

mentally, and spiritually. What began as only eighteen girls from Savannah, Georgia, on March 12, 1912, has grown over one hundred years later into a distinguished group with a membership of over 3.2 million girls and adults.

In my district alone, the Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle comprises over two thousand girls and nearly one thousand adult volunteers from Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and Walton Counties. The members of the Panhandle's Girl Scout Council have demonstrated their commitment to bettering the community by participating in a myriad of events, such as the Christmas and Veterans Day Parades and Earth Hour. Through these events and fundraisers, they have touched the lives of many. Northwest Florida is proud of their achievements and grateful for their dedication.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the Girl Scouts of the USA and especially the Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle for their service to the Northwest Florida community. My wife, Vicki and I congratulate them and wish them all the best for continued success.

RECOGNIZING ARTHUR BYRON
"DEACON" BOWERS

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to recognize Mr. Arthur Byron "Deacon" Bowers of Carter County, Tennessee, for receiving the James H. Collier Service Award. The James H. Collier Service Award is given to veterans who continue to serve their country and fellow veterans through their retirement and into their civilian lives. Deacon Bowers is a veteran of the Korean War and has provided a perfect example of how one man can better the lives of veterans in his community.

For 36 years, Deacon dedicated his efforts to the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. From 1974–2004, he served as Regional Veterans Employment Representative. By the time of his retirement, Deacon had assisted thousands of military veterans. In retirement, he continues to build on his volunteer legacy by visiting veterans and their families in the hospital. Deacon also helped create both the Veterans War Memorial and the Walk of Honor in Elizabethton, Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Deacon for his selfless contributions to Cocke County's veterans and wish him the best as he continues to exemplify the Volunteer spirit.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF CHARLES W. CARPENTER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles W. Carpenter, the president of

the Denton Chamber of Commerce for the past 30 years.

Mr. Carpenter graduated from Baylor University in 1975, with a Bachelor's of Arts in communications. His personal and professional background in communications and his exceptional administrative skills have benefited him as he continues in his dedicated service in leading the Chamber and its staff.

He has been recognized for his contributions and continuous leadership to the city of Denton through numerous awards. He was the 2011 recipient of the Boy Scouts Distinguished Citizens Award and was commemorated in front of 20 past chairs of the chamber board for his positive influence through the chamber to the Denton community. In June 2010, he received the Marvin Hurley Lifetime Achievement Award by the Texas Chamber of Commerce Executives Association.

Continually, Mr. Carpenter demonstrates his true passion to influence constructive change in the community of Denton. He is a founding member and supporter of the Denton Chamber 101 Club, which funds the Shop Denton Chamber First program. He is also an alumni member of Leadership Denton, as well as an appointed member of the board of directors of the Denton Economic Development Partnership.

Mr. Carpenter and the other members of the Denton Chamber of Commerce have made it a priority to connect local businesses with one another in order to help the business community of Denton flourish. Also, it is the only chamber in the DFW Metroplex and surrounding area that houses a full-service Small Business Development Center. Under his direction, the Denton Chamber remains a consistent and trustworthy organization for local business. For over 35 years, it has continued to be one of only 250 chambers in the nation to have accomplished and sustained accreditation through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

It is my pleasure to recognize the president of Denton Chamber of Commerce, Charles Carpenter, and his 30 years of service to the community. I am privileged to represent the City of Denton in the U.S. House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER AS HYDROCEPHALUS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as National Hydrocephalus Awareness Month. For too long, little attention has been paid to hydrocephalus.

This condition can occur at any age and affects an estimated one million Americans.

In fact, one out of every 500 babies in the United States is born with hydrocephalus, making the condition the leading cause of brain surgery in children. Additionally, an increasing number of our veterans are developing post-traumatic hydrocephalus as a result of brain injuries suffered on the battlefield.

Currently, there is no single known cause of hydrocephalus or ways to prevent or cure the condition.

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke is currently conducting research related to hydrocephalus prevention and treatment. However, more must be done at the community level to educate the American people about this surprisingly prevalent disorder.

Recognizing the month of September as National Hydrocephalus Awareness Month will bring this disease to the public's attention and, I believe, will encourage the discussions necessary to address more effectively the devastating effects of this disease and provide support to families who live with it every day. Today I commend the hard work of the Michael and Kim Illions of Woodbridge, New Jersey for their advocacy on behalf of their son, Cole.

I am certain that with federal support for additional research we can develop a better treatment, and eventually a cure, for those suffering from hydrocephalus and help them live healthier, fuller lives.

NATIONAL PULMONARY FIBROSIS AWARENESS WEEK

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, today, nearly 200,000 Americans suffer from Pulmonary Fibrosis, and an estimated 40,000 lose their battle to this disease each year. One death every 13 minutes.

Sadly, more than two-thirds of those living with Pulmonary Fibrosis will die within five years. And to top it all off there is no known cause and no known cure for this debilitating disease.

Next week is "World Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week" and an opportunity to raise awareness for H.R. 2505 the "Pulmonary Fibrosis Research Enhancement Act." This legislation which I authored will establish a much needed national patient registry, encourage future research at the National Institute of Health, and create a national action plan to help us better understand this deadly disease.

This is an important first step forward in the fight to find a cure for pulmonary fibrosis and deliver hope to thousands of Americans living with this disease. I urge my colleagues to join me and co-sponsor H.R. 2505.

RECOGNIZING THE RAWSON FAMILY AS THE 2012 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Rawson family for being selected as the Okaloosa County, Florida Outstanding Farm Family for 2012.

Ten years ago, the Rawson family was in search of acreage for hunting. This search subsequently evolved into a successful family run tree farm with a fruit orchard and over one hundred and fifty new oak trees planted each

year. Over the past ten years, the Rawson family has managed the land to grow trees and attract wildlife. They use their one hundred fifty acres to plant myriad trees, including loblolly and slash pine longleaf, sawtooth, bur, shumard, willow, swamp chestnut, cherry bark oak, and pecan trees. The family's fruit orchard with pears, muscadines, and many other fruits was a later addition to the pre-existing varieties of plants.

David and Pat Rawson have been married for thirty-six years, and they have three wonderful children, Paige, Suzanne, and Scott. They all assist in helping out with the farm, including tree planting, pruning, fertilizing, bush hogging, and weed management. It is David and Pat's plan to one day pass on the farm to their children to continue their farming legacy. The Rawson family truly embodies the cohesive nature and household unity that characterize our nation's family farmers.

Outside of their farm, David works part-time as an oral surgeon, and Pat is a devoted homemaker. In addition, both find the time to be active members of the Northwest Florida community. David is a member of the Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Florida Dental Association, Escambia and Santa Rosa Dental Society, and Escambia Sertoma. Pat is a member of the Junior League of Pensacola and Gulf Breeze Hospital Auxiliary. They both worship and volunteer at the Dorcas Baptist Church, and their continued commitment to agriculture and wildlife is further displayed through their involvement with the Certified Tree Farmers of America, National Wild Turkey Federation, Forest Landowners Association, National Rifle Association, and Florida Farm Bureau. The Rawson's commitment to farm, family, faith, and community is certainly commendable, and they serve as an example to all.

Mr. Speaker, our great nation was built by farmers and their families, and I take great pride in recognizing and paying tribute to the outstanding farm families located in Northwest Florida. This year we honor the Rawson family for their contributions to Okaloosa County and the farming community. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Rawson family for being awarded the title of Okaloosa County, Florida Outstanding Farm Family for 2012. My wife, Vicki and I extend our best wishes for their continued success.

VOICING THE CONCERNS OF UPSTATE NEW YORK FARMERS

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with you the concerns of farmers from New York's 29th congressional district. On Monday, September 17th, 2012 I had the opportunity to host an open discussion with my Agricultural Advisory Council which is comprised of farmers ranging from dairy and specialty crop growers to wine makers and beef. The members of this Council represent all eight counties of the district and based on their extensive experience and contributions to New York Agriculture, I greatly value their opinions.

With Agriculture being the largest industry in New York State, any legislation which impacts our farmers also has a direct impact on our local economy as well as our communities. While all members of this Council said that they would prefer a long term Farm Bill over any extension, I heard an additional sentiment from the audience. That sentiment is a need for stability. This year's setbacks have reminded us just how extremely volatile the agricultural industry is and without stability today, our farmers cannot accurately plan for tomorrow and years to come.

Western New York dairy farmers are currently dealing with the growing Greek yogurt industry in New York State. Without Congressional action, provisions critical to the dairy industry will expire, and dairy farmers across New York will be faced with skyrocketing feed prices. For many of the small family farms in New York this could mean the end of their livelihood. While many provisions in the current farm bill would remain intact through the end of the year, inaction by Congress before September 30th will leave dairy farmers in New York out in the cold.

Other farmers in my district are anxious about the Estate Tax, which is set to return to 55 percent in 2013. Mr. Speaker, with the value of equipment and property, even the smallest farms in New York can be appraised at over one million dollars, making them eligible to be taxed. Our farmers again need the stability of knowing they can build for their family's future and be able to pass down the fruits of their labor for their children and grandchildren. We cannot return to the days when family farms had to be sold off just to pay the estate taxes.

Mr. Speaker, our farmers are the backbone of our nation. We need to help them stabilize their production costs, stabilize their workforce and stabilize their confidence. With a stable agricultural sector we can create jobs, and continue to work to improve our economy and provide badly-needed career opportunities.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NASHVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA LEAGUE

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a Music City gem that is celebrating its Diamond Anniversary. This fall marks the 60th Anniversary of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra League. Helping to bring the lofty sounds of the soul to Middle Tennessee, the Orchestra League's good work adds more than just notes to our great State, it adds a glorious soundtrack to our story.

The Nashville Symphony Orchestra League works to support and promote the work of the Nashville Symphony. Since 1946, the Nashville Symphony has been enriching audiences and shaping cultural life through a diverse mix of concerts and performances. The Nashville Symphony Orchestra League, founded in 1952, engages the community by providing innovative programs and educational opportunities; a mission that has been at the heart of the orchestra since its beginnings. For over 60

years the Orchestra League has touched countless lives, the young at heart and in age, as it continues to offer time, talents, and treasures to enrich the music.

Were it not for the Nashville Symphony Orchestra League, and its hard work throughout the years, Middle Tennessee might not have another beautiful note in her composition known the world over. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honor of those who dedicate their work to the ongoing preservation of the Nashville Symphony; ensuring Nashville's extraordinary and musical legacy rises and settles for another generation of Music City listeners.

HONORING SHELDON OHREN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Sheldon Ohren of Monsey in my district who was elected National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. at its 117th Annual National Convention this August. He has served as Commander of the Department of New York and is a life member of PFC Fred Hecht Post 425 in Rockland County.

Mr. Ohren served in the Air Force from April 1952 through January 1956. As an Airman First Class, he was assigned to the 6910th Security Group Headquarters in Landsberg am Lech, Germany, where he served as a cryptographic communications specialist.

After leaving the service, he enrolled at New York University and graduated with a Degree in Industrial and Labor Relations. Afterwards he finished his accounting credits at the City College of New York and in 1965 joined the Internal Revenue Service. Before retiring in 2000 as an Appeals Team Chief, he earned a Master of Science Degree from Pace University and taught at Long Island University.

Mr. Ohren was elected Jr. Vice Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, and ultimately Commander of the JWV Department of New York in 2008. He has worked as a member of the National Executive Committee, the National Court, the Convention Committee, as well as a Special Assistant to the President of the National Museum of American Jewish Military History.

He also serves as Vice-Chairman of the West Point Liaison Committee and attends Oneg Shabbats sponsored by JWV at the Academy, and presents Kiddush Cups and Shabbat Candlesticks to the Jewish graduates. In addition, he represents JWV at local Naturalization ceremonies and presents a copy of the Bill of Rights to the new citizens.

Mr. Ohren is a regular visitor at the VA Hospital in Montrose, NY, and has served as a Docent at the Camp Shanks Museum, the Port of Embarkation during World War II.

In addition to JWV, he has been President and Treasurer of his B'nai B'rith Lodge for 10 years and has been a member of Congregation Shaarey Israel for the past 19 years. He is also a Charter Member of the United States Holocaust Museum and a member of the Holocaust Museum and Study Center in Spring Valley, NY.

He is a Brooklyn native and he and his wife Judy, a Life Member of the Ladies Auxiliary of