

The Huskies basketball team is comprised of some of the most talented athletes in the Nation. Junior forward Maya Moore and senior center Tina Charles were both selected as first team All-Americans and as members of the Final Four All-Tournament Team. Maya Moore was also chosen as the State Farm Wade Trophy Player of the Year and the Women's Final Four Most Valuable Player. Tina Charles was selected as the winner of the Naismith Award, the Wooden Award, the United States Basketball Writers Association Player of the Year Award, and the Associated Press Player of the Year Award.

I salute the hard work and dedication of the University of Connecticut Huskies players and coaches. I commend their exceptional record, athleticism, and consistent display of sportsmanship.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1239.

#### THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

#### HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2009–2010 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. This year 45 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9 through 12 made their voices heard and made a difference in their communities, their country and their Congress. These students volunteered their time, effort, and talent to inform me about the important issues facing their generation. As young leaders within their communities and their schools, these students boldly represent the promise and the hope we all have for their very bright future.

President Ronald Reagan said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

To ensure that the blessing of freedom is passed from one generation to the next, the members of the CYAC spent time interviewing a veteran and documenting the experience for the "Preserving History Project." Today I'm proud to submit the brief summaries provided so the patriotic service of our dedicated veterans and the thoughtful work of the CYAC may be preserved for antiquity in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. A copy of each submitted student summary follows.

To each member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, thank you for making this year and this group a success. It is not a coincidence that this congressional tribute celebrates two generations of service. Each of you is trusted with the precious gift of freedom.

You are the voices of the future and I salute you. God bless you and God bless America.

The summary follows:

I interviewed Mr. Kurt DeKuehn, Petty Officer 1st Class, Musician, USN Ret. Mr.

DeKuehn enlisted in the Navy at the end of World War II through his entrance into the United States Naval Academy School of Music. He was barely 17 when his parents signed the enlistment papers and he auditioned four separate times on sax for entrance into the school. He gained admittance to the school, and as the war was in full swing, he was immediately put through basic training in preparation for deployment. He was eventually deployed to the battleship Arkansas BB-33 in January 1945 and remained with the ship until its decommissioning a year later. Mr. DeKuehn was later asked back to service as a bandleader for the Admiral Galley Goodwill Tour of Europe. As bandleader, he had the privilege of handpicking his players and auditioning them. The band performed in 27 countries in an 8 piece combo. Mr. DeKuehn thoroughly enjoyed his Navy experience due to his Officer status and the nature of his employment: he was paid to play his instrument (something he has done since he was four years of age), and minimally operate a machine gun on the stern of his ship. The terms of his employment don't sound half bad. He even says that he has nothing against the Navy and had fun in both of his tours of duty.—Jonathan Unger.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House floor during rollcall votes 206–211. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall Nos. 206, 208, and 210; I would have voted "nay" on rollcall Nos. 207, 209, and 211.

#### COLLEEN BOYD

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Colleen Boyd who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Colleen Boyd is an 8th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Colleen Boyd is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Colleen Boyd for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

HONORING DOLORES BROOKS ON HER RETIREMENT AS CHARTER MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE OZARKS TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

#### HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dolores Brooks, who is retiring after twenty years of service to her community in Springfield, Missouri as a charter member of the Board of Trustees of the Ozarks Technical Community College.

First elected in April 1990, Brooks helped shape the growth and direction of Ozarks Technical Community College, a school that serves students from 13 public school districts in Southwest Missouri and beyond. The growth of the school has been extraordinary, with this year's enrollment topping more than 12,000 students. OTC, as it is known to students and local residents, has expanded its operation to a second campus in Ozark, Missouri, with an eye to increasing accessibility to its growing student body.

Mrs. Brooks holds degrees from Purdue University, University of Missouri, and Southwest Missouri State University, and has served as a public school teacher, counselor, principal, and adjunct university faculty member. She has also served on numerous professional and civic organizations in leadership capacities, including the Missouri Guidance Association, Southwest Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals, Springfield Education Association, Missouri State Teachers Association, and the Dogwood Trails Girl Scouts Council. Prior to her selection to the OTC Board of Trustees, she was a member of the OTC Steering Committee. She led OTC as its Trustee President 1990–1992 and 2002–2003.

From its modest beginnings in central Springfield at the old vocational-technical school, OTC has blossomed into a modern campus offering students state-of-the-art classes with opportunities for advancement in a wide range of vocations, professions, and subject matter. I am proud of the hard work Mrs. Brooks and the College have done to provide quality education for students in Missouri.

To Mrs. Brooks, I wish to extend a heartfelt "thank you and well done" for her tireless work over the last two decades. Her efforts have made the Springfield area a better place to live. The Ozarks Technical Community College is a beacon of educational excellence for the entire region.

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students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9 through 12 made their voices heard and made a difference in their communities, their country and their Congress. These students volunteered their time, effort, and talent to inform me about the important issues facing their generation. As young leaders within their communities and their schools, these students boldly represent the promise and the hope we all have for their very bright future.

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The summary follows:

My grandfather, Colonel Lee Powell, served in the Air Force for a total of thirty years, garnering experience at many different bases throughout the United States and abroad, including England and Vietnam. His main area of interest and expertise in the Air Force was contract administration, although he completed other assignments as well, such as Armed Forces Courier Officer and Missile Launch Officer. His engineering background assisted him throughout his career. He also enjoyed traveling, an interest that the Air Force helped facilitate, as he traveled extensively throughout Europe and Africa, and also visited other places such as Australia and Thailand. He worked his way up through the ranks, starting through the ROTC program at his university, and then finally achieving the rank of Colonel. When asked what impact his military service had on his views of war and conflict, Colonel Powell responded that his Vietnam and other experiences have led him to believe that the United States should not again involve itself in the civil wars of other countries.—Mitchell Powell

#### HONORING THE WESTFIELD, NJ AREA YMCA BLACK ACHIEVERS' PROGRAM

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Westfield, NJ Area YMCA Black Achievers Program. I applaud

the participants for their achievements and the staff, mentors, and Westfield, NJ Area YMCA Black Achievers Committee for their continuing commitment as role models in our community.

The Black Achievers Program began in the 1960s at the Harlem YMCA with the mission of helping youth set and achieve educational and life-long goals. The program expanded nationally, and in 1998, the Westfield, NJ Area YMCA adopted it. The Program's goal is to prepare youth participants in grades five through twelve to become Black Achievers in their future careers by building their character and skills, while providing positive mentoring relationships with caring Adult Achievers.

The thirty-seven students who are participants in the 2009–2010 school year are: Zayna Allen, Jamirah Barden, Steven Barden, Bria Barnes, Victoria Carden, Imani Coston, Ashley Edwards, Phylcia Flagg, Joshua Forehand, Alexis Givens, Adam Harley, Aneyjah Harris, Jon'ae Jackson, Todd Jamison, Jr., Cesar Lopez, Jazmine Mayer, Jonathan Mayer, Maya McLeod, Cameron Mitchell, Chelci Mitchell, Aunye McCummings, Kevin Monroe, Jr., Imani Mutyanda, Munashee Mutyanda, Jason Nutt, Fredrick A. Parsons, Jameka Parsons, Ne'andrea Paulevra, Sean Paulevra, Tamar Richardson, Dwayne Scott, Jr., Jeffery Scott, Ashley Simmons, Isaiah Smith, Kwame Thompson Haynes, Diana Williams and Brianna Whitehead.

These thirty-seven individuals embody the program's core values. They have acquired the leadership skills and self-awareness needed to attain success in any endeavor they choose to pursue.

Every year, the Connell Company, based in Berkeley Heights, NJ, generously sponsors the scholarship program and provides other vital support to the Program. Their generosity has supported the Program since its inception in 1998.

The staff members dedicated to the program and its students are: Senior Director of Childcare, Camp and Teen Services Susan Morton, Coordinator Tarajee W. Russell, Assistant Coordinator Tania Mayer, Tutor Romina Cahiwat, and Alumni Volunteer Jasmine C. Farmer. These individuals, as well as the volunteers on the Black Achievers Committee of the Westfield, NJ Area YMCA Board have worked tirelessly to ensure the success of the program. The Westfield YMCA's Chief Executive Officer Mark Elsasser, Chief Operating Officer Paula Ehoff, Communications/Development Director Bonnie Cohen, YMCA Board chairman Stephen Murphy and the rest of the staff are deeply committed to the success of the Program. Lastly, the Black Achievers Committee Chairman Carlton Blake and the entire Black Achievers Committee should be acknowledged for the tremendous effort and dedication they put forth to keep the Black Achievers Program running.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the Westfield, NJ Area YMCA Black Achievers Program for encouraging students to develop their fullest potential in spirit, mind, and body. I urge them to continue to raise the academic standards of our young people and inspire them to reach all of their goals. I congratulate the Westfield, NJ Area YMCA, the Black Achievers' Program Committee, the Program and its staff and participants on their accomplishments and I thank them for their commitment to their community and I thank them for their commitment to their community.

CONNOR RANDALL

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Connor Randall who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Connor Randall is a 12th grader at Ralston Valley High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Connor Randall is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Connor Randall for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

#### HONORING WATKINS COLLEGE OF ART DESIGN AND FILM ON 125TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Watkins College of Art, Design and Film as they celebrate their 125th anniversary.

What began as a vision to offer art education to the Mid-South community, came into being 125 years ago, emerging today as Watkins College of Art, Design and Film. Name-sake of entrepreneur and philanthropist Samuel Watkins, Watkins College opened its doors in 1885 as Nashville Art Association and began to offer instruction in visual arts. Always one step ahead of the cultural needs of the 20th century, the school assisted immigrants in becoming active members of society, gave women opportunities to enter the workplace with confidence and skill, and offered returning servicemen completion of their high school degrees.

With approval from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission in 1977, Watkins became a full college offering associate degrees in fine art and interior design. Adding the Watkins Film School in 1997, and Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in photography, graphic design and fine art in 2007, Watkins College of Art, Design and Film continues to lead the way in artistic movements and education.

Watkins College offers hands-on curriculum, academic roots, and award-winning faculty. Alumni of Watkins College of Art, Design and Film go onto successful careers in their fields. Alumni hold LEED certifications, are small business owners, designers of sacred spaces, makers of film, leaders in their communities, and protectors of art. I am proud of my association with Watkins College and look forward to the many successes of the next 125 years.

I congratulate Watkins College on their rich and impactful history and ask my colleges to