

friends will be honoring his 26th Pastoral Anniversary on Sunday, October 10, 2010. Let us join them in acknowledging and honoring the values his life of service shows.

HONORING DAVID SABSAY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of David Sabsay, father of the Sonoma County Library, who passed away on March 20, 2010, at his home in Sebastopol, California. His passion and leadership strengthened our public libraries not only in Sonoma County, but across California, transforming education and fostering civic engagement for youth and adults.

Born in Waltham, Massachusetts in 1931, David Sabsay came to Santa Rosa in 1956 after receiving his graduate degree in library science at the University of California at Berkeley. At 25, Mr. Sabsay was the youngest head librarian in the state, and he was already envisioning the vibrant, integrated public library system he knew Californians needed.

Mr. Sabsay wasted no time in pursuing this vision, and his skill as a library advocate quickly earned him a place of respect in the community and a record of hard-earned victories. On multiple occasions he served as chair of the Government Relations Committee of the California Library Association, and by 1971 he had become the organization's president. He founded and became the first coordinator of the North Bay Cooperative Library System, a six-county resource-sharing network and the first cooperative library system in the western United States.

In a career dedicated to improving library services in Sonoma County, Mr. Sabsay also brought his expertise to debates on library support in Sacramento. In 1978, in order to secure a sufficient stream of funding for California libraries, he helped author legislation establishing state financing for local libraries and encouraging county contributions. This legislation continues to serve all Californians as a safeguard against the loss of an essential public asset and as a reminder of our stake in its future.

Mr. Sabsay was perhaps best known for his instrumental backing of a unified library system in Sonoma County. In 1975, his work led to the signing of the joint-powers agreement—the first such agreement for a library system in California—that established the institution we rely on today. During his tenure as director of Sonoma County Library, Mr. Sabsay even oversaw the construction of the central library and nine regional branches as his county network expanded to serve one of the strongest per capita memberships in the state. Mr. Sabsay retired in 1992 but remained an active consultant on library development, funding, and operations.

David Sabsay was predeceased by his wife Helen. He is survived by his brother.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the life of a man who dedicated himself to serving the people of Sonoma County and California. We have all benefitted from his work on behalf of knowledge and public education, and from his example as a

tireless advocate for one of the civic institutions most important in our democracy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, on November 17, 2010, I missed rollcall vote 572. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" or "aye."

IN HONOR OF ROBERT "BOB" FELLER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Robert "Bob" Feller on his 92nd birthday on November 3 and for his longtime service in our community and our Nation.

Bob was one of the greatest pitchers in Cleveland Indians history. He made his major league debut in 1936 at the age of 17, where his legendary fastball quickly earned him a reputation around the league. He was given nicknames such as "Rapid Robert" and "Bullet Bob." His career was prodigious; it spanned over sixteen seasons, during which he racked up 2581 strikeouts, 3828 innings pitched and 266 wins. These and other monumental totals make up many team and league records that remain intact today. It is no wonder that Bob was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1962, his first year of eligibility.

Bob's military service is evidence of his character and love of his country. He served our Nation in the Navy during World War II, becoming the first major league baseball player to enlist as a result of the attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941. Though he was in the prime of his career and could have deferred his draft notice, he chose to miss four seasons, serving aboard the U.S.S. *Alabama* as it patrolled both the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. He retired from the Navy at the end of the war as a Chief Petty Officer and returned to his exceptional career with the Indians.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Bob Feller for his excellence in major league baseball and his service to our country. The strength of character he displayed both on and off the field makes him a truly exceptional man and a role model for generations of baseball fans and patriots.

A TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER AND CREW OF THE USS "GRAVELY"

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. McINTYRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Commander Douglas

Kunzman, as well as the officers and crew of the USS *Gravelly*, which will be commissioned by the United States Navy in Wilmington, North Carolina, on November 20, 2010. This strong, state-of-the-art destroyer joins an impressive group of ships on deployment protecting our nation and defending our freedoms and national security interests.

As a senior member of the U.S. House Committee on Armed Services and a longtime supporter of our great nation's military and those who have served our country, it is my honor to recognize the USS *Gravelly* as the 57th unit of the ARLEIGH BURKE Class of guided missile destroyers.

Named for Vice Admiral Samuel Lee Gravelly, Jr., the first African-American commanding officer of a naval ship, this guided missile destroyer was constructed at Northrup Grumman Corporation's Ingalls Shipyard in Pascagoula, MS. Her keel was laid on November 26, 2007, launched on March 30, 2009, and christened on May 16, 2009. Impressively, the USS *Gravelly* has an overall length of 510 ft, beam of 66 ft, full load displacement of 9,200 tons and a mean full load draft of 33 ft.

The people of Southeastern North Carolina are honored to welcome and host Commander Kunzman and his crew for the commissioning festivities for this new vessel and hope they will consider the coastline of this state as a special home for them. I am especially appreciative of the Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Ray Mabus, for granting the request for this commissioning to occur in North Carolina and for his recent visit to Wilmington in anticipation of this important event, as well as for the celebration of Navy Day.

The State of North Carolina and this nation are deeply proud of the personal talent and ability represented by the officers and crew of this new destroyer. It is their spirit, service, and sacrifice for which we all are extremely grateful.

Madam Speaker, may we also never forget the bravery and dedication of those who have served before, those who currently serve, and those who will serve our country—and may we continue to receive inspiration from their courageous words and deeds. May God's blessings be with the USS *Gravelly*, her officers, and her crew as she begins her time in service to this wonderful nation—the United States of America.

HONORING CHARLES E. KRUSE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Charles E. Kruse. Charlie has served as President of the Missouri Farm Bureau since 1992 and will be retiring from office on December 7, 2010.

Since first being elected to President in 1992, Charlie has served for nine terms and has overseen the tremendous growth of the Missouri Farm Bureau. Under Charlie's leadership, membership has reached 100,000, a successful web portal has been developed, and historic new highs have been reached in both the Life insurance and Town and Country insurance sections. All the while, Charlie has maintained an outspoken passion for Missouri

farmers, defending their values and promoting their efforts in both Jefferson City and Washington. Even though retiring from the Farm Bureau, I am sure Charlie will continue to fight for Missouri farmers for many years to come.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me, his wife Pam, and all their children and grandchildren, in commending Charles E. Kruse for his accomplishments and for his efforts put forth in serving Missouri farmers.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARSHALL UNIVERSITY PLANE CRASH TRAGEDY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, on November 14, 1970, a plane carrying 75 Marshall University football players, their coaches, faithful supporters and friends crashed while attempting to land in Huntington, WV. On that cold, rain-filled and foggy night so many promising futures came to a sudden and tragic end.

On the night of this tragedy—known as the worst air disaster in American sports history, an entire community, our State and frankly our Nation were one in grief, but also one in believing that—from adversity—hope, growth and success can conquer all in the end.

In the forty years since these souls were taken from those they loved and who loved them, the Marshall community—friends and strangers, colleagues and competitors, icons and unknowns—have bonded together in hearts and minds.

On every anniversary of this tragedy we reflect on the tremendous loss, yet it is also a moment that renews promises and purpose and stirs hope in the human spirit.

In the words of Marshall University Alumni Association President William “Mickey” Jackson, a former Marshall Football player and assistant coach for the team in 1970, who was on a scouting trip and not with the team the night of the crash, “It is very inspirational to remember, but very, very sad at the same time. When they place the wreath at the fountain and the water stops, my heart just stops beating.”

The themes of hope and rebirth are carried forward every year at Marshall University, beginning with turning on one simple, yet so symbolic fountain.

What has been learned from this tragic experience extends beyond those early hours of shock and disbelief. Two generations have been raised by the incredible power of the Marshall spirit—a strength, vitality, camaraderie and resolve that is reflected time and again. And as the story spreads, others receive solace and inspiration.

And today, we are stronger because of it—for, we are Marshall.

RECOGNITION OF ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Michael's Church in Long Branch, New Jersey as the parishioners celebrate the 125th Anniversary. St. Michael's Church has a rich and formidable history of serving the needs of the community. Historically noteworthy, St. Michael's main altar was given in memory of Mr. Francis Anthony Drexel, banker and great philanthropist of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mr. Drexel and his family summered at West End. His daughter, Mother Katherine Drexel, was the founder of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. She was later canonized as a saint of the church on October 1, 2000. Mother Katherine Drexel decided to enter the Religious Life while residing in parish territory. The mosaic in her honor can be found in the vestibule of the Church.

Originally formed as a “mission church” in 1886, St. Michael's was an extension of the Star of the Sea Church in Long Branch, New Jersey. However, members of the church community soon saw the need to expand and serve a growing population. By 1892, St. Michael's relinquished its status as a mission church and became an independent entity. Reverend Richard Crean served as the church's first pastor. Since then, St. Michael's Church has been served by many accomplished priests. Today, Reverend Charles B. Weiser leads the members of the St. Michael's Church and gathers a vibrant community where members passionately practice the Catholic faith.

St. Michael Church's original parishioners were predominantly the Irish Catholic. Today, the parish reflects a diverse ethnic population located throughout Long Branch and Monmouth County. Often referred to as a “metropolitan church”, the congregation has continued to welcome new members and the St. Michael's Church family has grown exponentially in the past years.

Madam Speaker, please join me in leading this body in acknowledging St. Michael's Church as the parishioners celebrate their 125th Anniversary. The St. Michael's community is tremendously valued in my district and the State of New Jersey.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DEANTE PIERRE WILSON, A YOUNG MAN OF SPIRITUAL COM-PASSION AND LOVE FOR THE COMMUNITY HE SERVED

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to memorialize a beloved young member of our Harlem community, DeAnté Pierre Wilson, whose mass will be celebrated on Saturday, November 20, 2010 at Kelly Temple Church Of God In Christ in my congressional district.

His unexpected and untimely passing has left behind a deeply felt void within his church,

the Kelly Temple COGIC, where he served as youth minister. That deeply felt void is also extended to his family and friends at the Harlem Hospital Center, where he worked and was admired by all he came into contact. For a man who chose the path to deliver and mentor God's ministry at a very young age and open the hearts of all us with his amazing smile, the loss of DeAnté Pierre Wilson is especially profound to me and to the greater Harlem community in which he lived and served.

Mr. DeAnté Pierre Wilson was born in Gastonia, North Carolina on November 30, 1981. After completing his schooling in the Gastonia School District, DeAnté attended World Harvest Bible College, placing his spiritual path in God's unyielding hands. Even at a young age, DeAnté managed to touch the hearts of people as he was called to preach at the age of 16.

DeAnté Pierre Wilson relocated and established his roots in Harlem, New York, where he joined Kelly Temple Church Of God In Christ. DeAnté cultivated his spiritual activism and under the leadership of Bishop James H. Gaylord, he was appointed youth president, where he served faithfully until 2007. His primary goal was to encourage the youth of the church, and the community at large to aspire for greatness and perfection. DeAnté could often be found mentoring and counseling a young person, giving them the push needed to reach their set goals and potential.

In 2008, DeAnté was ordained elder in the Church Of God In Christ in Brazil, during the time of their Holy Convocation. He then returned to Kelly Temple COGIC, and was appointed youth minister for the Youth Department, where he, along with Ms. Angela Williams, instituted Youth Church. DeAnté was instrumental in bringing young people from various congregations to the church to minister to the youth.

I am told that DeAnté had a very extensive resume, but found his calling working with people and doing special events. On December 14, DeAnté joined the Harlem Hospital Center team, working as the Assistant Coordinating Manager in the Office of Special Events. Though his tenure was short, DeAnté managed to touch the lives of many and was especially noted for his pleasant and poise as he greeted each employee and customer with a smile while working events. DeAnté exhibited world class customer service and expressed a great love for the community he had become a part of. I truly believe that his enjoyment of working with the community led him to enroll in Fordham University and major in political science. He joined the NAACP Mid-Manhattan Branch, where he helped the branch organize a very special Women's History Month event, “Love in the Time of HIV.” The tribute highlighted the strengths of ordinary women winning the fight and contributing to their communities, while surviving with HIV/AIDS.

Madam Speaker, DeAnté Pierre Wilson, a giant of a man departed this life on Sunday, November 7, 2010. As it is noted in his obituary, DeAnté will be remembered for his random acts of kindness, his infectious smile, his willingness to strive for greatness, and his drive to push others to their own success. Please join me in celebrating the short-lived life of this amazing spiritual man.