

a powerful woman, that bravery was magnified by her voice being heard as a proud Black woman. She stood—like a prophetess of old—in defense of the principle that all men and all women are created equal, and are deserving of equal rights.

Dorothy Height was a woman of stunning dedication, discipline and vision. Although, at times, she may have been overshadowed in the press and the history books by the men of the Civil Rights movement, she will never be forgotten in the hearts and minds of the millions whom she touched.

When Dorothy Height stood with Martin Luther King, Jr., on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial as he delivered his famous “I have a dream” speech, she stood tall in her own right as both a woman, and as a leader.

During the continuing civil rights struggles of the 1960s, Dorothy Height worked tirelessly to advance our cause. The Movement’s success owes as much to her determination as it does to the more well-known legacies of Dr. King, Roy Wilkins, A. Philip Randolph, Whitney Young, James Farmer, and Bayard Rustin.

Ms. Height left no avenue untraveled in her march toward Dr. King’s “beloved society.” She brought together Black and white women to initiate a dialogue of understanding; wrote weekly columns in the New York Amsterdam News, a weekly African American newspaper; promoted community development programs in Africa; and served on numerous committees to this end.

In particular, Dorothy Height’s work within the National Council of Negro Women encouraged positive and lasting change in our Nation. She served as the President of the Council for 40 years, retiring in 1997. From her bully pulpit as President, Dorothy Height advocated for equality for both African Americans and women. She emphasized self-help and reliance, even as she encouraged practical programs in nutrition, child care, housing and career counseling.

Madam Speaker, I was deeply gratified when Dorothy Height was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 2004, one of the most deserved awards that we have ever bestowed. With her passing, millions of women—and men—have lost a role model, and America has lost one of our true treasures.

My prayers are with Ms. Height’s family and friends during their time of loss.

#### 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:

Retired Air Force Major Mark Smith enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1969, at age 19. He spent six years serving as an enlisted serviceman, was honorably discharged, and pursued his education using the GI Bill while working. After completing his Masters Degree in Computer Information Systems, he applied to Officers’ Training School (OTS) and reenlisted in the Air Force. Major Smith spent the remainder of his time as an officer working in Tactical Communications Systems and Information Systems Management. Smith’s one overseas duty station was as an enlisted airman; he was stationed with the RAF station at Chicksands in England. Later in his career as an officer, he had some temporary duty assignments in Saudi Arabia, Haiti and Panama.

This interview was the first time I have questioned a veteran about their experiences, and it was fascinating. The Smiths expressed such a high level of enthusiasm and pride about their lives in the United States Air Force that it would have been difficult to come away from the interview with anything but a positive outlook towards a military career.—Katya Sousa

#### CONGRATULATING HALF HOLLOW HILLS EAST HIGH SCHOOL ON WINNING THE WE THE PEOPLE NEW YORK STATE FINALS

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Half Hollow Hills East High School, which was named the New York State champion of the We the People: The Citizens and the Constitution competition.

The We the People competition is an extremely prestigious national academic contest that promotes the study of the United States Constitution. The students from Half Hollow Hills East who participated in the simulated

congressional hearings were judged on their knowledge of and ability to apply the Constitution to current events. The students earned the best scores of the nine high schools that competed in the New York State Final Hearings in March and as a result, will represent New York State in the national finals.

I am proud to recognize Half Hollow Hills East High School for this outstanding academic achievement.

#### HONORING MR. JAMES MUSCATO

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. James Muscato. Mr. Muscato served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as a member of the Dunkirk City Council.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Muscato served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Muscato is one of those people, and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to him today.

#### COMMENDING UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HUSKIES ON WOMEN’S NCAA BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 21, 2010*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1239, Commending the University of Connecticut Huskies for their historic win in the 2010 NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Tournament. On March 6, 2010, the Huskies capped an undefeated season by beating the University of Stanford Cardinal 53–47 in the NCAA Championship game. There are many things that make this team impressive, but to show just how dominant they were, this was their only victory all season where they defeated an opponent by less than 10 points. With 78 straight wins, they broke their own record for all-time consecutive victories.

Throughout their unbelievable run, the UConn women’s basketball team has captivated the state of Connecticut with their awe-inspiring talent. Tina Charles’ tremendous play at center earned her recognition as both the United States Basketball Writers Association and the Associated Press Player of the Year. Additionally, she was named the Naismith Award winner and the Wooden Award winner. Although she will graduate this year, she will undoubtedly be remembered as one of the all-

time greats to play for the Huskies. Junior Maya Moore received outstanding honors by being named the State Farm Wade Trophy Player of the Year and being named the Most Valuable Player in the Final Four. Both Moore and Tina Charles were chosen as First-Team All-Americans.

Connecticut is home to one of the most accomplished and successful teams in the history of collegiate athletics. Under Head Coach Geno Auriemma, we in Connecticut have become accustomed to excellence year in and year out. He has led the Huskies to seven championships, including four undefeated seasons. He also holds the highest winning percentage of any active coach in women's collegiate basketball.

The Women Huskies have captured the hearts of fans all across the nation with their exemplary work on and off the court. In every game, the team played with a passion and desire only displayed by champions. This entire team of remarkable women: Heather Buck, Tina Charles, Lorin Dixon, Caroline Doty, Kelly Faris, Jacquie Fernandes, Meghan Gardler, Kalana Greene, Tiffany Hayes, Kaili McLaren, and Maya Moore exemplify what a student-athlete is supposed to be. As they carry their winning streak into next season, I know they will continue to make us proud.

I am proud to join Connecticut's Congressional Delegation, my colleagues in the House of Representatives, and Husky Nation in celebrating the UConn Women Basketball team's seventh NCAA Women's National Basketball Championship, second perfect season in a row and record 78-game winning streak.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,877,195,922,374.91.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,238,770,176,081.11 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

#### CONGRATULATING GRACE WANG, RECIPIENT OF A SIEMENS FOUNDATION AWARD

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Grace Wang, recipient of a Siemens Foundation award for her excellence in the College Board's Advanced Placement program courses and exams in the area of science and mathematics.

The Siemens Foundation has actively supported science, technology, engineering and

mathematics education. Each year, the Foundation provides more than \$7 million in support of education initiatives. The Foundation supports programs from grade school through graduate school to encourage students to achieve their potential. The Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement provides \$2,000 college scholarships for two students in each state based on grades and scores in AP science and math classes.

Grace Wang, a student at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, has excelled in her AP science and math classes. Through her hard work, she has proven that she is one of the best and brightest in the nation. She is a shining example of the achievements of students in the area of math and science.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Grace Wang for this honor. She truly is an example of our nation's promising future in the science and technology fields.

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

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OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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The summary follows:

I interviewed Alan Smith, a World War II veteran, and I learned a lot about his life and his experiences during the war as well as the years after. Mr. Smith entered the military as a private and came out as a corporal after approximately 22 months of service. His highlight combat mission was the invasion of Bastogne. After his service, Mr. Smith went to school on the GI Bill and became a Bible major. Following college, Mr. Smith began to work for Beach Aircraft Company which produced tools of various sorts.

After interviewing Mr. Smith, I have learned several things about World War II from a first-hand account. I also learned the challenges faced by troops while deployed overseas and the mental toll it places on a soldier's mind. And at the end of the interview, Mr. Smith stressed this scripture from the Bible to me: "And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation." He lives by this verse and said it could be applicable to many present day situations.—Drew Sneed.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, regrettably, during a series of votes last Thursday I missed rollcall vote 219. I would have voted "yea."

I am a cosponsor of H.R. 2194, the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act, and would have joined my colleagues in instructing conferees to insist on the strong provisions in the House-passed bill.

#### HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST RANDALL RAY CHARLES LANDSTEDT

#### HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2010*

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Army SPC Randall Ray Charles Landstedt from Pollock Pines, California, who was killed April 6, 2010 while on leave in Crestview, Florida. Specialist Landstedt grew up in El Dorado County, attending local schools, including Pinewood, Sierra Ridge, El Dorado High, and Independence High. From an early age, Specialist Landstedt was determined to serve his country and after graduation enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was known by his friends and family as kind, generous, considerate and loyal. He is survived by his parents, Joanne and Daniel Landstedt; brother, James Copeland of Pollock Pines; and sister, Rickie Bronstein of San Diego.

I cannot begin to comprehend the pain of losing such a kind and courageous young man and I cannot ease that pain with my words. All I can do is say thank you for Randall's service. He exemplified the highest values of our country, embodying courage, valor and dedication in his service with the Army's 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division. Specialist Landstedt was twice awarded the