

was winning track and field titles, nine in total, while attending Marble Falls High School. After building an unparalleled resume on the track at the University of Texas, Leo began to compete professionally where, again, he continued to receive awards and special recognition. In 2008, all of Leo's hard work paid off when he earned a spot on the U.S. Olympic team. While Leo did not win a medal in 2008, when the 2012 Games came around, Leo was ready to make history. He became the first U.S. man to win a medal in the men's middle distance in 44 years.

We are proud of Leo. While we are excited about his medal and awards, we are proud of Leo because he is one of us and he represented the best of America. His story is an inspiration to our children and proves that even though you may be from a small town, no dream is too big. Again, I congratulate Leo on this amazing accomplishment, his dedication and hard work, and an outstanding career.

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#### ST. ANTHONY BASEBALL

#### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2012*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the achievements of a state champion baseball team from Effingham, Illinois.

The St. Anthony Bulldogs had not visited the IHSA baseball state finals since before any of the current players were born. But this year, behind third-year coach Kenny Miller, the Bulldogs charged to a 31–8–1 record and defeated Tuscola 6–1 for the state championship.

I want to congratulate Coach Miller and Assistant Coach Grant Keller, and especially the members of the 2012 St. Anthony Bulldogs state champion baseball team: Zach Gardewine, Thomas Stephens, Ben Hecht, Jacob Lorenz, Austin Bushur, Charlie Schultz, Scott Renfrow, Kyle Burgois, Neil Williams, Michael Kabbes, Reed Willenborg, Cody Pike, Jared Having, Eli Dasenbrock, Alex Hoelsher, Conner Greene, Braden Puckett and Michael Stehens. They have represented themselves, their school and their community in a first-rate fashion, and I am proud to join with the other Members of this House in congratulating them, and wishing them all the best in their future athletic and academic endeavors.

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#### PRESERVING HOME HEALTH CARE UNDER MEDICARE

#### HON. DENNIS A. ROSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2012*

Mr. ROSS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the President has twice told the American public, through his budget and deficit reduction proposals, that he believes our seniors should be paying more for Medicare if they want to stay in their homes. Twice in the past two years,

President Obama has proposed mandating that Medicare beneficiaries pay—for the first time since the Medicare program came into existence—an additional out of pocket charge for their home health care services. Twice, President Obama has told seniors that they must choose between getting their care at home, where they have lived for years, and moving away from their homes, their belongings, and their communities to get their daily care at a nursing home or hospital.

Mr. Speaker, this choice is not only unnecessary, it is inefficient. Home health care providers deliver care management services, vital daily care, and in-home health care services at a low cost. We shouldn't tell our seniors, our parents, that they must choose between their home or their health care. We should keep home health care free of co-payments to ensure that they have the ability to remain in their homes, in their communities, and with their families and memories.

This is just another example of why "Medicare as we know it" will be bankrupt in ten years. Seniors who prefer home health care should always retain that option and be provided choices of plans that will ensure their wishes are granted, rather than live at the whim of unelected and unaccountable bureaucrats. Dignity, care, and being home are small comforts when one is ill, or dying. But, eliminating a cost effective provision of care that current seniors expect, paid into and bargained for, is wrong. Medicare must change for the future, and seniors deserve choice, but for those currently or near entering the system, the rules should not be changed at the last minute.

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#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE HONORABLE SAM JOHNSON

#### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2012*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend and colleague, the Honorable SAM JOHNSON. He is this year's recipient of the Maurice Acers Champion of Free Enterprise Lifetime Achievement Award from the Texas Association of Business.

Congressman JOHNSON has been a long time champion for the free enterprise system in America. After twenty-nine years of dedicated service in the United States Air Force, Congressman JOHNSON started a home-building business in North Dallas. He knows firsthand the challenges of starting a business and of the pride in building and maintaining something entirely of your own making. He has continued to advocate for the free enterprise system because he understands its importance. This notion of allowing individuals to make their own economic decisions and grasp the opportunities available in this country is the essence of the American entrepreneurial spirit. It spurs innovation, nurtures creativity, and led to the economic growth and development of our great Nation. Congressman JOHNSON's continued support for the free enterprise system speaks loudly of his belief in the individual and the tremendous potential each and every American possesses.

From a decorated military career to serving in the Texas House of Representatives and now proudly representing the 3rd Congressional District of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman JOHNSON has devoted his life to public service. His life story is one that exemplifies the American Dream—that dedication, hard work, and perseverance can lead to great success. He has given his life to serving our country because he believes in a better tomorrow for the next generation.

It is my great honor and privilege to congratulate my friend, Congressman JOHNSON, on receiving this prestigious award. Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating Congressman JOHNSON on this great honor, and I would like to take this time to thank him for his service.

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#### IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONTEREY COUNTY FREE LIBRARIES

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2012*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the Monterey County Free Libraries. Author and broadcaster Studs Terkel once said, "All you need in life is truth and beauty and you can find both at the Public Library." Well, for the last century, Monterey County's library system has offered up beauty and truth in abundance.

On August 6, 1912, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors established the Monterey County Free Libraries. On September 2, 1913 Miss Anne Hadden started as the first County Librarian. In her first six months she opened five branches. By 1923 she and others had established branches in 105 locations. Some were simple reading rooms housed in private residences, schools, and stores; the Big Sur branch was located in the Post Office. In those early days Miss Hadden used every means at her disposal to distribute books to the far corners of the county: by train, by car, and even on foot. Indeed, a photograph of Anne Hadden delivering books by burro has become an iconic image of the whole library system.

Today, the Free Libraries still function under the authority of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors. The County Librarian operates seventeen branch libraries, two bookmobiles, a library-by-mail program, and also maintains collections in schools. Books for all ages and interests in regular and large print, books on tape, CD's, DVD's and videos, magazines, electronic resources and materials in English, Spanish, Korean and Vietnamese are available to the community. The libraries also maintain ten homework centers and a literacy program. All together they provide services to 220,000 people over 3,250 square miles.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Free Libraries on their 100th anniversary and know that I speak for the whole House in saluting them on this joyous occasion.

HONORING ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH SCHOOL FOR BEING NAMED A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2012*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. John of the Cross Parish School, an exemplary Catholic school in Western Springs, Illinois, for receiving the prestigious 2012 U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School Award. As a member of this parish, I am especially happy to see the hard work of the students, teachers, administrators, and parents recognized, and I want to congratulate Principal Kathleen Gorman, as well as our pastor, Rev. David P. Dowdle.

In 1982, the Department of Education established the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program to recognize public and private schools boasting high or significantly improved achievement. The program's goal is to identify attributes of thriving American schools in order to replicate their success in other schools. St. John of the Cross is one of only 50 private schools across the Nation to be named as a National Blue Ribbon School this year. This is a great achievement for everyone at the school and all members of the parish.

The mission of St. John of the Cross Parish School is to provide a safe and dynamic Catholic environment where faith is nourished and knowledge grows. The school offers challenging educational experiences that foster success, promote unity, and respect the individuality of each student. Since 1961, the school has prided itself on multi-generational Catholic traditions and achievement. St. John of the Cross has maintained a strong Catholic identity and strong academic standards throughout its history. In 2011, the school proudly celebrated its 50th anniversary.

St. John of the Cross Parish School offers programs from preschool through eighth grade and attracts students from Western Springs and surrounding communities, currently enrolling 630 students. Since its founding, the school has been supported by the St. John of the Cross Parish and has grown to become one of the largest Catholic schools in Chicago's Archdiocese. St. John of the Cross Parish School offers impressive science, technology, and art facilities as well as a wide range of student activities. All students are involved in the religious activities of the parish and participate in a variety of service projects. Today, the school benefits from the hard work and dedication of its principal, Kathleen Gorman, as well as its assistant principals, Zita Wheeling and Tom Clausing. This award recognizes the time and hard work of the teachers and students, as well as the critical support and involvement of the students' parents and the entire parish community. I am delighted that the excellent work and success of St. John of the Cross Parish School has been acknowledged on a national stage.

Please join me in celebrating the accomplishments of St. John of the Cross Parish School and all the National Blue Ribbon award winners. Their pursuit of academic excellence is inspiring, and I hope that their success can

serve as a model for schools across the Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 225TH BIRTHDAY OF ROBESON COUNTY, NC

**HON. LARRY KISSELL**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2012*

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Robeson County, NC, and the celebration of its 225th Birthday. Incorporated in 1787 from Bladen County, Robeson, North Carolina's largest county, is home to roughly 134,000 residents. Named after Colonel Thomas Robeson of the Revolutionary War, it boasts a rich American history. Col. Robeson served as one of the leaders at the Battle of Elizabethtown, an important battle won by the American patriots.

Robeson County is also home to the Lumbee American Indian tribe, and according to the U.S. Census, has the ninth largest population of American Indians in the United States, making up 38% of the population. Robeson County is truly a diverse county. Robeson is also home to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, a historically Native American college.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring Robeson County and its citizens, as irreplaceable assets to North Carolina, the state which I am proud to represent.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLEVELAND MUNICIPAL COURT

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Cleveland Municipal Court which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this Saturday evening, September 15, 2012, with a Centennial Gala.

The Cleveland Municipal Court was established by an act of the Ohio General Assembly in 1911. The Court, originally located on the northwest corner of Public Square, opened its doors at 9:30 a.m. on January 2, 1912. Court was gavelled to order that morning by Chief Bailiff Charles Selzer following opening remarks by Cleveland Municipal Court Chief Justice William H. McGannon and Judges David B. Cull and George P. Baer. The other judges on the original municipal court bench were William B. Beebe, Samuel E. Kramer, Manuel V. Levine, and Fielder Sanders. Peter J. Henry was the original Clerk of the Court who served in that position for 35 years.

The Cleveland Municipal Court is the second oldest municipal court in the nation. Unlike the Justices of the Peace it replaced, the judges were required to be legally trained and were elected by the people rather than appointed by politicians. Also groundbreaking for its time, the Cleveland Municipal Court paid its

judges and staff salaries which did not depend on the fines they levied on those they found guilty.

Today, the Cleveland Municipal Court is located in the Justice Center Complex in Downtown Cleveland and consists of 13 elected judges and 14 magistrates, along with bailiffs and other administrative and support staff. The court handles misdemeanor crimes, including traffic, domestic, nuisance and other offenses, as well as civil cases if the total damages are \$15,000 or less. Its housing court has jurisdiction over criminal cases involving violations of Cleveland's housing, building, fire, zoning, health, waste collection, sidewalk, agriculture and air pollution codes. The housing court also hears civil cases involving landlord/tenant disputes.

Prominent judges who have served on the Cleveland Municipal Court include the late Carl B. Stokes who drew national attention as the first African-American mayor of one of the ten biggest cities in the United States. Our late colleague Stephanie Tubbs Jones also served as a Cleveland Municipal Court judge prior to her election as Cuyahoga County Prosecutor and later as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. I am proud to have served as Clerk of Court from 1975 to 1977.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the important work that the Cleveland Municipal Court does. The Cleveland Municipal Court is one of the great institutions of our democratic system in bringing impartial justice to the people of Cleveland for the last 100 years and well into the future.

RECOGNIZING THE HEROIC ACTS OF TRANSPORTATION SECURITY OFFICERS JODY WELLMAN, JAMES BOSTWICK, AND CHRISTOPHER HASTINGS

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 13, 2012*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the heroic acts of bravery undertaken by Jody Wellman, James Bostwick, and Christopher Hastings of Washington State, who saved the lives of two individuals.

On the morning of Saturday, August 11, 2012, Transportation Security Officers (TSOs) Jody Wellman, James Bostwick, and Christopher Hastings intervened at a time of crisis to save the lives of a man and a woman who suffered a car accident on Interstate-5 in Washington State.

After colliding with a concrete utility box and sign post in the median of the interstate, a vehicle caught fire with a 21-year-old soldier from Joint Base Lewis-McChord and a 29-year-old female passenger inside. These courageous TSOs pulled off the interstate to assist the two passengers out of the vehicle, which burst into flames shortly thereafter. There is no doubt that these two lives were saved because of the heroic efforts of these three brave officers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jody Wellman, James Bostwick, and Christopher Hastings, who exemplify the spirit of service and commitment to one's community.