

Maureen Renault—A dedicated and tireless caregiver, Maureen Renault has taken on the daunting task of caring for her mother, a resident at Herndon Harbor Adult Day Health Care Center. During this time Maureen has been actively involved in her mother's care at the center in addition to her needs at home.

Steven Nehl-Care-giving is an around the clock job for Mr. Nehl. He cares for his autistic son, Michael, and wife, Joanne, who is continuing to recover from two brain aneurysms. Since the time of her illness in 2008, Joanne is unable to work and Mr. Nehl may only maintain short-term positions due to the tremendous requirements of his time at home.

Cecilia Ortega-Shew—For almost two decades, Cecilia Ortega-Shew has given selflessly to individuals living with HIV/AIDS. In her role as a mental health clinician and program clinical manager for Inova Juniper Group, she helps pregnant women have healthy, HIV-free babies and continues to counsel people on the difficulties of living with HIV. She inspires young staff to be better clinicians and instills in them a passion for caring for those with HIV.

Natascha Dixon Edelin—Passionate and dedicated to helping women and children in need, Natascha Dixon Edelin tirelessly works to assist the battered women of Fairfax, Virginia and honor them for their strength, courage and commitment. She partnered with the co-founders of the Duffy House in 2011 to organize the "Duffy House Day of Pampering" for victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse which provided, at no charge, a much needed day of respite for approximately 50 women and 80 children. Her continued work with the Duffy House brings joy into this special community.

I congratulate this year's winners and recognize each of them for their dedication and personal sacrifices. These individuals are examples of the many caregivers who put the needs of their families, friends and colleagues above their own. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the 2012 LifeCircle Alliances awardees and in thanking the volunteers, staff, and partners of LifeCircle Alliances for their efforts in providing assistance to not only those in need of care, but to those who provide the care here in our community.

IN HONOR OF MR. LOREE SOGGS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Loree Soggs and his countless contributions to the labor communities of both the City of Cleveland and State of Ohio. Mr. Soggs has been an active member of and staunch advocate for unions and union members since he entered the workforce nearly fifty years ago.

Mr. Soggs began his affiliation with the labor community in 1964 as an operating engineer. As a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), Local 18, he served as a business agent, apprenticeship coordinator, steward director, officer and fringe benefit fund trustee. In 1994, Mr. Soggs was elected to the office of Executive Secretary for

Cleveland's Building and Construction Trades Council (CBCTD), being the first operating engineer to hold this office in the Council's history. In his capacity as president, Mr. Soggs has successfully negotiated numerous contracts fighting for the betterment of working men and women within the community.

In addition to his dedicated work with IOUE Local 18 and the CBCTD, Mr. Soggs has also affiliated himself with numerous labor organizations and programs throughout Northeast Ohio and the State of Ohio. He has served as President of the North Shore Federation of Labor; Vice President of the Ohio State Building and Construction Trades Council; Trustee of the Union Construction Industry Partnership; Chairman of the Union Construction Industry Partnership/Apprenticeship Skills Achievement Program; Executive Director of the Northern Ohio Building Trades Real Estate Investment Program; Vice President of the United Labor Agency; President of Pinzone Towers; Vice President of Lupica Towers; and Co-Chair to the Labor Initiative of United Way of Greater Cleveland. He is also a member of the Cuyahoga County/City of Cleveland Workforce Investment Board; Executive Committee of the Cleveland Catholic Diocese Building Commission; Executive Committee of the Cuyahoga Democratic Party; board member of the Ohio Water Development Authority; and member of Mayor Jackson's Sustainability Cabinet.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Mr. Loree Soggs who has dedicated his life and career to the labor communities of Ohio.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ARGYLE
HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Argyle High School Marching Band, which has earned their 5th victory at the University Interscholastic League (UIL) State Marching Band contest. The Eagle Marching Band has competed six times in the UIL state marching finals, and out of those competitions, the band has achieved first place honors an astonishing five times!

The Argyle High School Marching Band's achievements are based upon the devotion and hard work that each individual student member puts into their performance, giving it their best efforts from the first hot practice in the blazing summer sun, through repeated practices, football game half-times and progressively competitive marching contests. Student leaders for the 2012 Argyle High School Marching Band are Drum Majors Randi Martin, Cameron Schafer and Lindsey Johnson. This fall, the crowning attainment for 120-plus band members was winning the UIL Class 3A championship for a third consecutive time with their remarkable program: "Moving Parts." Led by Director of Bands, Kathy Johnson and Assistant Directors, Michael Lemish, Lucy Pascasio, Evan Fletcher, and Color Guard Instructor Sarah Ross, the leadership team for the Argyle High School Marching Band is to be commended as well.

I join the citizens of Argyle, the band booster organization and band parents in congratu-

lating the Argyle High School Marching Band for their tremendous winning record. They have been excellent musical ambassadors for their school, community and the 26th District of Texas. It is my privilege to serve the administrators, teachers, staff and students of the Argyle Independent School District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

NAMING THE JESSE HELMS FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, recently I introduced a bill to rename the Century Postal Station in Raleigh, North Carolina in honor of former United States Senator Jesse Helms.

Senator Helms, North Carolina's longest serving Senator, was a genuine man who fought for what he believed. He himself said, "I didn't come to Washington to be a 'yes man' for any president, Democrat or Republican. I didn't come to Washington to get along and win any popularity contests." His steadfast nature even earned him the nickname "Senator No," to which he had no objection.

While voters would many times disagree with his policies, they always knew where he stood. Former North Carolina Senator Elizabeth Dole said, "Even those who disagreed with Jesse on an issue could respect the fact that he always stood tall and firm for his convictions, his faith, his family, and his home State of North Carolina."

Despite sometimes being a controversial figure during his 30 years in the Senate, Helms faithfully served North Carolina and its citizens. He became a leading voice in the United States Senate fighting against communism, for a balanced budget, and simplifying the tax code. He served on the Senate Agriculture Committee, where he served as chairman from 1981 to 1987, as well as the powerful Foreign Relations Committee where he served as chairman from 1995 to 2001.

His legislative work may have been controversial, but his other Congressional duties were the opposite. Constituent service in Jesse Helms' office was second to none and set a new standard. Democrat or Republican, liberal or conservative, he made sure the constituents he worked for received prompt attention. Helms did everything he could to be accessible to his constituents, and showed genuine kindness and consideration to every one of them. He cared about his state and his fellow citizens.

Born in Monroe, North Carolina, Helms started his career in journalism. It was in his 11 years in journalism, including working for the Raleigh News and Observer, that he met his wife, Dorothy Coble, and went on to marry her in 1942. Senator Helms' first interest in politics is said to have come from his conversations with his conservative father-in-law. Senator Helms raised his family in Raleigh, and after he retired he continued to make Raleigh his home. Helms and his wife had three children—Jane, Nancy, and Charles, a child with cerebral palsy, adopted at 9 by the Senator and his wife.

Through this experience with Charles, Senator Helms became involved with Easter Seals

and fighting for children with disabilities. He continued his humanitarian work later in his career by supporting efforts to fight AIDS in Africa during his final term. Bono, lead singer of U2, even praised Helms' work by saying "without his taking a stance on AIDS, we would have lost a lot more lives."

From his humanitarian work, to office's renowned constituent services, to his consistently passionate legislative work on Capitol Hill, Senator Helms, North Carolina's longest serving Senator was a man well deserving of this honor. He was a great North Carolinian and a great American. For these reasons, it is appropriate to ensure that future generations remember his legacy by having this building bear his name.

RECOGNIZING BILL LAUER FOR
HIS LIFETIME OF CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA
COMMUNITY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize William H. "Bill" Lauer for receiving Devotion to Children's Community Legacy Award. As a native of the Washington area, Bill has followed the age-old advice to "bloom where you are planted" and set a model example for using your talents to help not only yourself but also your neighbors.

Devotion to Children is a Northern Virginia nonprofit organization dedicated to working with other community partners to provide high-quality education and child-care programming for low-income families and children under the age of six. The Legacy award is presented annually at its Red, Heart and Soul Gala to recognize someone who has promoted public awareness of the organization and local needs, provided funding for programs and services, collaborated with other community organizations to support local children, or engaged in other activities that support the organization's mission. Bill Lauer has done each of those and so much more.

To many people, Bill may be known more for his professional accomplishments. He has spent the last four decades working in the residential and commercial real estate market. Bill worked for some of the region's premier homebuilders early in his career, including Gulf Reston, which led the visionary development for the new town of Reston. Bill founded Tetra Partners in 1981 and has amassed a distinguished record in the real estate industry. He is a former president and Life Director of the Northern Virginia Building Industry Association, which recognized him with its highest honor, the Emil Keen Award, for 25 years of exemplary work within the industry. He is a past president and board director for the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties Northern Virginia Chapter. He also has played a role with several of the local chambers of commerce and was a charter member of the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance.

Those are no doubt noteworthy achievements, but it is Bill's charitable activities that have proven invaluable to the community and that serve as an inspiration to a new genera-

tion of community leaders. Bill has been an active and financial supporter of local Habitat for Humanity and Ronald McDonald House, and he is a member of the board of Reston Interfaith. I was pleased to have him serve on the Affordable Housing Task Force that I launched during my tenure as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Through that effort, he worked to help expand rental and home ownership opportunities for low-income families. Bill and I also worked together on my homeless prevention initiative, and he continues to serve on the governing board of the Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness. Thanks to the efforts of Bill and the Partnership, Fairfax has been one of the few communities to actually reduce homelessness during the Great Recession.

And, of course, Bill is active with Devotion to Children. During the past decade, Bill has worked to expand awareness of the growing need for affordable child care and early childhood resources, and he has not only supported those efforts with his own resources but also recruited his colleagues in the private sector to join in the cause. Bill also has helped develop new partnerships with Devotion to Children, Reston Interfaith and the Reston YMCA, including an evening child care program to help those parents taking nighttime classes.

Mr. Speaker, based on Bill's lifetime of professional and charitable accomplishments, this recognition could easily have been renamed the "devotion to community" award. I want to personally thank Bill for his tireless efforts to assist at-risk families and children across Northern Virginia, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bill on this well-deserved recognition. His work is a reminder to us all that our community's strength and success is the product of every child and every family having an opportunity to succeed.

IN HONOR OF MR. OSCAR GUMUCIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Oscar Gumucio a profoundly respected friend, leader and advocate of the Greater Cleveland Community, and in recognition of his dedication to civic engagement, education and health care.

As the educational specialist for the MetroHealth Pediatric Hispanic Clinic, Mr. Gumucio is the advocate for Hispanic children when they need help with medical, psychosocial or even school issues. Many times, language and cultural barriers make it hard for Hispanic immigrants to stay healthy or excel in school; Mr. Gumucio does everything he can to remove those barriers or help children overcome them.

Mr. Gumucio developed his sincerity and devotion to the betterment of others when he was a Jesuit priest in the Catholic Church. His compassion for the less fortunate, profound knowledge of human behavior and love for everyone he meets have made him a highly respected person in Cleveland's educational, health and religious communities.

Born in Bolivia, Mr. Gumucio received his Doctorate in Philosophy and Master of Divinity

in Argentina, and his master's degree in Spanish literature in Columbia. He taught philosophy at the University of Havana in Cuba and Spanish Literature in Puerto Rico.

Upon leaving the priesthood, Mr. Gumucio eventually moved to Cleveland, where he worked in the Cleveland Municipal School District for 33 years. He is a co-founder of the district's bilingual program, the Mental Health Suicide Prevention Center and the Urban Community School.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the leadership and outstanding achievements of Mr. Gumucio for his work in the Greater Cleveland Community and commitment to MetroHealth and the Hispanic community.

KENT FISHER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kent Fisher, a dedicated public servant and community leader from Atchison County, Missouri.

Kent Fisher has served as Atchison County South District Commissioner since November of 1998, filling a two-year unexpired term followed by re-election to three subsequent four year terms. During his tenure as an elected official, Kent has served Atchison County's citizens through numerous natural disasters and reconstruction efforts including Presidentially-declared disasters for flooding and ice storms. He has been an instrumental part of the reconstruction efforts, collaborating with local, state and federal agencies to secure grant funding and ensure the county rebuilds and prospers.

Kent has been involved with various organizations for the betterment of the citizens of Atchison County and Northwest Missouri, including serving as a board member of Community Services of Northwest Missouri, the Fairfax Kiwanis Club, Fairfax Lodge #483, Scottish Rite Bodies of St. Joseph, and the Moila Shrine Temple. Kent is also a Leadership Northwest Missouri Graduate, and Past President of the Northwest Missouri Commissioners Association.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kent Fisher for his service to the citizens of Atchison County and Northwest Missouri. It is an honor to have had the opportunity to work with Kent for the betterment of Atchison County and Northwest Missouri. It is an honor to serve Kent in the United States Congress.

A TRIBUTE TO ALICE HAIGAZIAN
BERMAN

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

June 25, 1925–November 12, 2003.

Teacher, mentor, beloved mother and daughter.