

In addition, Life Members (past honorees with more than 50 years' service) will also be on hand for the event. They include: Florian Chmurzynski, Robert Connors, Frederick Diring, Ronald Dubois, Norman Gast, Edward Jarrot, Kenneth Kreger, Albert Martin, Guy Merritt, James Mooney, Robert Ohlenschlager, and Thomas Trotta.

The inscription at New York City's James Farley Post Office reads, "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." I am pleased to join with Branch 3 of the National Association of Letter Carriers to honor these fine public servants, and to wish to them good luck and Godspeed in the months and years to come.

**HONORING U.S. ARMY SERGEANT
GARRICK L. EPPINGER, JR.'S
SERVICE IN AFGHANISTAN**

HON. REID J. RIBBLE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. RIBBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life and sacrifice of Sergeant Garrick L. Eppinger, Jr. A resident of Appleton, Wisconsin, Sergeant Eppinger died while serving our country in the Parwan Province of Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 395th Ordnance Company, 687th Combat Sustainment Support Brigade, 646th Regional Support Group, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, U.S. Army Reserve, Wausau, Wisconsin. Garrick Eppinger, Jr. died protecting the freedoms we take for granted every day. His heroic sacrifice will not soon be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Eppinger embodied the best qualities of a true American soldier. He served this country with honor and exhibited profound bravery and selflessness during his three overseas deployments. Sergeant Eppinger was a loving son, a devoted father and now he will forever be known as an American hero. He is remembered by friends and family as a man with a courageous and strong spirit who earned the unwavering respect of his peers. Although the loss of Sergeant Eppinger left a void in the hearts of many, his dedication and exemplary service has made Northeast Wisconsin and his country proud.

It is my honor to commemorate him and I urge my colleagues to join me today in honoring the life of Sergeant Garrick Eppinger, Jr. for the sacrifice he made for the United States of America.

**RECOGNIZING THE CRUTCHFIELD
FAMILY AS THE 2011 OKALOOSA
COUNTY OUTSTANDING FARM
FAMILY OF THE YEAR**

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to rise today to recognize the Crutchfield family for being selected as the 2011 Okaloosa County, Florida Outstanding Farm Family of the Year.

Reginald Crutchfield is a fifth generation farmer who truly understands the value of a strong work ethic and good soil, and he instills those values in his family every day. With the help of his wife Regina and his son Phillip, Reggie sows and harvests nearly 500 acres of peanuts, wheat and corn.

Throughout his life, Reggie has epitomized the true meaning of hard work. In 1981, Future Farmers of America (FFA) recognized his dedication to the farming industry and awarded him with the title of FFA Star State Farmer. Since that time, Reggie has worked independently as a farmer among other jobs in order to provide for his family. His impressive career includes work as a researcher of beef cattle with the University of Florida and as a golf course superintendent overseeing grass production. In 2008, Reggie successfully battled cancer and went back to work as a full-time farmer, replanting his crops and expanding his business.

Reggie and Regina have raised their children, Jhanna, Phillip, Bailey, and Paige, to respect the land and to be active members of their community. In addition to helping her husband out on the farm throughout their 27 years of marriage, Regina works as a speech pathologist for the Okaloosa County School District. The Crutchfields are members of First United Methodist Church of Crestview and the Okaloosa County Farm Bureau. This outstanding farm family has overcome constant challenges and continues to inspire those around them with their love of the land and their commitment to family.

Mr. Speaker, our great nation was built by farmers and their families. The Okaloosa County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year award is a reflection of the Crutchfield family's tireless work and dedication to family, faith and trade. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Crutchfield family for this great accomplishment. My wife Vicki and I wish them the best for continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, September 15, 2011, I was inadvertently detained on rollcall vote 709. Had I been present to vote, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING MICHAEL FORAN

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary service of Michael Foran, the 2012 MetLife/NASSP National High School Principal of the Year. A native of Newington, Connecticut, Mr. Foran has worked for 20 years within the New Britain school district and became Principal of New Britain High School in 2006. In this time, he has been instrumental in providing the 2,700 students of New Britain High School with the

foundation they will need to succeed in today's competitive economy.

Among many of his notable initiatives, Mr. Foran's focus on career education led to the start of the New Britain Academy for Health Professions, which helps students prepare for careers in health care. He has also greatly expanded the school's mentoring programs for at-risk students. Despite school budget reductions and layoffs, Foran has sustained and advanced his school's reputation by building a more collaborative work environment between administrators, teachers and ancillary staff. As a result, since 2006, test scores have risen, more students are taking AP courses, and fewer students are dropping out. This can be credited to better instruction due to Foran's excellent leadership attributes, which were essential in awarding him the honor of National Principal of the Year.

The MetLife/NASSP program honors secondary school principals who have arrived at administering distinctive learning opportunities for students. High school and middle school principals from every state in the nation are nominated. From this accomplished pool, 6 finalists are chosen as contenders to be named Principal of the Year. This program recognizes the very pivotal role that principals such as Mr. Foran play in the education system as leaders and role models who excel in maintaining a positive community for both students and teachers.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that we can all learn from Mr. Foran's dedication to education and service, and so I ask my colleagues to join me, and the people of Connecticut, in recognizing Michael Foran as the National Principal of the Year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 715, I was attending a meeting that ran long, and therefore, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 715.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

**TRIBUTE TO THE DEFENSE INTEL-
LIGENCE AGENCY'S 50TH ANNI-
VERSARY**

HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. BARTLETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Defense Intelligence Agency on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary.

Created in 1961, DIA is our nation's premier provider of intelligence on foreign military intentions and capabilities. DIA's workforce of over 16,500 military and civilian intelligence professionals conducts all-source analysis, human and technical intelligence collection, counterintelligence and provides secure information technology support worldwide for military commanders, warfighters and policymakers.

DIA is responsible for the Defense Attaché System, Defense Counterintelligence and HUMINT Center, National Defense Intelligence College, National Media Exploitation Center, National Center for Credibility Assessment and several specialized intelligence centers: the Underground Facility Analysis Center, the Missile and Space Intelligence Center and the Joint Intelligence Task Force—Combating Terrorism.

In addition to these components, I am especially pleased that DIA's National Center for Medical Intelligence, NCMI, is located in my Congressional District on Fort Detrick. NCMI's 150 civilian and military intelligence analysts and scientists are charged with preparing and coordinating intelligence on foreign health threats and medical issues to protect U.S. interest worldwide.

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee and a frequent visitor to NCMI and Fort Detrick, I have received numerous briefings from DIA and NCMI personnel. Each time I have been briefed by DIA analysts I have been impressed by the Agency's expertise identifying medical threats to U.S. forces and our allies, and the insights these intelligence professionals bring on foreign military intentions and capabilities.

During DIA's five decades of existence, the Agency has remained agile in the face of evolving national security threats. From the Cold War, to the Vietnam War, to the first Gulf War, DIA's early efforts focused on understanding and, if necessary, defeating state-sponsored militaries and providing strategic warning.

Since the 9/11 terrorist attacks, DIA has responded to the asymmetric threat posed by transnational terrorist groups such as al-Qaida by pushing more analytic and collection capabilities forward in direct support of our military forces in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere. Today intelligence professionals from across DIA, including personnel from NCMI are forward deployed alongside our troops to provide the best and most timely military intelligence possible.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the men and women of DIA on 50 years of service. Guided by their Agency motto "Committed to Excellence in Defense of the Nation", I am confident that DIA will be standing watch to defeat the threats we face today and to identify and meet the national security challenges of the next 50 years and beyond.

CONGRATULATING COLUMBUS CLIPPERS

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Columbus Clippers on winning their ninth, and second consecutive, Governor's Cup. The Governor's Cup is a baseball tradition dating back to 1933 and is awarded annually to the International League's champion.

First at Cooper Stadium and now at Huntington Park, since 1977 the Columbus Clip-

pers have been a Central Ohio institution. The Clippers are a world-class organization, and attending a game at Huntington Park is a world-class experience. I have enjoyed many warm summer evenings cheering on the Clippers, and I know countless other Ohio families have shared similar fun-filled experiences enjoying America's favorite pastime in each other's company.

In Columbus, we take our sports seriously, and the Clippers have always been a point of pride for us. Their past two seasons have been particularly impressive with the team winning back-to-back championships. A single Governor's Cup win is an impressive achievement but two in a row is truly extraordinary. Over the years the Clippers have made their city and state proud with similar championship streaks, including holding on to the Governor's Cup for three consecutive years from 1979–1981.

A winning season takes hard work and many hours of practice and a great deal of effort. The team's success brings City of Columbus together to celebrate as a community. To the Columbus Clippers, I offer my congratulations on this season's championship and my best wishes for a strong season next year.

Columbus Clippers, RING YOUR BELL!

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSWOMAN CARRIE MEEK

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as a 30-year colleague of Congresswoman Carrie Meek of Miami, I submit this tribute to honor of my dear, dear friend. Ms. Meek's life and career began from the most humble of backgrounds in segregated Tallahassee during the 1930's. She was the granddaughter of slaves and daughter of former sharecroppers, yet graduated from Lincoln High School, and later stayed in north Florida and graduated from Florida A&M University in 1946. Unfortunately, this was still a time when African Americans could not attend graduate school in the state of Florida, yet because of her fearless spirit and tenacity, Ms. Meek did not give up studying; she enrolled in the University of Michigan and received her M.S. degree in 1948. After graduation, Carrie was hired as a teacher at Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Florida, and then at her alma mater, Florida A&M University. She then moved to Miami in 1961 to serve as special assistant to the vice president of Miami-Dade Community College, which was desegregated in 1963, largely due to Ms. Meek's integral role in the push for its integration.

I distinctly recall the years we served together in the Florida State legislature in the 1980's. And although Ms. Meek became Florida's first African American female state Senator in 1983, the same year I began my career of public service in the Florida House, we worked jointly on numerous projects beneficial to minority communities across the state of Florida. And since she served on the Education Appropriations Subcommittee, we tag teamed on various projects, including critical

funding for HBCU's, affordable housing for minorities and the poor, as well as funding for critical transportation and infrastructure projects in areas previously overlooked.

And in 1992, after a long and bitter legal fight, Ms. Meek and I, along with Congressman ALCEE HASTINGS, became the first African American Members elected to the U.S. House of Representatives since 1871! Together in Washington, Rep. Meek and I worked arduously together on issues such as economic development for underserved areas, both nationally and in the state of Florida, on decreasing disparities in health care treatment and in increasing access to health insurance, as well as on education and housing issues. And as Floridians passionate about improving the conditions on the island nation of Haiti, we also traveled to Haiti together, and worked to advocate for Haitian immigrants and for increased U.S. foreign aid and investment on the island nation of Haiti. I will always fondly remember the years of working together with Ms. Meek, and am pleased to see Members of the Florida delegation coming together on the House Floor this morning to recognize her many achievements during her time in Congress.

THE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES IMPROVEMENT AND INNOVATION ACT AND TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES EXTENSION

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of two of today's scheduled bills, the Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Extension.

The Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act makes the necessary improvements to the Child Welfare Services and Promoting Safe and Stable Families programs to ensure accountability of the funds spent in the programs. Particularly, the waiver requirements and the required Government Accountability Office study will help reduce the duplication of funds for these programs.

Regarding the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Extension, I feel that this three month extension will provide the proper time to discuss, debate and research the benefits of mandating drug-testing and substance abuse treatment programs as a requirement for individuals to receive funds under this program. Including such a provision will increase the accountability of means-tested cash recipients and send a message that substance abuse will not be tolerated or supported by the federal government.

I see a direct link in the issue of substance abuse and child maltreatment; I feel that the inclusion of a drug-testing requirement would improve both programs and increase their efficiency.

I look forward to working on this issue with my colleagues in the Subcommittee on Human Resources, the Ways and Means Committee and the House of Representatives at-large.