

candidate and faced political wrath of Arthur Barbieri, including a primary challenge for her own seat.

My own story is not so interesting once you think about the two great influences in my own life. It was written. And I will not dwell on my work, though so much of this began at this kitchen table. My father wanted me to be a pianist and if not that, to make \$10,000 a year. He asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I said a dancer—he said get a more stable profession! He did not think I would make it politics because I had too much book learning in my head and not enough experience working and living with people—understanding their lives.

But politics was in my blood and for many years I worked for a succession of civic and elected leaders—from the Community Action Institute to the city of New Haven, from Frank Logue to Chris Dodd.

When I was discovered to have ovarian cancer and beat that back with wondrous nurses and doctors at Yale New Haven Hospital, I made a decision that I too had to run for office and play a role in this tradition. Nothing was a bigger honor than to be elected to the Third Congressional seat in the tradition of Albert Cretella, Bob Giaimo, Larry DeNardis, and Bruce Morrison. Eleven times the people of this district have sent me to Washington to battle for them—as my father and mother would have done in their day. I now believe it is no accident that today my bill to bar discrimination against the unemployed is part of President Obama's Jobs Bill, because my dad asked in his time why the workers at Candee Rubber Company who helped make it profitable in good times lost their jobs in bad times. And I believe it is no accident that I stood right behind the president when he signed his first law, The Fair Pay Act, because my mother asked the same challenging questions when she was but 20.

What motivates what I do springs from growing up in an Italian-Catholic household, with Teddy and Luisa DeLauro. This sculpture brings it full circle, with all our words captured here.

Mayor, thank you for getting this started, thank you all for joining my family today, and enjoy this neighborhood where my mother still lives and where it all began.

All the best.

**ANNOUNCING RECIPIENTS OF THE INAUGURAL CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION FOR THE THIRD DISTRICT OF TEXAS—JIM REED**

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2011*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to announce before my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives the names of eleven distinguished military veterans and community servants who call the Third District of Texas home. For their selfless service and dedication to their neighbors and nation, the following individuals have been selected as recipients of the inaugural Congressional Veteran Commendation:

During World War II, Mr. Jim Reed of Plano, Texas was a rifleman with E Company, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Regiment, 4th Marine Division. Based out of Camp Lejeune, the division deployed to the Pacific Theater of War in 1944

and engaged in the Battle of the Marshall Islands, the Battle of Saipan, and the Battle of Tinian. On August 9, 1944, while compassionately trying to convince Japanese citizens in Saipan not to jump off a suicide cliff, Reed was shot in the back of the head by a sniper. Evacuated to Guadalcanal and then Pearl Harbor with a Purple Heart pinned to his robe, Reed would not stay down for long.

In February 1945, with Tinian as a launching point, Reed and his fellow Marines stormed Iwo Jima. The mission of the 23rd Marines was to capture Motoyama Airfield No. 1 within 24 hours of landing. However, after three days they had not reached their objective and lost a third of their men. Fortunately, the 3rd Division came ashore as support and together they pushed through to the airfield.

The next objective was even tougher. In their trek toward Motoyama Airfield No. 2, the Marines fought uphill through ravines and over cliffs while the Japanese fired at them from tunnels and fortresses built into the land. After 10 days of fighting, only 15 remained of Reed's company of about 250 men. Reed had again been wounded, earning him his second Purple Heart. This ended Jim Reed's war.

A favorite speaker at Veterans Day events, Mr. Reed selflessly shares his story with all generations of Americans and serves veterans-support organizations around North Texas, including the Daughters of WWII.

It is an honor and privilege to name Jim Reed a recipient of the inaugural Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

**RECOGNIZING MS. ETHEL LEE HOWARD FOR HER COMMITMENT COUNTERING CIVIL INJUSTICES**

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a longtime resident and devoted civil servant of Port Gibson, Mississippi, Ms. Ethel Lee Howard.

Ms. Howard has been an advocate of civil rights for more than 50 years. She joined the fight for civil rights in the early 1960s when the movement first came to Claiborne County, Mississippi. She began her efforts by frequenting meetings held at St. Peter's African Methodist Episcopal Church hosted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—an organization she soon after became a member.

During the civil rights era, Ms. Howard fought vigorously for equal rights; she was among the first to send her daughter, Jessie, to a predominantly white school in Mississippi during the 1960s and when First Baptist Church of Port Gibson was fired upon with gunshots by police and other law enforcement officials, Ms. Howard's voice reigned high among all those who stood firmly to echo the sounds against injustice.

To this day, Ms. Howard still serves as a faithful member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and actively attends many of its community functions and meetings. In 2007, she was honored as Mother of the Year for the NAACP during a ceremony at the First Baptist Church in Port Gibson, Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in celebrating Ms. Ethel Lee Howard for her unwavering commitment to civil justice and equality.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BETTY SUTTON**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2011*

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 880, a vote on H.R. 527, I inadvertently and mistakenly voted "aye" on passage of the bill, when I intended to vote "nay." I have always stood by our working families to defend critical regulations that protect our environment and public safety, and believe that a "no" vote on final passage properly reflects my record and the priorities of my district.

**A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE LYDIA Y. KIRKLAND**

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2011*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Honorable Lydia Y. Kirkland. For 25 years, Judge Kirkland has served on the Philadelphia Municipal Court, and on November 4, 2011 she celebrated her retirement after decades of service to her community.

Judge Kirkland's roots run deep in Philadelphia. During the difficult days of American segregation, her grandparents and great grandparents were among the most accomplished business persons and clergy in Philadelphia. Indeed, her grandfather, Reverend Doctor James E. Kirkland pastured the Union Baptist Church, the congregation which gave the magnificent Marian Anderson to the world. Judge Kirkland's father, Rev. Joseph Kirkland was a renowned cleric and civil rights leader in his own right, having graduated Crozer Theological Seminary in my district. His classmate and friend at Crozer was The Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr.

Judge Kirkland received both her Bachelor of Science and Juris Doctorate Degrees from Howard University in Washington, DC in 1974 and 1977 respectively. In 1978 she was admitted into the Pennsylvania Bar. Judge Kirkland was an associate in the Law Office of retired City Councilwoman Augusta A. Clark from 1979–1980. She was a sole practitioner, serving the people of my district, from 1980–1985.

Judge Kirkland was elected to the Philadelphia Municipal Court in 1985. During her tenure she was elected Secretary of the Board of Judges. She distinguished herself on the bench, receiving the 2009 Judge A. Leon Higginbotham Award, presented by the Barister's Association of Philadelphia, and the Judge Doris M. Harris Image Award, presented by the National Bar Association Women Lawyer's Division—Philadelphia Chapter and other awards. Judge Kirkland is the proud mother of two sons Joseph C. Cornell and Joel Kirkland Cornell.

Judge Kirkland's long and impressive career showcases her commitment and service to her

community. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in thanking Judge Kirkland for her work and congratulate her on the occasion of her retirement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2011*

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed a vote yesterday afternoon, specifically rollcall vote 879.

If I had been present, I would have voted in support of rollcall vote 879, the Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 527.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE ST. LOUIS BALLET IN ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

#### HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2011*

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the St. Louis Ballet located in St. Louis, Missouri.

For over ten years, Gen Horiuchi has served as the artistic director of the St. Louis Ballet. His international reputation with major choreographers throughout the world has enabled the St. Louis Ballet to bring original productions to the St. Louis region.

The St. Louis Ballet has played a vital role in community development by facilitating culture and arts in the St. Louis area. The ballet has been involved in community outreach to foster children in offering free private lessons and to Senior Assisted Living facilities in making the art of ballet and ballet performances more accessible.

Ballet truly is an artistic skill that embodies the American spirit as much as it emboldens young people to push limits and succeed in whatever they chose to do. The St. Louis Ballet School does just that as it produces many fine dancers that demonstrate high degrees of teamwork, care for others, respect, and discipline. Mr. Horiuchi's ballet is constantly transitioning and evolving, allowing for greater expression and freedom to explore and to advance. It is traits like these that Americans are hungry for in this current time in our history.

I congratulate the St. Louis Ballet's exemplary example of the leadership St. Louis and in Missouri as a whole. I am pleased to honor them in their continued endeavor to bring art and culture to the St. Louis region.

#### HONORING PFC. THEODORE B. RUSHING

#### HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2011*

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Florida, I rise today to honor the life, service, and sacrifice of Pfc. Theodore B. Rushing. Pfc. Rushing was killed in action in

Afghanistan on Veterans' Day, November 11, 2011.

Growing up in Central Florida, Rushing graduated from Altamonte Christian School. After earning his associates degree from Seminole State College, Rushing chose to enlist in the U.S. Army, with plans to follow his father's footsteps and join the Orlando Police Department. Known to his friends as Teddy, Pfc. Rushing had an adventuresome spirit and loved being outdoors. He was known for being gregarious and outgoing.

After graduating boot camp in June 2011, Rushing continued his training at the Calvary Scout School at Fort Knox in Kentucky and was assigned to the 10th Mountain Division, 71st Cavalry and stationed in Ft. Drum, NY. Rushing was deployed to Afghanistan in August and served in Kandahar province. On November 11, Rushing's unit was attacked and Rushing was killed in combat.

Rushing's medals and awards include the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and the Afghanistan Campaign Medal. Pfc. Rushing is survived by his father, Rick; his mother, Ann; and his sister, Stacy. His life, service, and sacrifice are remembered by all.

#### ANNOUNCING RECIPIENTS OF THE INAUGURAL CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION FOR THE THIRD DISTRICT OF TEXAS—ELIZABETH MCCORMICK

#### HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2011*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to announce before my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives the names of eleven distinguished military veterans and community servants who call the Third District of Texas home. For their selfless service and dedication to their neighbors and nation, the following individuals have been selected as recipients of the inaugural Congressional Veteran Commendation:

Chief Warrant Officer Elizabeth McCormick served our country in the U.S. Army from 1994 to 2001. After Basic Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, McCormick decided to forego Officer Candidate School, instead heading to the Warrant Officer Flight Training Program to increase her chances of fulfilling her dream—serving as a Blackhawk helicopter pilot.

She graduated first in her class and was soon assigned to Fort Drum, New York flying Command & Control and VIP Missions. Upon promotion to Chief Warrant Officer 2, McCormick was transferred to Katterbach Army Airfield in Germany where she served as Rear Detachment C Company Commander during peacekeeping operations in Kosovo.

For her excellent service, McCormick was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and Army Aviator Badge.

Though an injury incurred in Germany forced McCormick into medical retirement, she maintained her spirits and searched for new goals. She moved to Dallas, Texas where she

built a business as a Longaberger Consultant. McCormick is now active in the local community, participating in several Chambers of Commerce and serving as President of the Firewheel Chapter of Women of Visionary Influence. Each year she also participates in an Armed Forces Day Barbeque where she collects boxes of dry foods and goods for overseas troops.

It is my pleasure to name Elizabeth McCormick a recipient of the inaugural Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. CARL WATLEY FOR HIS SERVICE AND COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable man and steward of the Cary, Mississippi community, Mr. Carl Watley. Mr. Watley is a lifelong resident of Cary, Mississippi, where he has devoted much of his time to serving as a positive male influence for the children of Cary. For years he has devoted himself to serving not only as guardian but as a role model for his niece and nephew, who were left without a parent after the untimely death of his sister. Mr. Watley is also admired and adored by the children of Sharkey and Issaquena Counties, many of which see him as a father figure and role model as well.

Mr. Watley has served his region for several years by providing community activities to the children of the area with his own personal resources. During the summer months, Mr. Watley sponsors activities for more than 140 children. He is currently working to secure funds to build a community house that will provide recreational alternatives for the children of Cary, Mississippi. He has organized a number of events for the children of Cary, including community clean-ups, field days and bible study for the young men of the community. Mr. Watley is also working with community leaders of Cary to establish a park in the Maiden Addition community.

Mr. Watley is an active member of the Parents for Public School Leadership and is certified under the National Certification in Fatherhood Leadership. He is a member of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church where he serves as the Youth Leader, a musician and a deacon.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in expressing my sincere gratitude to Mr. Carl Watley of Cary, Mississippi for being a champion of children and a pillar of the community.

#### THE EMPTY CHAIR

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2011*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Thanksgiving, millions of Americans will sit down to a decorated table filled with turkey and all the