

board member of the Flint Disability Network, and 3rd Vice President of the Mariah Consulting Group in Washington DC. He was awarded the General Motors Chairman's Award for Excellence in Community Affairs, the Michigan Credit Union League Hall of Fame—Distinguished Service Award, and the Robert L. Gordon Achievement Award from Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

A devout Christian, Leroy accepted Christ as his personal Savior and worshiped with the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church where he is a former member of the Highlight Gospel Chorus and the Progressive Laymen. He leaves behind another church family to treasure his memory, the Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in expressing condolences to Leroy's wife Gwendolyn, and his daughter, Jacqueline, his relatives, friends, and the many persons Leroy touched over the years. I have known Leroy since he was a child, watched him grow into an exemplary man, and valued his advice and his friendship. Leroy Nesbit, Jr. is a shining example of a man with the aptitude to excel and the vision to turn his dreams into reality. I will deeply miss him, his wisdom, and his enthusiasm for life.

A TRIBUTE TO THOMAS B.
SCHREIBEL

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of my longest-serving staff, Thomas B. Schreiber. Tom has been by my side for the past 27 years, serving in several roles, including my Chief of Staff for the past 10 years. While Tom's work ethic and guidance have earned him the title Chief of Staff, his loyalty, sense of humor and dedication have earned him the additional titles—friend, family and my peer.

Tom is a natural leader who has demonstrated his capabilities by setting examples and providing sound guidance and mentorship. For the past 27 years, Tom has worked with scores of interns, staffers and Members of Congress. No matter the person, he would treat everyone the same. He would avail himself to his colleagues to work through challenges when they needed his astute judgment or spend precious time with aspiring young staffers who knew that Tom's unique characteristics and insight would aid them in their own lives. Tom has also provided guidance to my colleagues in the House of Representatives who recognized that his expertise and experience in many areas have no equivalent. Throughout his career, Tom has turned many such working relationships into lasting friendships.

Tom's commitment to public service and Wisconsin's Fifth Congressional District has served our country well. As the Chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary, I relied on Tom's depth of knowledge, counsel and political sense as I shepherded numerous bills through the House of Representatives. Tom was with me when the USA PATRIOT Act, Voting Rights Act, the Americans with Disabil-

ities Amendments Act and the REAL ID Act were passed by Congress and presented to the President for his signature. These, and many other laws I worked on, have made America safer, guaranteed the rights of the disabled, and protected the right to vote. Upon leaving this institution, Tom should know that he played a significant role in these important pieces of legislation.

Tom's departure from the U.S. House of Representatives will leave a void. He has been a rock that I have relied on throughout much of my tenure in Congress. Tom leaves behind a legacy of leadership and dedication that will be a saving grace to my staff, and indeed this institution, long into the future. His example will serve as a beacon of light to all those on Capitol Hill who wish to serve this nation and her people. I hope that future leaders in Congress will be as blessed as I have been.

Please join me in wishing Tom, his wife Dana, and son Brent, all of the best as Tom leaves Congress for new challenges and opportunities. On behalf of my family, the House of Representatives and my staff, I thank Tom for his service to this nation and her people, and congratulate him on a job well done.

CONGRATULATING MASON DOWDY
FOR OBTAINING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mason Dowdy for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

For his Eagle Scout project, Mason provided trail markers for a youth ranch to help hundreds of young adults who re-enact a pioneer lifestyle. Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Mason has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

HONORING THE CITY OF SOUTH
BEND, INDIANA

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of South Bend, Indiana, which was named a 2011 All-America City Award winner. South Bend received the honor for a second time, having previously won the award in 1967. The city was also a finalist in 2009.

South Bend was one of ten cities receiving the honor, after a delegation from the city told their stories of successful change, innovation and community pride. Highlights included the revitalization of the Northeast Neighborhood, a \$215 million mixed-use development and new

housing partnership between Indiana University and the University of Notre Dame, the redevelopment of a former hospital site, and the dedication of the Indiana University-South Bend Civil Rights Heritage Center. In addition, South Bend was honored for 212 Degrees Stars, a program in which teens influence their peers to stay in school and strive for excellence.

The All-America City competition was created in 1949 by the National Civic League (NCL), which is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that focuses on building healthy and prosperous communities. The competition recognizes cities for civic achievements. A national panel of jurors who are local government, business and nonprofit experts, recognizes the cities that effectively engage their residents, demonstrate environmental stewardship, and encourage job creation.

Once again, I offer my congratulations to Mayor Stephen Lueke, the members of the delegation team, the citizens of this fine city, and all those who have supported South Bend on the road to becoming an All-America City.

A TRIBUTE TO "KID" KELLY
COLOME

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize "Kid" Kelly Colome.

Kelly Colome was born in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico to hard working parents who traveled from Dominican Republic in search of a better life. His father, who had a partial college education, took a job as a cook to support his young family. Kelly's mother was a hard working Christian mother who always made sure to take her four children to school, church, and family activities despite her constant suffering from chronic asthma since childhood. Kelly learned the value of hard work and efforts from having to go to school with his older brother at the age of 3. He fought and worked hard with his mother on progressing and skipping a grade to attend the same school as his brother.

In 1988, his parents moved with the family of six to Washington Heights, New York, where his father found a good art school for his son Kelly to continue his education and love for art and design.

In 1990, Kelly was accepted to the High School of Art and Design without having taken any formal art classes. He joined the high school baseball team and began practicing the sport of boxing simultaneously. He was able to pay for his boxing membership costs with his part time Saturday job at Isabella Geriatric Center on the Meals on Wheels neighborhood elderly meals program. Later that year, he continued practicing only boxing because he was more passionate towards this sport and the personal challenges involved with practicing the sport.

In 1994, he graduated from high school at the age of sixteen. He studied advertising design at New York City College of Technology while practicing boxing, working part time, and still finding time to socialize with family and friends. In 1997, he obtained an Associate's degree and in 2001, he earned a Bachelors of Technology in Communications Design.

The birth of his first child in 1999 helped him mature as a young man and he obtained a fulltime job as a dietary worker at the senior citizens center where he had been employed for almost ten years.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Colome for his extraordinary accomplishments and spirit which reflect the best our nation has to offer.

HONORING THE MERLO STATION HIGH SCHOOL GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to take a moment to honor the incredible work of the Merlo Station High School Gay Straight Alliance. I had the opportunity to present these aspiring young citizens with the Portland Pride Youth Award and want to share with my colleagues how inspired I am by their dedication and accomplishments.

After organizing just last year, the student-led force has been instrumental in addressing homophobia at Merlo Station High School, in the Beaverton School District and in the broader community. Among many other examples of outreach, the Gay Straight Alliance has organized student groups to march in last year's Pride Parade and AIDS Walk, created a 2-day all-school event for National Coming Out Day, and encouraged students to take ownership of their language by developing a "No Bigoted Speech" pledge.

As we continue to debate many of the current GLBT-related pieces of legislation facing the 112th Congress, from the Student and Employee Non Discrimination Acts to the Safe Schools Improvement Act, I encourage my colleagues to remember these passionate students at Merlo Station High School.

I am inspired by this on-the-ground student organizing and will continue championing legislation to advocate for full equality for everyone, regardless of their gender expression or sexual orientation, because it is the right thing to do.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2112) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise to strongly object to the Republican majority's mean-spirited \$650 million cut to vulnerable

women, infants and children. The Republican's Fiscal Year 2012 Agriculture Appropriations legislation, H.R. 2112, chooses to make this drastic reduction to the Women, Infants and Children, WIC, program at a time of economic crisis for millions of American families. WIC is a proven strategy to guarantee that lower-income expectant and breastfeeding mothers and their children up to 5 years of age receive nutritious food. In Minnesota alone, 137,000 children rely on WIC benefits to keep them healthy and help them grow strong.

The federal budget is in crisis and Congress must take serious and immediate steps to tackle rising federal deficits. Members of Congress have a choice about how to reduce the deficit and a choice about who in our society will be asked to make the sacrifices. In Fiscal Year 2012, the Republicans are proposing uneven sacrifices. The Republican majority is choosing to cut \$650 million from the women, infants and children in our communities who most need assistance while choosing to protect nearly \$4 billion in taxpayer subsidies for Exxon and other large oil companies at a time of record-high gas prices. Up to 350,000 eligible women and children across the country will be denied access to basic nutrition under H.R. 2112.

I urge my colleagues to reject the cuts to WIC in H.R. 2112.

HONORING R.G. SHIPLEY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 99TH BIRTHDAY

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great North Carolinian, farmer and agricultural expert, Mr. R.G. Shipley, on the occasion of his 99th Birthday.

Mr. Shipley is a standard-bearer for agriculture in the High Country of North Carolina and has for years served faithfully on the Watauga County Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

Of course, when we say, "served for years," most people assume five or maybe ten years. In fact, Mr. Shipley has faithfully worked with the Watauga County Farm Bureau since its inception in the 1930's. That is a remarkable testament to his dedication to furthering the cause of local agriculture.

R.G. Shipley also taught agriculture as a local high school teacher at Cove Creek High School for many years. During his many years instructing students in agricultural studies he touched countless young lives. Among them was my husband, Tom Foxx, who sat under Mr. Shipley's tutelage as a high school student.

He is truly a remarkable member of the Watauga County community. Even as he approaches his centennial birthday, R.G. Shipley remains active in the agricultural community. In honor of his long agricultural service to the area, an endowment fund has been established in his family's name to support local agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent constituents like Mr. Shipley in Congress. As he turns 99 years old in the coming week I want to wish him many more years of vibrant life and thank him for his tireless community involvement over the past many decades.

A TRIBUTE TO MARTIN STROMAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Martin Stroman.

Elder Martin Stroman has been a member of the St. Paul Community Baptist Church since November 1997. He joined after being convicted by the revolutionary and biblical based theology of the Rev. Dr. Johnny Ray Youngblood.

He has been active in a host of ministries. He has been working in the field of addiction treatment for the past nineteen years. He has been exposed to various treatment modalities. Some of them had a religious perspective, others have been spiritually based and many are clinically driven.

Elder Stroman's professional profile is as follows: educator, trainer, motivator, administrator, program developer, advisor, adjunct professor, entrepreneur and twenty year background in chemical dependency and substance abuse treatment.

Elder Stroman has a Bachelors of Science Degree in Human Services along with many Certificates and Citations relating to his field of work. He is affiliated with the Bedford-Stuyvesant Alcoholism Treatment Center Community Advisory Board as well as Kingsborough.

With the joint 350 CASAC Certificate Program the mission statement reads: "Educated communities, save communities. Our commitment is to provide education and training to improve the quality of life in our community and the world. Educated providers, empower educated clients. We are dedicated to changing client thinking and believing."

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Stroman for his extraordinary accomplishments and spirit which reflect the best our nation has to offer.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL NICHOLAS "NIC" S. O'BRIEN

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following poem in honor of Lance Corporal Nicholas "Nic" O'Brien.

OUR BLESSED SON

In honor of Lance Corporal Nicholas "Nic" S. O'Brien, an American hero, who gave that last full measure. The United States Marines 1st Bat., 5th Marine Reg., 1st Marine Expeditionary Force.

On June 9, 2011, in Afghanistan, Lance Corporal Nicholas "Nic" S. O'Brien of Gaston County gave that last full measure in devotion to his country. As we lay his fine body down to rest in Arlington National Cemetery, our prayers and thoughts go out to him and his loved ones. May God Bless them all. I ask that this poem penned in his honor by Albert Caswell be placed in the RECORD.

OUR BLESSED SON

Nic, You . . .
You, Our Blessed Son . . .
Nic, America's bravest of all ones!