

During that time, he was also very active in the National League of Cities and the Ohio Municipal League. Congressman Miller was also a member of the executive committee of the Mayors Association of Ohio.

In 1967, Congressman Miller was elected to represent Ohio's Tenth Congressional District where he served for 26 years. Congressman Miller always represented his constituents with pride and integrity. He understood his southeastern Ohio district and fought vigorously to ensure that his constituents' needs were constantly being met.

Congressman Miller was well known for being a staunch fiscal conservative. While in Congress, Congressman Miller gained respect for introducing bills that were aimed at reducing spending but still meeting the obligations of our Nation. He was awarded a Treasury watchdog award every year he was in Congress because of his great concerns with regard to the national debt and overspending at the federal level.

Throughout his time in the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman Miller served on several House committees including Appropriations, Agriculture, and Public Works and Transportation. Additionally, he served as vice chairman of the Office of Technical Assessment and served on a special committee who forced other countries to reimburse the United States for costs associated with the 1991 Gulf War.

Congressman Miller dedicated much of his time in Congress to the Armed Forces. The Congressman worked tirelessly to ensure that all branches of the military had the resources they needed to protect this great nation. He respected all men and women in uniform and admired their dedication and bravery.

Following his service in Congress, Representative Miller further impacted Lancaster and Fairfield County by serving on the Board of Directors for the YMCA and Red Cross, and devoting time and support to public officials and the area.

In honor of Congressman Miller's influential and selfless efforts to the community, the Lancaster Post Office was renamed after him as well as the county health department building.

Congressman Clarence Ellsworth Miller truly was a fine example of what all members of Congress and those in public service should strive to become.

After a long life of dedicated public service, Clarence Ellsworth Miller, 93, passed away on August 2, 2011. Congressman Miller was preceded in death by his wife, Helen, and left behind a son, Ron, daughter, Jackie, five grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and two stepgrandchildren.

RECOGNIZING FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT ALVIN DAVIS FOR HIS EXEMPLARY SERVICE AND DEDICATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Alvin A. Davis, who as a teacher has shown outstanding merit and dedication to his profession and who has been a source of inspiration and

courage for hundreds of students in my hometown of Miramar, Florida. For his accomplishments as the head band and music teacher for Miramar High School, Mr. Davis has recently been awarded the 2012 Florida Department of Education's prestigious Teacher of the Year Award. Additionally, Mr. Davis has previously been recognized as the 2011 Broward County Teacher of the Year and the African-American Community Unsung Hero Award in 2010 for his dedication to his students and the community.

While Mr. Davis teaches music, many see him as more than just a 'music teacher.' For the past ten years he has taken the initiative to go above and beyond his duties as a teacher and makes the focus of his class on three things: academics, discipline, and music. He requires his students to receive one-on-one counseling with a member of the band staff and he personally reviews students' report cards and interim reports, even though it may not be part of his job description. Every school band rehearsal includes a one-hour study hall where students are tutored, even though his school may not have the budget for it.

But what is most outstanding is how Mr. Davis has made it his personal mission to ensure that his students make it on to college and move on to a brighter future, one that some students could never dream of. The Broward County school district confirms that for the past three years, every student who was a regular participating member of the Miramar High band program has gone on to college. Mr. Davis personally counsels his students on their future decisions and requires that seniors be only able to perform if they have registered for the ACT or SAT and if they can prove that they have applied to a college or university. Through his vision and steadfast dedication, Mr. Davis has single-handedly transformed the lives and futures of hundreds of students and their families.

Education is the back-bone of our country. It is what has made America prosperous, what has made the quality of life in this country the envy of the world, and what has safeguarded our democracy. Yet today we live in a time where the American education system, once ranked as top in the world, has slipped and tumbled to the point of not even making top twenty in some categories. Unfortunately, there are some voices who now decry the public education system as hopeless and worthy of scrapping. To those who have lost faith, I say that they should hear of the vision and successes of Mr. Alvin Davis who is dedicated, selfless, and capable, and works tirelessly every single day to transform the future of Florida's education system.

Mr. Speaker, as we recognize and honor Mr. Alvin A. Davis today for his accomplishments and his dedication, may we also recognize the hope and light educators like Mr. Davis bring to the future of this country.

HONORING JOHN PATRICK CARR, JR.

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of John Patrick Carr, Jr. of York, Maine.

John Carr, Jr. was a truly dedicated family man, a strong community advocate and a friend. John began his career working with the New England Telephone Company and moved on to become the International Representative for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. He remained a longtime member of the IBEW Local 222.

Following his retirement, John and his wife, Joan, relocated to York, Maine in order to live closer to family and enjoy time with their children and many grandchildren, of which they now have 12. Never one to stay on the sidelines, John became very active as an advocate for senior citizens throughout the State of Maine.

He served as the President of the Maine Council of Senior Citizens for upwards of 10 years, during which time he made a tremendous impact on his community and his state. He fought hard for affordable healthcare for senior citizens and to educate lawmakers on the full impact of numerous pieces of legislation on his community. He also served as a dedicated and active member of the York County Democratic Committee.

I always enjoyed my opportunities to work with John; he had a passion for his work and for the people on whose behalf he advocated. John will be missed by many, but I know that his contributions to the state of Maine are a lasting legacy.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring John Patrick Carr, Jr. for his life of dedication and service to his community, his family and to the State of Maine.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF THOM RUMBERGER

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thom Rumberger, who dedicated much of his life to preserving and restoring the unique, national treasure that is the Everglades. Thom's dedication and perseverance, in fact, earned him the nickname "Defender of the Everglades."

The importance of the Everglades to both Florida and our country cannot be understated, and so neither can the accomplishments of a man who spent a significant amount of his career working to protect this one-of-a-kind national treasure. As an instrumental part in the passage of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and the securing of several billion dollars in funding to execute this overarching plan to restore the Everglades, we owe him a great debt of gratitude both as Americans and as Everglades supporters.

Thom's noteworthy accomplishments are not just limited to the Everglades, he was also involved in the implementation of two constitutional amendments as well as some of the first manatee protection laws.

Thom's success extends to his career in private practice, as a founding partner of the Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell law firm. Under his leadership, the firm's modest beginnings quickly expanded to the forefront of global business litigation, representing such multi-national corporations as American Airlines, Inc.,

Sears, Roebuck and Co., and Toyota Motor Corporation. Today, his firm includes 75 trial attorneys in five offices across Florida and Alabama. Thom has also been listed in Florida Super Lawyers every year from 2007 to 2010.

In addition to spending his career as a public servant, judge and prosecutor, Thom is a dedicated father and grandfather.

Throughout his four decades in public service, Thom Rumberger embodied the importance of looking out for the common good. Thanks to the selfless commitment of folks like Thom, the restoration of America's Everglades is well underway.

I urge my colleagues to support this bi-partisan resolution recognizing and honoring the life and work of Thom Rumberger.

HONORING STEVE LEVESQUE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the accomplishments of Steve Levesque of Maine.

The National Association of Defense Communities has honored Mr. Levesque with its 2011 Base Redevelopment Leadership Award for his hard work on behalf of Brunswick, Maine and the surrounding communities. This award recognizes Mr. Levesque as the country's best base redevelopment official for his work in leading the conversion of Brunswick Naval Air Station for civilian reuse by the Mid-coast Regional Redevelopment Authority.

Steve serves as the executive director of the Mid-coast Regional Redevelopment Authority and has been charged with overseeing reuse of the 3,200-acre former air station, which closed as a military installation on May 31.

Recipients of the Base Redevelopment Leadership Award exhibit leadership abilities that not only enhance the success of their project, but provide management, direction and vision to building an effective and thriving community redevelopment program. The recipient must have proven success in achieving the ongoing goals of the redevelopment plan and creating a successful economic development plan. Steve has met and surpassed these qualifications with his work on the Brunswick Naval Air Station transition.

I am confident that Steve will carry on his track record of excellence in his continued role with the Mid-Coast Region Redevelopment Authority working on the reuse of the Brunswick Naval Air Station. Steve has left a lasting mark on this region and the state of Maine. On behalf of the people of Maine, it is with pride that I congratulate Steve for his excellent work.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Steven Levesque on the receipt of this award, and in thanking him for his dedication to the state of Maine.

RECOGNIZING EUROPE'S BLACK POPULATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution recognizing Europe's Black population and expressing solidarity with their struggle as we mark 2011 as the International Year for People of African Descent.

Some years ago, on April 29, 2008, I chaired a U.S. Helsinki Commission hearing entitled, "The State of (In)visible Black Europe: Race, Rights, and Politics" which focused on the more than seven million people who make up Europe's Black or Afro-descendant population.

Since that hearing, I have been calling for the recognition of Black Europeans, who, despite their numerous contributions to European society, like African-Americans, face the daily challenges of racism and discrimination. This includes being the targets of violent hate crimes and racial profiling, in addition to continuing inequalities in education, housing, employment, and in other sectors. Few Black Europeans are in leadership positions, and political participation is also limited for many, providing obstacles for addressing these problems.

This resolution supports the 2011 International Year for People of African Descent goal to recognize and support the economic, political, cultural, and social inclusion of Black Europeans, including by urging European governments to develop and implement anti-discrimination legislation and other plans of action in cooperation with Black European communities.

Given the lessons learned from our own civil rights struggle and continuing anti-discrimination and diversity efforts in Europe, the resolution also supports an increase in transatlantic cooperative efforts between U.S. and European governments, civil society, and the private sector to provide useful partnerships and assistance in combating racism and discrimination abroad and at home. Specifically, U.S. government support is requested to aid such efforts in line with U.S. support for human rights.

I believe that cooperation is key to addressing the global problems of racism and discrimination. It is for this reason that, since 2009, I have worked in cooperation with minority and other European legislators to hold annual events in Brussels, Belgium at the European Parliament focused on addressing the situation of Blacks and other minorities, with a focus on increasing political participation. These events include the 2009 Black European Summit: Transatlantic Dialogue on Political Inclusion and the 2010 and 2011 Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conferences, where solutions, such as a U.S.-EU Joint Action Plan on Racial and Ethnic Equality and Inclusion have been discussed.

As I continue to work on these initiatives, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this Resolution Recognizing Black Europeans during the International Year of People of African Descent. Additionally, I would like to submit the following background materials on Black Europeans for the official record.

HONORING GRETCHEN KIMBALL AND ANNETTE CALDWELL

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gretchen Kimball and Annette Caldwell for receiving the 2011 "Maine Agriculture in the Classroom" Teacher of the Year award and for receiving one of the five "Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture" awards from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and the National Agriculture in the Classroom Consortium.

Gretchen and Annette created the Buckfield Garden Project at Buckfield Junior/Senior High School in Buckfield, ME. The project is a 1.2-acre garden and farm stand run by the teachers' middle school students. The students research and plan which plants to include in the garden, and every step of the process, from soil cultivation to managing the budget, involves student participation. The project teaches the students agricultural, business and problem solving skills.

The Buckfield Garden Project has become a point of pride for the entire community, not just the students. In the project's first harvest, the students earned \$3,500. The students elected to donate this money to a local family struggling with severe medical hardship. Through Gretchen and Annette's unique and innovative approach to education, these students are learning practical skills as well as making valuable connections with their community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Gretchen Kimball and Annette Caldwell's achievement in receiving these awards.

RECOGNIZING MS. CAROL J. ROSELLE FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PALM BEACH COMMUNITY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 5, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a lady who has made a lifelong commitment to transforming her talents and hobbies into thousands of acts of kindness and giving. Ms. Carol J. Roselle, a resident of West Palm Beach, FL, has been knitting and crocheting since she was a young girl during World War II. Her Aunt Emma would take her to Red Cross meetings, where Ms. Roselle observed women knitting cuffs to keep soldiers warm. Throughout the intervening years she has knit an array of gifts for friends and family members, but when she began volunteering for the Lantana Health Center in 2002, the scope of her giving expanded dramatically.

Ms. Roselle and her knitting group, the 3 B's, have spent the last 9 years lovingly knitting booties, blankets, and beanies for newborns, as well as lap blankets for veterans in wheelchairs at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Riviera Beach, FL. Over the years, the ladies have knitted thousands of items, and they have donated each one out of the kindness of their hearts. Ms. Roselle and her