

work together with small businesses across the country towards the recovery of our national economy.

Small businesses have long been the bedrock of our Nation's economy and many would agree that they still are. Even with the advent of modern-day multi-national corporations, most of our day-to-day purchases take place at "mom and pop" small businesses.

Moreover, 99 percent of all independent companies and businesses in the U.S. are considered small businesses.

According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, these small businesses account for 52 percent of all U.S. workers. These small businesses also provide a continuing source of vitality for the American economy. Small businesses in the U.S. produced three-fourths of the economy's new jobs between 1990 and 1995, and represent an entry point into the economy for new groups. Women, for instance, participate heavily in small businesses.

The number of female-owned businesses climbed by 89 percent, to an estimated 8.1 million, between 1987 and 1997, and women-owned sole proprietorships were expected to reach 35 percent of all such ventures by the year 2000. Small firms also tend to hire a greater number of older workers and people who prefer to work part-time.

One strength that small businesses are known for is their ability to respond quickly to changing economic conditions. They often know their customers personally and are especially suited to meet local needs. There are tons of stories of startup companies catching national attention and growing into large corporations. Just a few examples of these types of startup businesses making big include the computer software company Microsoft; the package delivery service Federal Express; sports clothing manufacturer Nike; the computer networking firm America Online; and ice cream maker Ben & Jerry's.

Through the passage of S. 3253 we will be temporarily extending programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through the end of July 2010. With the passage of this bill we will be helping small businesses and communities across the Nation. We will also be helping to drive our economy upward and will be helping businesses across the Nation.

We must always ensure that we place a high level of priority on small businesses. It is also important that we work towards ensuring that small businesses receive all the tools and resources necessary for their continued growth and development.

I would like to again thank my colleague Sen. MARY LANDRIEU for introducing S. 3253. I ask my colleagues for their support of this legislation as well as their continued support for small businesses across the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support S. 3253 and the rule.

THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 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:

Mr. Craig Sherwood was born on February 3, 1966, and was influenced at an early age by the sense of "duty, honor, country" that was enforced at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He was highly impressed by their integrity and strived to be like the officers he had seen at the academy. His father served in the Korean War and his uncle had served in the Vietnam War. Mr. Sherwood enlisted in August 1985 at age 19 and was sent to several training camps including airborne camp where he trained with parachutes and infiltration maneuvers. Afterwards, he was sent to ranger camp where he was put through rigorous training programs and eventually came through 43 pounds thinner! After training, he was sent to Germany and was stationed over 50 men and four canons. Mr. Sherwood was placed in 1989 to hold off the Soviet Union forces and was outnumbered three to one but was able to hold them off for 45 minutes, ensuring a U.S. victory. I have learned that despite the pride of serving the Nation at home and abroad, there is still a danger that is faced. I have gained an understanding and appreciation for those who have served and given their time to preserve freedom in the U.S. Mr. Sherwood's story portrays the sanctity of life and how important it is to protect those moments with loved ones and to never give up.—Alexis Webber.

HONORING PARENTS FOR MEGAN'S LAW FOR THEIR EXTRAORDINARY WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a nonprofit organization that serves my district, Parents for Megan's Law.

Parents of Megan's Law have demonstrated an overwhelming amount of commitment to serving the Long Island community. My constituents rely on our nonprofits for the vital services they offer. The continuous selfless acts of Parents for Megan's Law are admirable.

I am proud to honor Parents for Megan's Law for their extraordinary work in the community.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF HERMAN KAMMERMAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Herman Kammerman, whose lifelong dedication to promoting consumer rights, workers rights and social justice has made a lasting impression on the citizens of our community.

In 1972, Mr. Kammerman was appointed Director of Consumer Affairs by the late Ralph Perk, former Mayor of Cleveland. He was relieved of that position for ruffling corporate feathers, but I reappointed him when I became Mayor in 1977. As Director of Consumer Affairs in my administration, Mr. Kammerman worked tirelessly to expose unfair practices in the marketplace. Thanks to his efforts, we implemented several consumer protection laws, including a requirement to date perishable grocery items. His work also paved the way for an ordinance which mandated that all gas stations post their prices, as well as an ordinance which made it illegal for companies to advertise sale prices for products without sufficient inventories in stock.

During and following his tenure as a consumer affairs advocate, Mr. Kammerman was a proud tool and die maker at Ford Motor Company. He served as vice-president of UAW Local 420 and served as chairman for the UAW's Council for Consumer Services.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor of Herman Kammerman, a man who lived his life with great joy and in dedicated service to others. I offer my sincere condolences to his wife, Annette Solomon; to his children, Walter, Kathleen, and Teresa; and to his five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and friends. Mr. Kammerman's love for his family and devotion to protecting the rights of consumers and workers will be always appreciated and remembered.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PAYTON AT HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to the distinguished career of Dr. Benjamin Franklin Payton, who will be retiring this year from his position as the 5th president of Tuskegee University, a position he has held for the past 29 years.

It goes without saying that Dr. Payton has led a highly successful career serving the students, faculty and community of Tuskegee University. As President, his many accomplishments at the University will certainly be remembered long after his departure. Among his many milestones include the launching of Tuskegee University's first Ph.D. programs in Materials Science and Engineering and Integrated Biosciences; his involvement in the reconstruction and renovation of the entire campus; and his success in leading and exceeding a \$150 million Capital Campaign. Dr. Payton's work at Tuskegee University, coupled with his previous accomplishments, has earned him many honors and awards including First Place winner of the Harvard Billings Prize, 1957; South Carolinian of the Year, 1972; an appointment by President Ronald Reagan to the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development; and under President George W. Bush, he was appointed to lead the Task Force on Agricultural and Economic Development to Zaire.

All of us across Macon County and East Alabama have been touched by the visionary leadership of Dr. Benjamin Franklin Payton. He will be missed in the community and at the University he has led for so long. On behalf of us all, I congratulate him for his distinguished service.

KENNETH BANKS

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mr. Kenneth Banks for his outstanding business success, community involvement, and impact on Maryland's economic growth and prosperity.

Mr. Banks graduated from Adelphi University in 1974; Mr. Banks has been in the construction field since 1975. He was a foreman and project manager for a contractor before launching his own firm in 1980. Mr. Banks' high standard of excellence, emphasis on professional expertise, and dependability has had a powerful impact on the community. He has worked with numerous community organizations including the American Heart Association, where he chaired the 25th Anniversary Heart Ball.

Mr. Banks is a member of the Greater Baltimore Executive Committee and serves as a member of the Board on the Chesapeake Crescent Commission, chaired by the Gov-

ernors of Maryland and Virginia and the Mayor of Washington, D.C. He is also a member of the board of the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and the United Way of Central Maryland. He is a past member of the Board of Trustees at Adelphi University, his alma mater, and is an Executive-in-Residence at Morgan State University's Earl G. Graves School of Business and Management Honors Program.

In 2009, Mr. Banks won several awards for business results and community focus including The Greater Baltimore Committee Mayor's Business Recognition Award, the Award of Excellence given by Associated Builders and Contractors, the Professional Achievement and Community Service Award by the Baltimore City Community College Foundation, the Entrepreneur Award by the Black Engineer of the Year Global Competitiveness Conference, and the Future 50 Award by SmartCEO Publishing.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mr. Kenneth Banks for his outstanding work and community involvement. Through his visionary leadership and stellar business principals, Baltimore continues to grow and flourish.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SAM HOUSTON

SPEECH OF

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1103, honoring the anniversary of the birth of a great Texan, Sam Houston. Due to a conflict I was unable to cast my vote in support of this bill yesterday.

Sam Houston was a larger than life character who left a lasting impact on the history of Texas. Already an established statesman—as first a member of this body and Governor of the state of Tennessee—Sam Houston's leadership was essential in Texas gaining independence from Mexico and later in achieving statehood. Sam Houston led the Texas Revolutionary forces in the Texas War of Independence and was instrumental in achieving victory over at the Battle of San Jacinto.

The only person to have been the governor of two different states, Sam Houston also was an inaugural Senator from Texas.

I have long been impressed with Sam Houston. In my office, I proudly display two portraits of Houston.

Sam Houston's legacy is important to the people of Texas' Eighth congressional district. A much larger than life statue of Sam Houston greets all who come to Huntsville—the east Texas town where Sam Houston spent his golden years and where his name lives on at Sam Houston State University. At 67 feet tall and 25 tons, the steel and concrete statue aptly named “A Tribute to Courage” is a testament to how the Huntsville community continues to cherish Sam Houston.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to celebrate the life of Sam Houston. For all his accomplishments, the people of the great state of Texas remain forever in his debt and will continue to honor his memory and public service on this anniversary of his birth.

HONORING KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, POLICE CHIEF SAMUEL F. BRESHEARS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, Kansas City, Kansas, Chief of Police Samuel F. Breshears was honored as Kansas' recipient of the prestigious 2010 Clarence M. Kelley Meritorious Service Award at the spring conference of the Kansas/Western Missouri Chapter of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy Association in Wichita, Kansas, on Friday, April 9th, 2010.

Chief Breshears' dedication to the law enforcement profession, and to the men and women who make up the heart and soul of the calling of law enforcement, is reflected in his commitment to seeking the best possible training for them. Throughout his career he has taken great interest in making it possible for officers get the best contemporary training, acknowledging that training and policy development are practical tools in fighting crime. He has also continued the organizational philosophy of community policing and recognizes that aggressive law enforcement must remain sensitive to the needs of the community. This philosophy is a benchmark to his core police officer values of establishing and maintaining competent, dedicated and exemplary law enforcement officers.

Since 1999, Chief Breshears has served with distinction on the Kansas Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training, (KSCPOST), a position he was appointed to by the Governor of the State of Kansas. This body is responsible for certifying Kansas Law Enforcement Officers. Further, Chief Breshears has shown his respect for and life-long appreciation of the law enforcement field by continuing to expand his knowledge and training in the law enforcement discipline, such as having been invited to attend and participate in the FBI-sponsored National Executive Institute.

In addition to his graduate-level academic achievements and being a graduate of the FBI National Academy in 1994, graduating in the 176th session, he has been a model of community service and volunteerism serving on numerous boards and committees throughout the years. His service record reflects his dedication to an exemplary career in law enforcement: High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program Executive Board; FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force Executive Board; FBI HARCFL Executive Board; Kansas City Metro Chiefs and Sheriffs Executive Board; Emerging Threat Analysis Capability Executive Board; and Kansas Peace Officers Association/Governor at Large.

The singularly distinctive accomplishments of Chief Breshears culminate a long and distinguished career in the service of the citizens of Kansas City, Kansas, and reflect great credit upon himself and the Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department, and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County, Kansas. Madam Speaker, I know that you join with all members of the House of Representatives in acknowledging his distinguished service to our community.