

husband and friend, and the Vice President of the Cleveland Plain Dealer newspaper.

Mr. Greer became editor of the Plain Dealer in 1990, becoming only one of three African-American journalists to hold such a position at a major daily newspaper at that time.

Known to colleagues as Thom, he served as a role model for young and aspiring journalists. His work ethic was, as he told the newspaper in 1992, to “keep your mouth shut, hold your head up high and work like hell to make yourself and those around you as good as they can be.”

Mr. Greer was born in Nashville, Tennessee, but moved to New Jersey during his childhood. He majored in history at Dillard University in New Orleans, and later attended Rider College and Rutgers University.

In 1964, Greer was hired by the Evening Times in Trenton, NJ as a sports journalist. He moved to the Plain Dealer in 1974, where he served on the suburban news unit. His stories investigating shakedowns of late-night liquor stores and thefts of confiscated liquor by Cuyahoga County Sheriff officer, led to their arrests.

Mr. Greer left the Plain Dealer for larger papers in Chicago, Philadelphia and New York, but returned in 1983 as editor of the sports department. He expanded their news coverage from exclusively local sports to national and international stories.

Mr. Greer worked as Managing Editor, Executive Editor and eventually Editor, as he oversaw the expansion of the paper, the creation of new bureaus in other counties, and expanded coverage of upcoming issues. In 1992, he became Vice President and oversaw community outreach, volunteerism, affirmative action employment and the Plain Dealer Charities, as well as the Plain Dealer High School Newspaper Workshop.

In addition to his many roles with the Plain Dealer, he served as a trustee of the Greater Cleveland Roundtable, WVIZ-TV, the City Club, and the National Junior Tennis Association. He was honored by Kaleidoscope Magazine and inducted into the Region VI Hall of Fame of the National Association of Black Journalists.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering Thomas H. Greer, whose legacy of professionalism, positive work ethic, and commitment to justice will forever serve as an example. I extend my sincere condolences Mr. Greer's wife Maxine and to his family, friends and colleagues that knew him best.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010-2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—ALYSSA JOHNSTON

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Representatives that the students of the 2010-2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council (CYAC) from the Third District of Texas have completed a total of 500 community service

hours, fulfilling and far-surpassing the requirements of their assigned CYAC in the Community service project.

This year 46 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 10 through 12 made their voices heard by joining CYAC. As the Third District's young ambassadors to Congress, these bright high school students met with me on a quarterly basis to discuss current events and public policy. These impressive young people recognize an important truth: the heart of public service is found when giving back to the community. CYAC students volunteered their time and talents with over 30 organizations including Adopt-A-Highway, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Teen Court, and the USO, to name a few. As one student shared, “CYAC in the Community has allowed me to realize my calling to serve those in the U.S. Armed Forces.” I am beyond thrilled that CYAC has helped students unleash their full potential and chase their dreams.

President George H.W. Bush once said, “A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see; who can feel what most do not feel. Often, such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers, but as citizens—citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization.”

With this statement as a benchmark, I am proud to congratulate the members of the 2010-2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council for showing themselves to be outstanding young citizens of this nation. It is my privilege to submit summaries of their work to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to be preserved for posterity and antiquity. To these young public servants, thank you, and keep up the great work! I salute you!

A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

When I was informed CYAC members would be asked to volunteer time to make a difference in the lives of others I began to look for the perfect serving opportunity. I found it at HOPE Resource Center. My job as Diaper and Wipe Coordinator for the Blessings Boutique is to contact churches and inform them about HOPE Resource Center and the blessings that HOPE brings to the young women in our community. I ask them to hold a drive to collect diapers and wipes and then deliver them to HOPE. I help the churches by providing information to pass along to their members about the Christ-centered ministry opportunities of HOPE. I stay in contact with the churches and help them with anything they need for the diaper drive. Once the church is done collecting diapers and wipes I arrange a time for them to drop off the donations they collected. I look back today and I can see the difference I have made in my community. I have impacted the lives of numerous young mothers and their babies. I have gained new insights in the lives of people touched by community service. I have a new found passion for serving others in my community.

—Alyssa Johnston

RESTROOM GENDER PARITY IN FEDERAL BUILDINGS ACT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, public restrooms have been the site of institutional discrimina-

tion by race, physical ability and gender. Women are often forced to wait in long lines to use public restrooms, while men rarely have the same problem. It is an inconvenience seen in almost every type of public building; be it a sporting venue, office building, airport or a building designed for recreational activities. Many of these establishments were constructed decades ago, during a time in which many women did not travel, hold the same jobs as men, receive the same level of education or have the same type of social life as they do today.

The issue of inadequate accommodations in women's restrooms may be found in many professional places of employment. Restroom gender parity is an issue of equality and health. In the year 2011, it is unfathomable to think that American women are still being discriminated against by infrastructural disparities in public buildings.

Unfortunately, this is the sad truth exhibited in nearly all public buildings today. A one-to-one ratio of toilets in female restrooms to toilets in male restrooms sounds like a requirement that ought to have existed decades ago; yet there are still fewer female accommodations compared to male accommodations in many public structures.

This is why supporting the bipartisan Restroom Gender Parity in Federal Buildings Act is necessary not only for the advancement of gender parity, but for the general well being and health of women everywhere. This bill will require any Federal building constructed for public use to have a 1 to 1 ratio for toilets, including urinals in women's and men's restrooms. Moreover, the bill will impact future Federal projects by mandating that preference for Federal leasing considerations be given to buildings that already meet this criteria.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this common sense legislation to address the inadequacies in our federal infrastructure.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF MARY ELIZABETH FLAHIVE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Mary Elizabeth Flahive, whose life was marked by her strong ties to the Cleveland community.

Mary was born in Northampton, Massachusetts. She obtained both an undergraduate and graduate degree in Geology. She then spent ten years working at the Springfield, Massachusetts Museum of Natural History.

She moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where she began her 42 year career with the Cleveland Natural History Museum. Her career began with an expedition to Colorado, where she assisted in a dinosaur excavation.

Her tenure at the Natural History Museum was marked by achievement after achievement. She set up the Camp Bigfoot program at the museum, a program which is still active to this very day. She also set up other programs such as the Western Heritage Expeditions.

Her mark on the community expands further than just her work at the Natural History Museum. Friends of hers, the Anderson Family,

remember fondly the time she replanted their son's garden after rain had washed it away. In fact, a friend of Mary's recalled that she "believed firmly in all children and in the beauty of the earth."

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me today in honoring the life of Mary Elizabeth Flahive. She is a wonderful example to us all in her devotion to the earth and to her community.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010-2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

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OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

I served at two different places: they were the Frisco Miracle League and Anne Frank Elementary school. I learned a lot while serving at these two places. I learned how to appreciate life more and be a kinder person. Community service always teaches me life

lessons. The Miracle League has taught me how to live up life and be thankful for every blessing I receive while also being kind and courteous to every person I meet in the process. The Anne Frank Elementary school has taught me how to pour my life into another person and just how important giving someone your time really is to them. I am always talking about how much I learn from community service. Community service does more for the person serving than the person being served. I am thankful for all my endless blessings and how God proves many valuable lessons in serving others.

—*Michael Jarvie*

COMMENTS BY SARAH STOESZ, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD MINNESOTA, NORTH DAKOTA, SOUTH DAKOTA

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit a letter from Sarah Stoesz, President and CEO of Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota.

This letter was written in response to remarks made by one of my Republican colleagues on the House floor on February 17, 2011. During debate on an amendment to H.R. 1, this Member grossly mischaracterized comments that Ms. Stoesz made in the Wall Street Journal regarding Planned Parenthood's new express clinics model. This Member's comments constituted a personal attack against Ms. Stoesz. Such an attack on a citizen-leader is inconsistent with the best traditions of the House. I believe every Member of Congress has the responsibility to speak thoughtfully, respectfully and accurately on the House floor—that standard should apply during debate with our House colleagues and certainly to references to private American citizens.

Planned Parenthood's 26 Minnesota clinics provide essential reproductive health services to over 60,000 women and men each year. The express model increases access to a broad range of health services provided by Planned Parenthood. These services which include cancer screenings, affordable family services, testing for sexually transmitted infections, HIV testing and counseling and routine physicals enable Planned Parenthood clients to live healthier lives and raise healthy families.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD,

Minneapolis, MN, Mar. 21, 2011.

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM,
Fourth District, Minnesota, Longworth Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR REP. McCOLLUM: I am writing to seek your help in making a correction to the Congressional Record.

During the Feb. 17 U.S. House debate over the Pence Amendment, Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-MN) made a completely false statement about Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and wrongly attributed that statement to me. During the debate, Rep. Bachmann referred to a June 23, 2008, Wall Street Journal article, liberally adding her own commentary as she ostensibly quoted verbatim. At one point, she said:

"Sarah Stoesz, who heads the Planned Parenthood operation in my state of Minnesota,

said she recently opened three express centers in wealthy Minnesota suburbs and shopping centers and malls, in places where women are already doing their grocery shopping, picking up Starbucks, living their daily lives and stopping off for an abortion."

We would like the Congressional Record to show that:

1. I never used the words "wealthy" or "stopping off for an abortion."

2. Abortion is not available at any of our PLAN express model clinics, where the services are limited to birth control, pregnancy testing and testing for sexually transmitted infections. In fact, such basic, preventive services represent 95 percent of what we offer our mostly low-income patients.

I find it reprehensible that Rep. Bachmann would portray women as "stopping off for an abortion." And I strongly object to being misquoted and to the misstatement of facts regarding our organization from the floor of the U.S. House.

Thank you for any help you can give in correcting the record.

Very sincerely,

SARAH STOESZ,
President and CEO.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF MS. ELIZABETH TAYLOR

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of a legend of the silver screen, a relentless leader in the fight against AIDS, and an extraordinary woman, Ms. Elizabeth Taylor.

Elizabeth Taylor was born in London in 1932 to American parents. She moved with her family to Beverly Hills on the eve of the Second World War. Elizabeth's love for cinema manifested at an early age. Her first well-known performance came at the age of 12, when she played the title role in "National Velvet." From that point, Ms. Taylor lived her life in the public eye, and her name became synonymous with talent, beauty, and glamour. She went on to play such memorable roles as Angela Vickers in "A Place in the Sun," Helen Ellsworth in "The Last Time I Saw Paris," Martha in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" and the title role in "Cleopatra," among many others. Throughout her more than 60-year-long career, Ms. Taylor was nominated for countless awards including two Academy Awards and the Screen Actors Guild's (SAG) Life Achievement Award in 1997.

Ms. Taylor was more than just a Hollywood icon. She was also known for her efforts in the fight against AIDS. She was an advocate for AIDS prevention and research at a time when the disease was still a taboo subject for many. She famously stated "I will not be silenced and I will not give up and I will not be ignored." She was the founding international chairman of the American Foundation for Aids Research (amFAR), and was known for her compassion for those living with the disease. As a result of her service, Ms. Taylor received numerous accolades. In 1992 she was the recipient off the Jean Herscholt Humanitarian Academy Award. On May 16, 2000, Queen Elizabeth II named her a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire. In 2001, Ms. Taylor received a Presidential Citizens