

the extraordinary people who continue to help shape my community of Omaha and our great nation. Today, I would like to pay special tribute to Gene R. Haynes, one of the thousands of successful and talented African Americans in the Second Congressional District of Nebraska.

Gene Haynes grew up poor and in segregated schools in the South. His three older brothers moved to Omaha for packing-house work to help put him through college. After college, Mr. Haynes followed his family to Omaha and along with his wife, Annie Haynes, began teaching in 1967.

He went on to become the principal of Omaha North High Magnet School and an inspirational leader in the community. He is known for being a hands on and motivational educator who has contributed greatly to the school's development. Dedicated to preparing students for their role in a highly technological and global society, he oversaw the complete renovation of the building's infrastructure and the addition of 30,000 square feet of facilities focusing on technology, mathematics, science and engineering.

During his time at North, Haynes has been part of a number of creative programs designed to empower students, engage parents and bring the business community into the school.

In addition to his loyal service to his students, Gene Haynes is active in several local, state, and national organizations. He has been an integral part of The North Omaha Project Impact, Urban League of Nebraska, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, National Association of Secondary School Principals, and the Pacesetter Scholarship Committee.

I am proud to recognize and honor this highly-esteemed and dedicated educator for nearly a half century of service to the Omaha community.

TRIBUTE TO JULIE TATTI

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of an outstanding American, Julie Tatti, who will be recognized on Monday, February 28, 2011, by the Department for Persons with Disabilities (DPD) for her many years of dedicated service to her community. She will be retiring from the role of Executive Director, but she has another important distinction—having been with the DPD for nearly 40 years, she is also its longest tenured staff member.

It is only fitting that she be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, for she has brought joy and comfort to many others through her efforts.

Julie was born on April 8, 1948 in Jersey City, to Catharine and Stephen Feehan. She grew up in Bergenfield, NJ and graduated from St. John's Elementary School and the Academy of the Holy Angels. She continued her education, going on to earn a bachelors' degree from the College of St. Elizabeth and a Masters' degree in Special Education from William Paterson University.

She began her service at the Department for Persons with Disabilities nearly four dec-

ades ago, working as a counselor and life-guard at Camp Alexander, the agency's summer camp for the disabled, and then, in 1973, as the coordinator of Special Religious Education. She was responsible for organizing religious education programs for children and adults with disabilities. She went on to become the Director of Wayne House, the second home operated by the DPD.

As the agency grew, Julie transitioned into an administrative role, serving as Associate Executive Director until December 1, 2007 when she was appointed Executive Director. For Julie though, this has not just been a career, but a ministry that has allowed her to achieve spiritual growth and fulfillment through her faith.

Julie has been a dedicated leader and an inspiration to all of the DPD staff members and residents. Julie has truly led by example and has been an active volunteer within the agency for years. She is always there with a helping hand and an ability to assist all involved in the DPD. The agency's programs, as well as the residents and her co-workers, have all thrived under her guidance and through her efforts.

Julie Tatti will always be an important part of the DPD family and her loving impact will always be felt by all who live and work there. Although she is leaving her position as Executive Director, I know her commitment will continue and that she looks forward to having more time to spend with her husband Lou Tatti (who she met in 1972 while working at Camp Alexander), and family, including the residents for whom she cares so much.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to working with and recognizing the efforts of dedicated community servants like Julie Tatti.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the Department for Persons with Disabilities, all of its' residents and volunteers, Julie's family and friends, and me in recognizing Julie Tatti's outstanding service to her community.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DEMETRIUS MCCORD

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Black History Month 2011, I rise today to recognize a man who cares deeply about equality in our society, Mr. Demetrius McCord.

Demetrius is a lifelong resident of the Bronx, New York, who for several years has worked to further the interests of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) Americans. Demetrius is currently the Deputy Executive Director of the Bronx Community Pride Center (BCPC), the borough's only exclusive LGBT service-oriented agency. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Scranton and Juris Doctor from Albany Law School of Union University. Prior to his current role, Demetrius served as the BCPC's Director of Development, tasked with enlarging the institution's capacity and donor base. He organizes public forums and community programming across the city; and among his more recent

public victories, Demetrius has been instrumental to the success of the annual Bronx Pride Festival.

In addition to his work with the BCPC, Demetrius is the Funding Chair for the annual People of Color Summit, which is sponsored, in part, by the New York State LGBT Health and Human Services Network, a coalition of over fifty LGBT-supportive nonprofit organizations that provide health and social services to LGBT New Yorkers and their families. Demetrius also serves on the Board of the Gay and Lesbian Dominican Empowerment Organization (GALDE), a grassroots organization that serves the city's Dominican and Latino LGBT communities.

Mr. Speaker, not only does Demetrius' work support members of the LGBT community across the city, he helps to articulate why the rights and liberties of LGBT Americans must be equal to anyone else. His work brings us nearer to those principals upon which our nation was founded; of fairness and decency and equality under the law. I am therefore very proud to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing a young man who aspires to make his community stronger and his country more perfect, Mr. Demetrius McCord.

BARB WARDEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Barb Warden for receiving the Golden Chamber of Commerce Civic award.

This award is given each year to an organization of individuals that have contributed greatly to the quality of life in Golden.

Barb Warden is known to be a behind the scenes kind of person, but her ability to be on the front lines of communication has brought her to the front of the pack. In February 2007, Barb had the vision to create and build www.golden.com. Her main reason to build this website was to promote small businesses and cultural organizations. Today this website is receiving over half million hits a month and growing. "When folks want to know what to do, where to shop, what's happening in Golden, they search on www.golden.com."

More than 30 businesses, non-profit organizations and government agencies have had their websites built by Table Mountain Web Design, the official name of Barb's company.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Barb Warden for this well deserved recognition by the Golden Chamber of commerce. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MAJOR OF THE ARMY KENNETH O. PRESTON'S 35 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR NATION

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Sergeant Major of the Army

Kenneth O. Preston for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to the United States of America. Sergeant Major Preston, the 13th Sergeant Major of the Army, will retire from active military duty in March after 35 distinguished years of service to the United States Army.

Sergeant Major of the Army Preston is a native of Mount Savage, Maryland and was born in February 1957. He entered the Army in June of 1975 as a Cavalry Scout, hoping to save enough money for college to become an architect. After serving his first enlistment, he and his family decided to pursue a career in the Army. He has served in every enlisted leadership position including cavalry scout, Platoon Sergeant, First Sergeant, tank commander, and Command Sergeant Major. He was selected as the Command Sergeant Major of the 1st Armored Division and V Corps in Germany. Prior to his current assignment, he was the Command Sergeant Major for Combined Joint Task Force 7 during Operation Iraqi Freedom and was instrumental in executing the invasion into Iraq.

Kenneth Preston has been awarded numerous personal awards and decorations during his career. The Legion of Merit Medal (with oak leaf cluster), the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (with three oak leaf clusters), the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (with three oak leaf clusters), the Army Achievement Medal (with two oak leaf clusters), the Army Good Conduct Medal (with silver knot and three bronze knots), the National Defense Service Ribbon (with one bronze service star), the Southwest Asia Service Medal, the Kosovo Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (with award numeral 4), the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Ribbons (with award numeral four), the NATO Medal, the Kuwait Liberation Medal (Government of Kuwait), the Joint Meritorious Unit Award (with oak leaf cluster), the Army Meritorious Unit Commendation, and the Department of the Army Staff Badge.

Mr. Speaker, It has been a pleasure to work closely with Sergeant Major Preston over the last seven years of his career as he has served in the highest enlisted position attainable in the Army. He has proven himself to be a tremendous wartime leader who demonstrated unselfish devotion to the Nation and the soldiers he leads. He has been a friend and trusted advisor to my colleagues and I on the Appropriations Committee as he worked tirelessly to restore balance to a force stressed by the demands of the war on terrorism. He was instrumental in significantly improving our Soldiers' uniform, equipment—and most importantly—professional Non-Commissioned Officer Education System. The impact of his efforts will benefit the Army for decades to come. His personal leadership contributed to building the most professional Non-Commissioned Officer Corps in the world. As the highest enlisted Soldier, he ensured our Soldiers remained true to the core Army Values: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity and Personal Courage. His focus on adherence to discipline and high upkeep of Army standards have led to the successful execution of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Sergeant Major of the Army Preston and Chief of the Staff of the Army General George Casey Jr. worked together tirelessly to increase support for families by implementing the Army Family Covenant and the Army Community Covenant to expand and improve services and raise awareness about the unique challenges military families face. His observations and advice to the Army leadership have impacted the decisions to implement the most comprehensive transformation of the Army since World War II, building versatile and modular units capable of conducting a full-spectrum of operations.

This Non-Commissioned Officer has continued the traditions of the Best Warrior Competition that was introduced in 2002. He ensured that Soldiers from any military occupational specialty, male or female, could compete and win. The motivation, discipline and focus of these competitors, from across the Army, is a direct result of his presence, support and leadership.

Sergeant Major of the Army Preston's most important contribution was through his direct involvement with the Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Education System. He oversaw the greatest transformation of the Non-Commissioned Officer Education System since its advent. He encouraged distributed learning, allowing Soldiers the capability of taking classes online, affording them more time at home with their families. The Advanced and Senior Leader Courses are now closer in line with what our leaders require in Afghanistan and Iraq. With the introduction of the Structured Self-Development online module system, Soldiers are ensured the best training and education.

Kenneth Preston is an American hero who has been selfless in his service to the Nation through war, peace, and personal trial. His performance and accomplishments throughout his long and distinguished career have left a legacy of training, professional education, and care for families that is without equal. When history looks back at the 13th Sergeant Major of the Army, it will be clear that his abilities as a trainer, leader and senior enlisted advisor were a fitting tribute to the professionalism of the best Non-Commissioned Officer Corps in the world.

Mr. Speaker, On behalf of a grateful Nation, I join my colleagues today in saying thank you to Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth O. Preston for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to this country throughout his distinguished career in the United States Army and we wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote Number 92 (Kline Amendment No. 214) on H.R. 1, I mistakenly recorded my vote as “no” when I should have voted “yes.”

HONORING WILLIAM THEODORE
“BILL” KIRBY

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life and legacy of William Theodore “Bill” Kirby.

Off of Triangle Road in Mariposa County, CA, is Kirby Peak. The peak is named in honor of Bill's 1933 volunteer effort to save this land from a forest fire. As the firemen worked to contain the fire, their resupply line was stretched due to the tough terrain. Bill, a teenager at the time, volunteered to work with others in the pack crew. He led a mule train to the fire with much needed supplies for the firemen and assisted in the firefight.

Like many in his generation, Bill came when called to serve the war effort. He spent World War II aboard the SS *Marcus Daly*—a merchant marine ship. The *Daly* was not only one of the first ships into the Philippines, but also received the Merchant Marine Gallant Ship Citation Ribbon. Bill himself received a personal citation for his bravery after the *Daly* was attacked.

Following the war Bill returned to Merced and founded, along with his father and brother, Kirby Manufacturing, a maker of farm machinery and equipment. Kirby Manufacturing has expanded into a global producer and was the first American manufacturer to sell farm equipment to China following normalization. Kirby equipment is also used to load and maintain Air Force One.

Even while running a multinational manufacturer, Bill found a way to be a pillar of our community. He was a Scoutmaster, an Elk, and a Mason. He served as President of the Merced County Chamber of Commerce, the Merced County Fair Board, and the Merced County Historical Society. As a testament to his influence, every year people around the community participate in “The Bill Kirby Annual Historical Society BBQ.”

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Bill Kirby and his many contributions to California and the Nation. May we keep him and those he left behind in our hearts and prayers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, due to a family medical emergency, I had to return to Michigan on the evening of February 18. I was unable to be present to cast my vote on a series of amendments to H.R. 1, as well as on final passage of this bill. I wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 104, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall No. 105, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall No. 106, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall No. 107, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall No. 108, I would have voted “no.”