

Award, which is the highest award a Cub Scout can earn.

After completing the Cub Scout program, Hamilton joined Boy Scout Troop 66. During his tenure in the Boy Scouts, Hamilton has earned 37 merit badges, far surpassing the 21 merit badges that are required. This accomplishment is all the more impressive, considering Hamilton is only 14 years old.

Hamilton is a model citizen amongst the youth in our country and my district. His proven leadership and remarkable accomplishments have truly made his family and community proud. I am confident that Hamilton will use the skills he has acquired for the rest of his life as tools for the betterment of his community, state and country. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Hamilton Stephens Winters on this monumental achievement.

DR. CINDY STEVENSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker I rise today to recognize and applaud Dr. Cindy Stevenson, superintendent of Jeffco Public Schools for her selection as finalist in the 2010 Superintendent of the Year. Of the 49 state-level finalists only four nominees are chosen. This program along with ARAMARK Education, ING and the American Association of School Administrators celebrates the contributions and leadership of top public school superintendents like Dr. Stevenson.

Dr. Stevenson's service to Jefferson County schools has helped with the development of its teachers and educational leaders. She has always held a strong focus on student achievement, improving teaching and learning, creating community partnerships and focusing on continuous improvement for all Jefferson County schools. The work of a superintendent like Dr. Stevenson has resulted in a number of successful academic communities in Jefferson County.

To reach this point in the nomination process Dr. Stevenson was required to fulfill a list of rigorous criteria. Among the qualifying factors Dr. Stevenson had to exemplify creativity in successfully meeting the needs of students in the school system, exemplary strength in both personal and organizational communication, a constant improvement of administrative knowledge and active participation in local community activities. Dr. Stevenson has met and exceeded this criteria and her nomination and successes confirm this.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Stevenson for her selection as finalist for the 2010 Superintendent of the Year. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
CORPORAL JAMES SZUBA

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Corporal James

Szuba, a nearly eight year veteran of the Mishawaka Police Department, who gave his life in the line of duty.

On Saturday, January 9, 2010, an intoxicated driver, in the act of fleeing from a pursuing officer, struck Corporal Szuba's patrol car as he was responding to a call for assistance. On board was his eight-year-old canine partner, a German Shepherd named Ricky, who was also killed upon impact.

Mishawaka Police Assistant Chief Mike Samp noted "He was very dedicated. He was one of those officers who would step up and help an officer if they needed anything. He was an outstanding officer who is going to be greatly missed around here." In 2004 he and three fellow officers were presented the Officer of the Year Award by the Indiana Council of Fraternal, Veterans and Social Societies after they rescued a five-year-old boy from drowning in a frozen neighborhood pond. Cpl. Szuba also received several letters of commendation and his performance evaluation noted that he "is one of the most dependable and trustworthy officers . . . he has leadership skills and is well respected by his peers and supervisors."

James followed a family tradition of service; his late father, Floyd, was an officer and his brother, John, is a sergeant with the nearby South Bend Police Department. Cpl. Szuba was trained in patrol tactics and narcotics searches. He was also an Indiana Law Enforcement Academy firearms instructor for the Mishawaka Police Department.

Corporal Szuba leaves behind his mother, Gerri, his wife, Debbie, a son, Joshua and daughter, Stephanie, two brothers and two sisters as well as many friends, relatives and fellow officers. Madam Speaker, we grieve for the loss of Corporal James Szuba. Let us always value that America's police officers serve to protect our country, day in and day out, regardless of the dangers they face. May God welcome him home and give comfort to his family and friends.

CELEBRATING VALDOSTA,
GEORGIA'S 150TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the 150th birthday of Valdosta, Georgia. This impressive milestone allows us to take the time to celebrate the city's progress over the past 150 years.

Valdosta was incorporated as a town in 1860, when Troupville, the previous Lowndes County seat, relocated to follow the expanding railroad. The city of Valdosta is home to more than 46,000 people, as well as Moody Air Force Base, where President George W. Bush received his National Guard flight training. Valdosta is commonly referred to as the "Azalea City," as the red, pink, and white plants bloom in abundance throughout the city, especially in the spring.

According to tradition, the first train came over the new road to Valdosta on July 4, 1860. Willis Allen was designated as the first manager of the railroad, which was then called Savannah, Florida, & Western and later became part of the Atlantic Coast Line. Valdosta

was primarily an agricultural city, and with time it became the largest inland market for Sea Island cotton in the world, until the boll weevil beetle eliminated the crop in 1917. Today, Valdosta's agriculture consists mainly of row crops such as tobacco, cotton and peanuts.

Valdosta has been the home of many skilled athletes, which earned the town the 2008 "Tittletown, USA" award by ESPN. With 14 national titles, 47 conference titles, 99 state titles, and 289 region titles, Valdosta has certainly earned this honor. Valdosta has also thrived in the artistic realm. A number of comedians, actors, and musicians have emerged from Valdosta. The original "Jingle Bells" tune was even composed by one of Valdosta's music teachers, James Lord Pierpont. Valdosta's symphony orchestra—composed of local artists, students, and professors at Valdosta State University—attracts guest performers of international reputation. The Arts and Balloon Festival, held in April, serves to celebrate all of these artistic endeavors.

Whether you are admiring the beauty of Valdosta at the annual Azalea festival in March, watching one of the city's athletes perform on the national stage, or simply encountering friendly faces as you pass through one of Valdosta's many parks and historic districts, the city is no doubt a captivating one. From its birth in 1860 until today, the year of its Sesquicentennial Celebration, Valdosta has remained one of the nation's greatest and most productive cities. It is one of the many cities that keep Georgia on the mind, and I am proud to celebrate its history with you today.

HOPE FOR HAITI

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my deepest sympathy to the people of Haiti as they cope with the aftermath of yesterday's massive earthquake. The tremendous loss of life and the untold devastation has left the capital of Port-au-Prince in ruins and countless families facing the untold horrors of loved ones injured or killed. This earthquake has shown us nature's worst.

The world's response to this awful tragedy will demonstrate the best of human nature. Many people will offer relief and assistance, through time and money. As we have always done in times of international disaster, the United States is sending aid to Haiti, including Fairfax County's Urban Search and Rescue Team 1 (USAR Team 1), which deployed this morning.

USAR Team 1 is one of two urban search and rescue teams nationwide that report to the U.S. Agency for International Development—Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance for humanitarian deployments. This highly trained rescue team has deployed to numerous locations across the globe, saving lives in areas such as Armenia, Indonesia, Romania, Kenya, Bolivia, Oklahoma City, and the Pentagon, providing critical lifesaving rescues, especially in building collapse situations.

In this terrible time of tragedy, Fairfax County's USAR Team 1 represents the best that America has to offer, hope and a commitment

to helping those in need. I commend the men and women of USAR Team 1 on their heroic efforts, mourn for those who lost their lives and pray for those awaiting aid.

**SALUTING THE ATHLETES OF THE
2010 WINTER GAMES OF TEXAS**

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding athletes of the fifth annual Winter Games of Texas.

This multi-sport youth athletic event is patterned after the international Olympic Games and presented by The Texas Amateur Athletic Federation, a nonprofit organization established in 1925 to promote, organize and conduct amateur athletics in Texas.

The sports festival serves as an excellent showcase of the talented young athletes of Texas. More than 4,500 young people will participate in this year's competition.

An exciting Celebration of Athletes program will be held, featuring games, live entertainment, professional athletes, and past Olympic heroes.

Fourteen different sporting events are included in the contest this year: soccer, basketball, table tennis, wrestling, cheerleading, swimming, flag football, ice hockey, figure skating, volleyball, fencing, bowling, rock climbing, karate, and gymnastics.

I commend each of the athletes who will be competing in these sports. Their hard work, dedication and passion will serve them well in all aspects of life.

I would also like to thank the City of Frisco, including their fine leader, Mayor Maher Maso, the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation, and all the volunteers throughout this city and state who have expended their time and energy to prepare for this great event.

I wish all participants and volunteers an enjoyable and successful tournament.

Let the games begin!

**IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
RICHARD J. ZUNT**

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Mr. Richard J. "Dick" Zunt, dedicated father, uncle, journalist and friend, whose amazing life reflected love for family, community and journalistic excellence. As a high school sports beat reporter, he consistently captured the energy, action and emotion of games played throughout Greater Cleveland. From amazing triumphs, to shocking defeats, to predictable endings, Mr. Zunt's reporting was always accurate, compassionate, and respectful—and held the interest and imagination of tens of thousands of readers.

Though a talented reporter, it was Mr. Zunt's kind demeanor, great sense of humor and generous heart that drew others to him.

He lived his life by the Golden Rule, reaching out to help wherever needed. He grew up in Cleveland, instilled with values of hard work, service to community and an unmistakable joy for life. A talented athlete himself, Mr. Zunt ran track at St. Ignatius High School, graduating in 1950. As a student reporter at John Carroll University, Mr. Zunt began honing his journalistic skills as a reporter for the university paper, the "Carroll News." He graduated from John Carroll in 1955, then served two years in the United States Navy. In 1957, following his military service, Mr. Zunt joined The Plain Dealer, where he worked as a sports reporter, with an emphasis on high school sports, until his retirement in 2001.

Throughout his tenure at The Plain Dealer, Mr. Zunt made countless friends, many of whom remained close friends throughout his life. His honest approach, unwavering integrity and caring nature forged life-long bonds of trust, friendship and admiration with coaches, players, school administrators and colleagues. He was very active in the community, serving on several community, press and educational boards—and was an active alumnus of St. Ignatius High School. Though not impressed with awards and accolades, Mr. Zunt's many achievements were publicly recognized. He was inducted to the St. Ignatius Hall of Fame, the Greater Cleveland Softball Hall of Fame, and the Cleveland Press Club Hall of Fame.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor and remembrance of Mr. Richard J. "Dick" Zunt, whose love for family and friends, service to community and joy for living will be remembered always. I offer my deepest condolences to his loving children, Mary "Cal," Monica, Sarah, and Richard J. Jr.; to his daughters-in-law, Brooke and Ethel; to his sons-in-law, Mike and Ruben; to his brothers, J. Raymond and Robert; to his sister Mary; to his dear companion, Doris; and to all his extended family members and numerous friends. Mr. Zunt's life—defined by kindness, joy, talent and a compassionate heart—will forever live in the minds and hearts of his family, friends and all whom knew and loved him well—and he will never be forgotten.

**A TRIBUTE TO KAREN ANDE AND
RUTHANN RICHTER**

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two Bay Area women, Karen Ande and Ruth Richter, and their compelling book *Face to Face, Children of the AIDS Crisis in Africa*.

This very special work was conceived after Karen Ande and Ruthann Richter travelled to Africa in 2004. They were devastated by the plight of children living under staggeringly brutal conditions, often without food, education or a stable, caring adult in their lives. Many of the children had watched their parents die and then had to cope with the consequences of living alone or with little support. They resolved to bring the issue to light and their book is the vehicle they chose to accomplish this goal.

The following words in praise of the book by Philip Pizzo, M.D., Dean of the Stanford University School of Medicine, a specialist in pe-

diatric AIDS and one of the 14th Congressional District's most distinguished and effective leaders, are an eloquent statement about the book and its subject.

"Ruthann Richter and Karen Ande have given a new voice and face to this pandemic, which continues to destroy the hopes, dreams and lives of children. Through compelling and poignantly informed stories and narratives and incredibly sensitive and touching portraits of children, families, providers and communities, Richter and Ande remind us, in a deeply personal way, how important HIV remains in Africa and beyond."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Karen Ande and Ruthann Richter for their extraordinary work and their efforts to bring to our attention the continuing ravages of the AIDS virus on the children of Africa.

GOVERNOR ALBERT ROSELLINI

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Governor Albert Rosellini, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on January 21, 2010. Gov. Rosellini was elected to the Washington State Senate in 1938, and served honorably as Washington State's governor from 1957 to 1965. Ultimately, this man has always worked as a servant and leader for his family, community and State.

As a 29-year-old law school graduate from Tacoma, Washington, Governor Rosellini began his career early, serving in the Washington State Senate in 1938 and championing issues ranging from forward-looking transportation policy to juvenile justice. He was an advocate for working families and never missed an opportunity to improve the lives of his constituents. Later, as Governor, Rosellini played an important role in starting one of our nation's finest medical schools at the University of Washington. He also helped create the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge—a bridge that now bears his name. The type of leadership that helped build the Floating Bridge is typical of Gov. Rosellini: visionary and decisive.

Additionally, Governor Rosellini's ascension to the Governorship of Washington was a seminal moment in the illustrious history of Roman Catholic Italian-Americans and he remains a leader in that community to this day.

A Seattle columnist wrote in 2005 that Governor Rosellini "makes most governors after him look like slackers." Madam Speaker, Gov. Rosellini served Washington with a steely determination, with the cares, concerns, and best interest of all Washingtonians in his mind and heart at all times. It is my distinct honor to recognize him and his countless contributions to the great state of Washington, and to challenge us all to aspire to serve in the same way he has throughout his distinguished life and career.

Along with this House, I wish Mr. Rosellini a happy 100th birthday and thank him for his dedicated public service.