

These 3.7 million people were pushed into poverty and left to suffer the consequences of a recession they did not create.

As a result, in 2009, a total of 43.6 million people had incomes below the poverty line—more than at any time since we began tracking this measure in 1959—9 years before Dr. King's death.

Within that figure, one in every five children in this country lived in poverty in this nation in 2009. This is a staggering and shameful figure.

Mr. Speaker, far too many Americans are being subjected to the most crippling segregation of all: the segregation from hope that is the inevitable result of poverty.

On the anniversary of Dr. King's assassination, we recall that he was struck down in Memphis while he was supporting a sanitation union's struggle for a living wage.

Dr. King understood that the struggle of workers to win their rights is part of the continuing struggle of labor for opportunity.

More than 40 years after Dr. King's death, this struggle continues—and the victories won years ago are at risk perhaps as never before.

Many are seeking to tear down American workers' most fundamental rights and to undo the advances that paved the paths that have carried so many to the middle class.

As we see that struggle unfold, I urge us to remember what we are fighting for.

As Dr. King often observed, the civil rights objectives of our time are not limited to the struggles of Black people or of any minority group.

Rather, we are engaged in a peaceful struggle to advance the human and civil rights of ALL AMERICANS.

Our mission—Dr. King's vision transported into our time—is to transform the "human rights" of all Americans into civil rights protected by law.

We are fighting, as our colleague and friend Congressman JOHN LEWIS has observed, for the rights that will enable all Americans to have jobs that provide them "the opportunity to realize their full potential as individual people."

At a time when many low-wage jobs do not pay enough to enable a family to make ends meet, and at a time when people can work 40 or even 50 hours a week and still fall behind, we honor Dr. King's struggle by continuing his fight to create a just society where every person can fulfill the potential God has given to them.

And we continue that fight by ensuring that the hard-won rights of working Americans are seen as inviolable and as essential to the success of our entire nation.

I urge every American to join this fight.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010–2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—ERIC PARKER

### HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 5, 2011*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Rep-

resentatives 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:

As a representative for Sam Johnson's CYAC of the 2010–2011 year I decided to volunteer in my community by participating with Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity is a global, non-profit organization that seeks to shelter the homeless and poor by building comfortable homes with the help of volunteers from the surrounding community. I volunteered several hours from what would have been just another "lazy" Saturday afternoon to go to Wylie in an effort to help the organization with building a home. The organizers were very friendly and helpful in pointing me in the right direction and very clear and concise on instructions for the work that I would be tasked with. I found a hands-on approach to be the best way to contribute to my community and learned a lot from one evening with fellow charity workers. I was able to make a difference in someone's life by helping build shelter and contributing to society. I learned that community service is an overlooked part of life that when performed can cause a person to feel good in a way that can't be accomplished by common means. I look forward to working with Habit for Humanity again in the future.

—Eric Parker

CONGRATULATING THE MAROON GIANTS OF KALAMAZOO CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

### HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 5, 2011*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Maroon Giants of Kalamazoo Central High School on their second straight Michigan state championship win in men's basketball. These outstanding young men have worked hard for this accomplishment and have made their community very proud.

Winning a state championship is a remarkable achievement that few teams attain. Winning back-to-back championships is an incredible legacy that will live with Kalamazoo Central forever. The Maroon Giants and Coach Mike Thomas know what brought this second straight state title back to Kalamazoo—hard work. It was running that one extra sprint and shooting that extra free throw after practice that helped make the Maroon Giants champions. Nobody outworked the Giants, and nobody could beat them in the state tournament, and nobody had a greater following or more community support. The Giants truly lived up to their name on the court.

It is an honor to pay tribute to the entire Maroon Giants squad: Tyler Bell, Allie Buchanan, Tens Buchanan, TJ Buchanan, Jamaal Conger, Brandon Delk, Juwan Gamble, Lee Gardner, H'ian Hale, Quante Hill, JeRon Johnson, Mark Justice, Daquavion McCants-Wilson, De'tavia Moore, Darius Norman, Von Washington III, and Davarius Williams. I also want to recognize head coach Mike Thomas and assistant coaches Thomas Dillard, Anthony Stuckey, Matt Price, Brandon Williams, Tim Gleeson, Alan Lee and team manager Aminder Sohi. We salute all of you.

On behalf of all the residents of southwest Michigan, congratulations again to the Maroon Giants, Coach Thomas, and the entire Kalamazoo community—you are an inspiration to us all. It is Giant pride at its finest. Go Giants!

IN CELEBRATION OF THE TOWN OF MONSON'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 5, 2011*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the yearlong celebration of the town of Monson, Massachusetts' 250th anniversary. The town was founded by a small group of residents from Brimfield, Massachusetts, who petitioned for a town of their own. The first town meeting of Monson was held in 1760. When it was founded, Monson was a center for manufacturing in Massachusetts, with an abundance of mills powered by the water found in the nearby hills. Today, Monson is known primarily for their involvement in the arts, especially the theater and festivals.

To honor this historic occasion, the town of Monson held a yearlong celebration with different events held by members of the Monson Steering Committee and several non-profit organizations located in the town.

This yearlong celebration of the town's anniversary began in April 2010, and will conclude

on April 9, 2011. The inaugural event of the festival was a bonfire held at Veterans Field. Throughout the year there were family events and festivals, including the annual Summerfest held on the 4th of July, and the family ice cream social and concert sponsored by the Friends of the Keep Museum. Families also enjoyed the picnic held at Flynt Park. Other outdoor activities included a walk/run sponsored by the Peaked Mountain Committee and a motorcycle hill climb sponsored by the Quaboag Riders & Monson Lions Club. There were many cultural events as well, such as the Monson Arts Council's craft fair, the Monson Bellmen Antique Fire Apparatus Club and Museum's open house, and the Monson Rotary Club's concert at Dave Grieve Park.

A quilt show was held in which 50 Monson quilters donated a block to make a commemorative 250th anniversary quilt. This quilt will be on display continually in various buildings in the town. The concluding event of this festival will be the Monson 250th Gala Ball with the theme of "Remembering Monson." The ball will have a continuous slide show of all the old and new businesses and homes in Monson, as well as a display of Monson's non-profit organizations.

The town of Monson has been an important part of Massachusetts since well before the United States was founded. While this quintessential New England town is a place where families have lived for generations, Monson has also grown into a dynamic center for arts, culture and a thriving workplace. On its 250th anniversary, I am honored to represent the town of Monson and I look forward to celebrating many more anniversaries.

HONORING MARCH 25, 2011 AS THE  
190TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
GREECE'S INDEPENDENCE

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 5, 2011*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 190th anniversary of Greek independence. It is an honor to recognize a nation whose rich and vibrant history not only laid the foundation for democracy, but whose immigrants and descendants have enriched the cultural landscape of our nation.

The warm friendship that America shares with Greece is rooted in the indelible mark of democracy and self-determination that Hellenic culture has left on our country. Just as our founding fathers were guided by these principles in their fight for independence from a foreign empire, so too were the founders of modern-day Greece, who declared their independence from the Ottoman Empire on March 25th, 190 years ago. Since the birth of both nations, we have striven together to uphold the values of freedom, equality, and justice championed by the Ancient Greeks. We have joined together to promote peace and stability in the world, and Greece has allied with the U.S. in every major international conflict throughout the 20th century.

From architecture to the democratic ideals we cherish, Greek culture has had a continued influence on the way Americans live their everyday lives. Illinois' Third District is fortunate to have one of the largest and most vibrant

Greek-American communities in America. And just as Greek citizens were integral in transforming Ancient Greece into a beacon of democracy and culture, Greek-Americans in Oak Lawn, Palos Hills, and throughout Southwestern Chicagoland have proudly contributed their strong cultural heritage and values into the patchwork that makes the Third District so distinct.

It is with great gratitude and pride that I rise to honor the independence of a nation that, from ancient times, has bestowed upon its citizens the fundamental rights of liberty and participation in the democratic process. Though rooted in ancient ideals, our strong allegiance with Greece continues to this day through a shared belief that freedom and democracy are the building blocks of peace. At home, I have witnessed firsthand the positive cultural heritage Greek-Americans bring to our local communities, and I trust that the bonds between our two nations will remain strong for years to come.

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

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OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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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:

For the past three months, I have been volunteering my time weekly at the local elementary school by my house, Faith Lutheran. I am a volunteer basketball coach for a group of about eleven 5th and 6th graders who attend the school. We have a couple of games each week and have practices every Saturday morning at the school. The group of kids is very inexperienced as a whole so our practices are very important. We practice dribbling, passing, team building, team plays, and shooting for fun at the end. The practices were highly successful as I managed to teach the guys 8 plays total and everyone improved their skills individually as well over the year. The weekly games were always a fun and frustrating experience as I tried to coach a team to win as well as making it a fun learning experience for the kids. In the end all the hard work paid off as the boys had the first-ever undefeated season for the school and won the tournament at the end of the season. I can tell the kids learned a lot throughout the season, and I know I learned how rewarding an experience it can be to teach young children and watch them learn and grow.

—Zack Palisch

RECOGNIZING SERVICE OF DR. RICHARD LINTON, VICE PRESIDENT OF RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

**HON. PETER A. DEFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 5, 2011*

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a person who has made an important impact on the state of Oregon and the federal research enterprise through his work at the University of Oregon as Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies. Dr. Richard Linton is the longest serving vice president of research in the University of Oregon's history and among the longest-serving vice presidents of research within the Association of American Universities' membership.

He leaves the university after more than a decade of service. Dr. Linton's leadership has markedly improved the university's federal research enterprise, enabling university faculty and researchers to engage in discovery, innovation and scholarship that contribute to society's well-being and our understanding of our world.

Dr. Linton deserves special recognition for his guidance of sponsored programs, research initiatives, graduate education, technology transfer and the university's research park. Under his leadership, UO has seen sustained growth in federal research grants and technology transfer activities. He has guided the UO in growing and launching interdisciplinary centers and initiatives spanning the innovation cycle, from basic discovery to commercialization.

I am particularly pleased that companies directly derived from University of Oregon research currently employ more than 255 Oregonians and in 2010 generated more than