

## TRIBUTE TO T. MASSEY BEDSOLE

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2011*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of Mr. T. Massey Bedsole, a dear friend and active supporter of higher education in the state of Alabama who recently passed away at the age of 93.

A 1939 graduate of the University of Alabama and a 1941 graduate of the University of Alabama law school, "Mr. Massey" answered his nation's call as a Navy aviator in the Pacific Theater, serving with distinction during World War II. After the war, he was discharged with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

A native of Grove Hill, Alabama, Massey Bedsole, was the proverbial pillar of the community in Mobile, Alabama, as both a leading attorney and outstanding businessman.

In 1946, "Mr. Massey" moved to Mobile where he joined the law firm that would become Hand, Arendall, Bedsole, Greaves and Johnson.

"Mr. Massey" served as an attorney for 60 years, also finding time to lend his considerable talents as president of the Mobile County Bar Association, director of the First National Bank of Mobile and director of the Alabama Power Company.

While a much respected legal mind and successful business executive, perhaps "Mr. Massey" made his greatest mark as a booster of higher education in Mobile and across the state of Alabama, as well as for his support of local charitable efforts.

For nearly four decades, "Mr. Massey" was a trustee at the University of Mobile where he was named chairman emeritus and honorary life trustee. For ten years, he also served his beloved alma mater, the University of Alabama, as trustee and then trustee emeritus.

He was also chairman of the J.L. Bedsole Charitable Foundation for over 30 years.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I extend condolences to his wife of more than 64 years, Martha; their son, Travis, and daughter Curry; as well as grandchildren, Preston, Edward, Ashley and Daniel; and their entire family. You are all in our prayers.

## ASSAULT ON CAMP ASHRAF

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2011*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, on January 7th of this year, residents of Camp Ashraf were attacked by Iranian agents and supporting Iraqi forces. Camp Ashraf houses over 3,400 supporters of Iran's opposition and are currently under the "protected persons" status in accordance with the Fourth Geneva Convention.

176 people, including 91 women were injured when the agents hurled stones, bottles, metal pieces and Molotov cocktails into the Camp. This barrage builds on a broader campaign against the people that were exiled from their homeland after calling for an end to the oppressive Iranian regime.

For the past 11 months, 180 loudspeakers have been installed beyond the fences of the

Camp that continuously play Iranian propaganda and messages that threaten the property, homes and lives of residents. To me, this presents a compelling reminder that the freedoms we enjoy are far from universal and there are those struggling for the same liberties. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to speak out against the Iranian and Iraqi forces involved in the assault on Camp Ashraf and remember those injured in the violence.

## HONORING JOAN THAYER

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2011*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Joan Thayer, who retired in January 2011 as the Assessor-Recorder of Marin County. Assessor Thayer's commitment to the highest quality of public service has benefited the people of Marin and strengthened the office she led for so many years.

Ms. Thayer began her life in public service over three decades ago in San Rafael, where she first served on the Dixie School Board from 1979 to 1983. She later ran for San Rafael City Council, becoming only the second Councilwoman in the city's history. In those roles, Ms. Thayer established a reputation as an intelligent public servant willing to take on difficult decisions and defend her views with a unique passion and integrity.

In 1994, Joan was elected to lead the office of County Assessor-Recorder, then one of only two such offices led by women in California's 58 counties. In the years that followed, she worked tirelessly to ensure that her office continued to serve the interests of Marin residents. She has been an advocate for the just and efficient property tax system our communities rely upon, and she has performed her duties with the utmost integrity and professionalism. Ms. Thayer was also a leader outside of Marin, serving as President of the California Assessors Association in 2003.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in thanking Joan Thayer for her service on behalf of Marin County, CA. Ms. Thayer has helped to build a successful and well-respected institution that embodies the strength of character she consistently brought to her work on behalf of the public.

## HONORING EVIE DAVIS

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2011*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, public service is a noble profession when done honestly and well. Those who work in government, serving the people, do so with pride of accomplishment in the knowledge that they are helping to make life easier for those they serve.

Evie Davis, the District Manager of the West Nyack Social Security office began her career with the Social Security Administration 40 years ago, in October of 1970, at the Northeastern Program Service.

She held a variety of positions of increasing responsibility, rising to District Manager of the

White Plains office in 1990. She served there for eleven years before moving across the Hudson River to her current position in Rockland County.

She has served on many committees and workshops in furtherance of helping the SSA better help its clients, including the workgroup on the Limited-English Speaking Population. She has also served on the Advisory Committee of the Offices for the Aging in both Westchester and Rockland Counties.

She has always prided herself on her service to the Social Security Administration and the people it serves, touching the lives of virtually all of America's families in one way or another. She derived great fulfillment from her role in managing and always strove to contribute to a satisfying work environment. For her dedication and her abilities she has received many awards, including the Associate Commissioner's Citation.

Evie and her husband Mark are about to celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary. They have two sons, Eric and Jarrod, and twin baby granddaughters.

I congratulate Evie Davis for her 40 years of public service in helping people. She has earned our thanks and praise for the good work she has done for so many years in making our lives and the lives of those around us better and more fulfilling.

## TRIBUTE TO ROBERT HODGSON

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2011*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Robert Morton Hodgson, a respected long-time South Alabama business and community leader who recently passed away at the age of 83.

Robert Hodgson was a 1945 graduate of Baldwin County High School and a 1950 graduate of the University of Alabama.

A veteran of the Navy and the Air Force Reserve, Mr. Hodgson returned from his military service to Bay Minette, Alabama to help run the family business, Standard Oil.

Mr. Hodgson soon took the helm of another family business, Standard Furniture Manufacturing Company, where he served as executive vice president and chairman of the board. He guided the company, which at one time had 1,500 employees, for a half century.

In addition to his distinguished service as a successful businessman, Mr. Hodgson was an active booster of community service organizations, including chairman of the board and founder of Bayside Academy, chairman of the Alabama Sheriff's Youth Ranches, and chairman of the board of the Community Foundation of South Alabama, to name a few.

In 1991, he was named Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in Bay Minette, and in 2008 he was commended by the Alabama Legislature for extraordinary professional achievement and community service for Baldwin County, Alabama.

In 1997, Mr. Hodgson was honored by President Bill Clinton at a White House ceremony recognizing business executives from around the nation who were instrumental in developing hiring practices to transition welfare recipients to employment.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I wish to extend condolences to his wife of 57 years, Doris; their daughter, Kimberly; their son, Philip; as well as their grandchildren, Ann-Brooks and Sidney, and their entire family. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

COMMEMORATING THE OPENING  
OF THE PROPELLANTS NORTH  
ADMINISTRATIVE AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY

**HON. SANDY ADAMS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2011*

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the opening of the Propellants North Administrative and Maintenance Facility which is one of NASA's most environmentally friendly structures. At a ceremony today, attendees will celebrate the opening of this new facility to help NASA achieve its mission.

The Propellants North Administrative and Maintenance Facility is located near launch complex 39 at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The facility will be used for spacecraft fueling support and to store cryogenic fuel transfer equipment. It will be NASA's first carbon-neutral facility producing enough energy onsite from renewable sources to offset what it requires to operate. This construction style will bring a cost savings to NASA, saving taxpayers money.

The facility was built using recycled concrete, bottles, aluminum cans, cardboard, white paper, wood, and steel. NASA's goal for the design and the construction of Propellant North Administrative and Maintenance Facility was to reach for the United States Green Building Council's Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design Platinum status, which is the highest rating a green building can achieve.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating NASA for building an environmentally friendly, economical, and efficient facility. The Propellant North Administrative and Maintenance Facility is a positive step for providing a cleaner environment for future generations and will bring cost savings to Florida taxpayers.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL PENN  
BANK'S ROYERSFORD BRANCH'S  
25TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2011*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate National Penn Bank's Royersford branch on its 25th anniversary and to honor this financial institution for its commitment to serving the community.

Since opening its doors in 1986, National Penn Bank's Royersford branch has provided outstanding financial services to the community through a tremendously dedicated group of banking professionals. The Royersford branch is a place where citizens have their financial goals and dreams realized and their hard-earned dollars protected.

Headquartered in Boyertown, Pennsylvania, National Penn operates 124 community banking offices in Pennsylvania and is an exemplary employer to its thousands of employees.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing National Penn Bank's Royersford branch for its valuable contributions to enhancing its community's quality of life in its quarter century of service.

RECOGNIZING THE 400TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF HENRICO COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2011*

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 400th anniversary of Henrico County, Virginia. The City of Henricus was established by Sir Thomas Dale in September 1611 and was named in honor of Henry Frederick, Prince of Wales. Later in 1634, Henrico was designated as one of Virginia's first eight counties and at the time it included the counties of Albemarle, Amherst, Appomattox, Buckingham, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, Nelson and Powhatan and the cities of Charlottesville, Colonial Heights and Richmond.

Henrico County was home to pioneer African-American educator and humanitarian Virginia Randolph, who founded the first public school vocational education program in the nation. She was born to former slaves and opened the Old Mountain Road School in 1892. The Virginia E. Randolph Community High School and the Virginia Randolph Special Education Center School, named in honor of Virginia Randolph, are located in Henrico County.

Today Henrico County is situated in Central Virginia and includes a third of the Richmond metropolitan area. Business in Henrico continues to thrive while local attractions and historical sites attract residents and visitors to the county. In 1927, Henrico County was honored when Charles A. Lindbergh landed the Spirit of St. Louis at the grand opening of Byrd Field. This airport, now known as the Richmond International Airport, serves more than 3.5 million travelers annually. The Richmond International Raceway, RIR, America's Premier Short Track, is also located in Henrico. Each year RIR hosts both the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series and NASCAR Nationwide Series.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the citizens of Henrico as they celebrate the county's anniversary and wishing them the best for their continued growth and success.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF OF POLICE  
DONALD L. WAGNER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 20, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Chief of Police Donald L. Wagner upon his retirement from the Rocky River Police Department after 45 years of dedicated service.

Chief of Police Wagner was born in Lakewood, Ohio on May 13, 1942. He graduated from Rocky River High School in 1960 and earned a bachelor's degree from Ohio University in 1964.

Chief of Police Wagner began his career with the Rocky River Police Department on April 1, 1965. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1974, Lieutenant in 1980, Executive Staff Assistant to the Chief of Police in 1985 and finally to Chief of Police in 1995. He is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, the Cuyahoga County Police Chiefs Association and the Metropolitan Crime Clinic Association.

The life of a police officer is one of true selflessness and service, and Police Chief Wagner is no exception. Each day the brave men and women of law enforcement put their lives on the line for the good of their communities.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Chief of Police Donald L. Wagner for his exemplary service on behalf of his community. Chief of Police Wagner's dedication to making Rocky River a safer place to live and work is honorable and inspiring. I wish Chief of Police Wagner peace, health and happiness in all his future endeavors.

REPEALING THE JOB-KILLING  
HEALTH CARE LAW ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 19, 2011*

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2, a bill that would repeal the Healthcare Law.

In the United States, one of the richest countries in the world, nearly 50 million Americans lack health insurance, 13.5 percent of which are New Yorkers. Last year alone, New York City's hospitals spent 1.2 billion dollars in charity costs. Tragically, people who are either uninsured or underinsured often have to go without vital healthcare simply because they cannot afford it.

Every American has a human right to adequate physical and mental healthcare, and I believe that government has a responsibility to assist its citizens in securing quality healthcare.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which passed in the 111th Congress, does just that. It insures that Americans have access to quality healthcare. Repealing it would mean:

Insurance companies will once again be able to drop coverage for people when they get sick—exactly when coverage is needed most;

Children with pre-existing conditions will be denied coverage;

Insurance companies would again be able to impose devastating annual and lifetime caps;

Young people will no longer be able to stay on their parents' plans until age 26;

Pregnant women would be denied coverage simply because they are pregnant since pregnancy is considered a "pre-existing condition" and therefore a basis for denial of coverage;

And finally, seniors will face an increase in their prescription drug costs because they