonel. He served in a number of roles, including Chief of Staff to the Adjutant General, Public Affairs Officer, and Director of Operations and Training.

Like so many veterans across our nation, Ron's service did not end when he took off his uniform. Following his Maine Air National Guard service, Ron became active in the American Legion, serving as Orono Post 84 Commander, the Penobscot County Vice

Commander and the Department of Maine Commander.

For the past 10 years, Ron has served as the Adjutant for the Department of Maine. Throughout his service to the American Legion, he has worked tirelessly on behalf of all the Maine legionnaires to ensure they receive the rights and benefits they have earned from their service.

Maine veterans, both now and for generations to come, will benefit because of Ron's efforts. Through his hard work and dedication, Ron has left a lasting legacy and brought honor and credit to himself, his family, his community, the American Legion and his nation. I have valued his candor, his guidance and his friendship, and I extend my sincere thank you to him for his many years of service on behalf of the veterans of Maine.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CHILD CARE AFFORDABILITY ACT OF 2009

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, the rising cost of child care is squeezing working families in these difficult economic times, and the amount of assistance the federal government currently provides to ease the burden of these expenses is inadequate. To address this issue, today I am introducing the Child Care Affordability Act.

A substantial gap exists between what high-quality early care and education programs cost and what most families can afford to pay. The average cost of full-time care for one child in a child care center is about \$13,000 per year in urban areas—nearly one quarter of the typical family's income. The amount of assistance that the typical family can receive from the current federal credit for child care expenses is limited to \$600 for one child and \$1,200 for two children. The Child Care Affordability Act helps families to fill that gap so that more of America's children will experience high-quality child care and early education settings.

The Child Care Affordability Act of 2009 acts on two fronts. First, it creates a new tax deduction for child and dependent care expenses. Much of a so-called "martini lunch" is currently a tax-deductible business expense, while child care is not. But for the typical family, child care is a very necessary expense for being able to work. Second, the bill expands the current credit for child and dependent care expenses so that it provides a more meaningful level of assistance to families. Families would be able to choose either the deduction or the credit, making the choice that gives them the biggest tax break. A family with median income of \$56,788 and two children could receive as much as \$5,200 in tax assistance.

I urge my colleagues to join me in this initiative to ease the burden on working families while making an essential investment in the future prosperity of our country.

HONORING JACOB TANENBAUM

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jacob Tanenbaum, an outstanding constituent and educator from the 17th Congressional District of New York, for his exemplary efforts in bringing real scientific research to the classroom.

Jacob Tanenbaum, an elementary school teacher at the South Orangetown schools in Rockland County, New York, was chosen by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Teacher at Sea Program to participate in a two-week research cruise in the North Atlantic this past fall to study Atlantic fisheries while aboard NOAA Ship Henry B. Bigelow.

Embarking from Newport, Rhode Island, Mr. Tanenbaum's research cruise followed a track off the United States' northeastern coast. Mr. Tanenbaum not only researched fisheries, but also wrote a daily blog, took photographs, interviewed scientists, and engaged in dialogue with his students, fellow teachers, and the general public. Mr. Tanenbaum became an integral part of the research team and ship's crew and established relationships that will give him and his colleagues access to scientific resources for many years to come. With his at-sea experience, Mr. Tanenbaum has been able to enrich his curriculum and excite his students about science.

In one of his logs, Mr. Tanenbaum wrote, "Through NOAA's Teacher at Sea Program, students are not just learning about exciting research projects at sea, they are witnesses to them, and on some level, participants in them. The Teacher at Sea program is about something far more important than test scores and text books. It is about inspiration and excitement. Inspiring learning and creating excitement about learning are not just simple hoped-for extras in an educational setting—they are the most essential parts of a culture of learning."

I congratulate, Mr. Tanenbaum on his spirit of adventure in the name of education, his willingness to try new things, and his ability to bring this experience back into the classroom. NOAA's Teacher at Sea program has afforded Mr. Tanenbaum an unparalleled opportunity to provide his students with hands-on scientific education, grounded in his unique experience. The lessons he learned on the Bigelow will stay with Mr. Tanenbaum for the rest of his teaching career, acting as a source from which he will always be able to draw inspiration and creativity.

HONORING PATRICK GARRETT

HON. MARK H. SCHAUER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. SCHAUER. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Patrick Garrett, President and Chief Executive Officer of Battle Creek Health System (BCHS) as he transitions into a new executive role as Vice President of the Operations Performance Leadership Department with Trinity Health.

Pat has served as President and CEO of Battle Creek Health System (BCHS) since July of 1999. His legacy includes strong community involvement, a growing partnership with medical staff and marked improvements in finances, quality, and service.

During Pat's tenure, BCHS was honored for outstanding clinical outcomes by HealthGrades, the nation's leading independent health care ratings company and the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer. It was named one of the nation's leaders in development of an electronic medical record by Hospitals & Health Networks magazine.

BCHS has also been recognized for five consecutive years as one of West Michigan's "Best and Brightest Places to Work" by Michigan Business & Professional Association. For the past nine years, Patrick has earned both the respect and admiration of medical staff, associates, and community members for his skillful and honest leadership. Patrick is a model of patriotism and well deserves our respect and appreciation for his many years of dedication and distinguished service.

HONORING THE 2009 CLASS 5A
GIRLS SOCCER STATE CHAMPIONS
COPELL HIGH SCHOOL
COWGIRLS**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exceptional achievement of the Coppell High School girls soccer team: 2009 Class 5A State Champions of Texas. The Coppell Cowgirls completed their historic title run with a victory over the nation's previously top-ranked team and a dramatic 3-2 victory over The Woodlands in the state championship game.

Winning a state title is a remarkable accomplishment. It takes many crucial components working together to achieve this level of success. The 2009 Class 5A Girls Soccer State Champions of Texas, the Coppell High School Cowgirls, include: Kailey Hicks; Tannah Deloach; Katie Bass; Laura Sadler (Captain); Lauren Johnson; Alyssa Diggs (Captain); Sydney Frazier (Captain); Spayne Avant; Dominique Dinka; Chioma Ubogagu; Brittany Redus; Amina Radoncic; Allison Guderian; Danielle Herubin; Kristen Hart; Christina Baker; Erin Barlow; Haley Powers; Rebekah Henderson; Rachel Henderson; Cara Manning (Captain); Tori Van Riper; Whitney Borstad; Lauren Scott; Maddie Peter; Jessica Berdan; Bear Bass; Lindsey Meyer; Arielle Ghoston (manager); Arresha Robinson; Yvette Carson; Kristen Hester (trainers); Michelle Mcalister; Justin Heller; Tito Schwabe (assistant coaches); John Crawford (athletic director); Sherri Hankins (athletic coordinator); and the head coach, Chris Stricker. Educators, teachers, school officials, families and friends also deserve significant praise for their efforts in supporting the Cowgirls.

The state title earned by the Cowgirls has brought great pride to the school and community. On behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the entire team and coaching staff and best of luck in all of your future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEMECULA POST OFFICE

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, today marks the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Temecula Post Office. In 1859, at its establishment, it became only one of seven post offices in California south of the Tehachapi Mountains.

John Butterfield, an experienced stagecoach company owner was awarded a contract to deliver mail between St. Louis, Missouri and San Francisco, California. There was a time consideration in the contract requiring that each trip be completed in 25 days. On September 16, 1858, Mr. Butterfield began the first east to west journey and it was completed in 23 days and 23 hours.

Six months after the passage of the first Butterfield Stage through Temecula, U.S. President James Buchanan appointed Louis A. Rouen as the first Temecula Postmaster on April 22, 1859. Rouen served at the Magee store, near what is now Margarita Road and the Temecula Parkway. This was the first of the fourteen post office sites that have been used in the collection and distribution of Temecula's mail; the post office location changed frequently during the ensuing decades. It was located in several places including private residences, the Wolf Store, the Machado Stores, the train station, the Palomar and the Temecula Hotels, Hall's Café, Security Pacific Bank and the two sites operating today.

During its journey to and from Temecula, mail may have been in ships, planes, 18 wheelers, golf carts and many other conveyances including the last mule train delivery used in the United States. Mail Service in Temecula has been a significant part of the community for a century and a half. It is sometimes little appreciated except by those who serve. Following September 11, 2001 the Postal Service ran a series of reminders in magazines, papers and on television that summarize what they do for the citizens of Temecula and our Nation.

"We are mothers and fathers. And sons and daughters who every day go about our lives with duty, honor and pride. And neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night, nor winds of change, nor a nation challenged, will stay us from our appointed rounds. Ever."

Still standing today, the Temecula Post Office is a monument to the faithful and dedicated work of the men and women who have served the community for 150 years.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MSU RECEIVING THE AFRICA-U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION INITIATIVE PLANNING GRANT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Michigan State University in