

Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. for their contribution and their effort in building the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Monument in Washington, D.C.

**HONORING WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY TIGERS, THE 2011 NCAA DIVISION III WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONS**

**HON. STEVE AUSTRIA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 6, 2012*

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, on November 20, 2011, the Wittenberg University Tigers Women's Volleyball team won their first NCAA Championship. After ending the regular season with a 37–3, 16–0 NCAC record, the Tigers advanced through the post-season tournament to sweep the title in a 3–0 match against Christopher Newport University. This championship represents years of hard work and dedication by these volleyball players and their coaches. This achievement is also a reflection of the support these women have received from their families, Wittenberg University, and the Springfield, Ohio community.

Members of the 2011 Women's Volleyball team include Hallie Donathan (Tipp City, Ohio); Tessa Litman (Magnolia, Ohio); Hillary Monnin (Russia, Ohio); Katie Sumner (Dublin, Ohio); Ali Hock-James (Cincinnati, Ohio); Kiah Murray (Yorktown, Indiana); Hannah Riley (Minerva, Ohio); Miranda Sagle (Springfield, Ohio); Kimmie Dyer (Copley, Ohio); Kate Shoemaker (Vallonia, Indiana); Courtney Lauber (Zionsville, Indiana); Christine Simpson (Dublin, Ohio); Catherine Fumy (Fort Wayne, Indiana); Andrea Behling (Columbus, Indiana); Christina Gilene (Milford, Ohio); Meghan Vodopich (Canton, Ohio); Jessica Batanian (Sylvania, Ohio); Quin Gable (West Chicago, Illinois).

The Wittenberg University Women's Volleyball team was lead by Head Coach Paco Labrador and assisted by Laura Jensen and Amy Cox. The team was also heavily supported by Athletic Director Garnett Purnell, and University President Dr. Mark H. Erikson.

Thus, today I ask my colleagues to join me and the constituents of the Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in congratulating the Wittenberg Tiger Women's Volleyball team.

**CONGRATULATING CHUCK BROWN, THE "GODFATHER OF GO-GO"**

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 6, 2012*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating one of the Nation's great musical innovators, Chuck Brown, the "Godfather of Go-Go," on receiving the Executive Director's Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Civil Liberties Union of the Nation's Capital (ACLU–NCA). Chuck will be presented with the award on January 7, 2012, at the historic and elegant Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington, DC. The ACLU–NCA has long fought for equal congressional rep-

resentation for the citizens of the Nation's capital, the right of District residents to make their own laws and spend their own money and, above all, statehood. Last summer, Chuck performed at the ACLU–NCA's annual DC. Statehood Teach-In on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol. Despite temperatures in excess of 100 degrees, Chuck gave a spirited performance of the kind that has earned him legendary status. Chuck uplifted the DC statehood movement, and liberty itself.

Since the mid-1960s, when his musical career began, Chuck Brown has been the fundamental force behind "Go-Go," the musical genre he invented in Washington, DC. Chuck's early hit "Bustin' Loose" has been adopted by the Washington Nationals baseball team as the official home-run celebration song. In addition to creating original music, Chuck has recorded a series of Go-Go covers of early jazz and blues songs. Chuck's remarkable music catalogue spans 22 studio albums over more than 30 years. Chuck's signature musical style recently proved its longevity when the song "Love," from his album entitled *We Got This*, earned Chuck Grammy Award nomination 2010.

Chuck Brown has also been a devoted and loving father. When his son played football at Virginia Tech, Chuck scheduled performances and other appearances around the team's home football games, never missing a single game his son played at Lane Stadium. Following the Virginia Tech massacre in 2007, Chuck dedicated several shows to the memories of the victims.

Mr. Speaker, Chuck Brown has earned iconic status, especially in the District of Columbia where Go-Go music was invented and popularized. For decades, through his distinctive sound with its iconic beat, Chuck has pulled people out of their seats to dance nationwide. Whether in the depressing aftermath of the Virginia Tech massacre or on a hot summer day on Capitol Hill, Chuck has always used his music to uplift the human spirit. I, therefore, ask the House of Representatives to recognize Chuck Brown for his contributions to music in our country and to the District of Columbia, and to join me in commending him on receiving the ACLU–NCA's Executive Director's Lifetime Achievement Award.

**RECOGNIZING NANCY VEHR'S ON HER RETIREMENT**

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 6, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Nancy Vehrs on her retirement after 31 years of service to the citizens of Fairfax County, Virginia. I worked closely with Nancy during my 14 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and I saw firsthand her dedication and hard work.

Nancy began working for Fairfax County in 1980 and held positions in the Woodburn Mental Health Center and the Fairfax County Police Department before being appointed by Clerk to the Board of Supervisors in 1990.

The position of Clerk to the Board of Supervisors is often thankless, but nevertheless extremely vital to both the operations of County

government and our citizens' ability to actively participate in the decision-making process. Nancy was instrumental in modernizing recordkeeping for official Board proceedings and constituent correspondence, enabling better governmental transparency and providing for County residents with a better means of communication. Citizen involvement in government provides another avenue for individual contributions; however, the process of volunteering to serve one's community can be daunting. Nancy saw the value in the County's various volunteer Boards, Authorities and Commissions, and she helped implement a training program to provide citizen volunteers with access to legal, proprietary, and procedural training to assist in their endeavors.

Nancy always sought to pass along her expertise, sharing those ideas and best practices throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, and she served as President of the Virginia Municipal Clerks Association. She received well-deserved recognition for these efforts, earning the title of Master Municipal Clerk in 2008 and twice being named the VCMA Region II Clerk of the Year.

In addition, Nancy has actively served her community in her individual capacity. She has served as President of the Prince William Committee of 100, a civic organization dedicated to informing the community of local issues of importance. She has served on the Board of Directors of Virginia Native Plant Society and the Board of the Prince William Conservation Alliance, and was the President of the Prince William Wildflower Society.

Mr. Speaker, Nancy Vehrs is a tremendous example of a dedicated civil servant whose many efforts over the years have improved the lives of her community. While her departure will be felt throughout the County government, the many procedures and improvements she helped implement will continue to benefit County residents for many years to come. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and congratulating Nancy Vehrs on her 31 years of service to the citizens of Fairfax County, Virginia, and in wishing her well in her much-deserved retirement.

**HONORING FALLEN STANISLAUS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATOR MARY ANN DONAHOU**

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 6, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor fallen Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Investigator Mary Ann Donahou. CSI Donahou's end of watch came on December 30, 2011, while in the line of duty gathering evidence at a crime scene. While assisting a deputy, she was struck by a vehicle. Mary was deeply committed to her profession—one that she put her whole heart into. CSI Donahou wore her badge with pride, loved her job, and loved serving the community.

Mary Ann was born on August 20, 1965, in Ceres, California, and she graduated from Downey High School in 1983. In December of 1999, Mary Ann was blessed with the love of her life, her son Jake. In 2002, she began her

career at the Sheriff's Department as a legal clerk in the county jail. She was later promoted to Community Service Officer in 2005, followed by a 2007 promotion to Crime Scene Investigator. Mary Ann served the Sheriff's Office with honor and distinction.

Mary Ann was the epitome of a public servant. She always strived for excellence and had an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and self-improvement in the field of forensics and crime scene investigation. She was a shining example of what an employee of the Sheriff's Office should be: competent and courageous, tenacious and tough, brave and dedicated, yet understanding and compassionate to those who needed a helping hand. Mary Ann was also an active community member; she was a den mother for the cub scouts, did local charity work, and loved supporting local sports organizations.

Mary Ann received multiple commendations from peers, supervisors and citizens, earning recognition for her forensic work leading to the arrest and conviction of those who victimize the innocent. In one of her many cases, Mary Ann was assisting the Robbery-Homicide Team in taking crime scene photographs for two different search warrant locations. She maintained a positive attitude despite the very detailed and complex case. Even after a long, hard day at work, she still took the time to talk to the neighborhood children who were curious about what she was doing. She showed them her equipment, how to look for latent fingerprint evidence, and told them all about Crime Scene Investigators. This is reflective of Mary's character and her dedicated service to the Sheriff's Office and the community.

Mary Ann was a loving mother, sister, daughter, aunt, and cousin. Her smile lit up the room and her laughter was contagious. Her grace, beauty, friendship, humor, intelligence and compassion were all attributes that made her so endearing.

Mary Ann is survived by her son Jake Lewis Hassler; her parents Janice and Robert Pence and Jack and Mary Donahou; her sisters Jennifer Horne, Melinda Donahou-Sneed, Lori Donahou, and Teresa Brockman; her loving companion Eugene Day; three nieces; four nephews; and six great-nephews.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and remembering the outstanding contributions made to law enforcement by Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Investigator Mary Ann Donahou. The life of Mary Ann serves as an example of excellence to those in our community, and her legacy will not be soon forgotten.

HONORING CHAPEL HILL HIGH SCHOOL 2011 TEXAS CLASS 3A STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. LOUIE GOHMERT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 6, 2012*

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to recognize and congratulate the Chap-

el Hill Bulldogs on a stellar high school football season in 2011 that culminated with their winning the 2011 Texas Class 3A State Football Championship. As a result of extraordinary teamwork and athletic prowess, the undefeated Chapel Hill Bulldogs captured the State title over the powerful Alvarado Indians with a final score of 20-19.

Last year, the Chapel Hill Bulldogs showed extraordinary heart by winning all the way to the championship resulting in a runner up position. Though most teams would be proud of getting that far, Chapel Hill players and coaches set their sights on going all the way back to the finals and coming back to east Texas with a State Championship trophy. The Bulldogs had to defeat some outstanding football teams simply to get an opportunity to get to a playoff game.

Not only did they get to the playoffs, they finished the season with an unbeaten and untied record of 15-0. The team became known as the "Cardiac Pack" because the last four games were won with heart-stopping gallantry late in the game. Such was the case in the game leading up to the state final, played against West Columbia in which Chapel Hill won in the last 8.2 seconds of the game. Following that nail-biter, the "Cardiac Pack" Bulldogs fought hard and came out victorious by one point in the final game making them state champions. Although this was the Bulldogs twelfth playoff appearance since 1969, this was the team's second football State Championship, the first being in 1989.

The Chapel Hill Bulldogs' 2011 championship success is a tribute to the Coach, who brought his team back for another chance at victory, as well as a tribute to the players and all who assisted them along the way. Such championship did not come without vast preparation beginning with off-season fitness, hot wearisome August workouts, coach preparations late into the night and weekend, insightful scouting and video research of opposing teams, unrivaled discipline, selfless teamwork, learning and executing football fundamentals, all encompassed by an unwavering determination to reach the highest goal achievable in Texas football—one that will never be forgotten as long as there is a Texas.

The lessons learned about teamwork and discipline should help carry everyone who played, coached, and assisted in knowing that whatever the obstacles that may lie ahead in life, they can overcome and be champions.

A tribute goes out to all of the athletic staff including Athletic Director and Head Coach Thomas Sitton, and Coaches Chris Taber, Jason Holman, Wes Schminkey, Sam Brandt, Jeremy Loyd, Brad Baca, Juan Silva, Kenneth Cook, Patrick Davis, Robert Sampson, Justin McCowin, Bill Toon, John Pyle, Kenneth Johnson, and Jon Sheppard.

The tribute to the team that accomplished this great feat goes to the football team members consisting of Tre Allen, Jay Reagan, Raeshuiwn Mumphy, Nelson Onwuzu, Wesley Thompson, Jalen Williams, Deaveron Dean, Avery Henderson, Kevin Garcia, Patrick Day, Kendall Beal, Jason Hill, Tyler Brown,

Avery Saenz, Anthony Kincade, Will Spradley, Richard Sandoval, Christman Weeks, Rex Rollins, Andrew Tucker, Reese Turner, Christian Schlener, Joseph Clark, JaMarcus McCowin, Kevone Kennedy, Londreyus Johnson, Travis Johnson, Braylon Roberson, Tyrael Hart, Marco Orpineda, Colton Moorehead, Brandoy Bell, Keith Minor, Daniel Smith, Pedro Valdez, Thad Bevis, Keiundas Wade, Josh Hamilton, Sir Calvin Wallace, Jacob Ratliff, Shaq Warren, Brandon Upshaw, and Gabriel Robinson.

This accomplishment could also not have been achieved without the vast support of Chapel Hill Independent School District staff and the entire community supporting this great East Texas school. Congratulations to all those who comprise the Chapel Hill Bulldogs' unbeatable team.

HONORING U.S. ARMY STAFF SERGEANT JOSEPH ALTMANN'S SERVICE IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

**HON. SEAN P. DUFFY**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 6, 2012*

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate and honor the life and service of Staff Sergeant Joseph Altmann from Marshfield, Wisconsin. Staff Sergeant Altmann lost his life on Christmas Day while serving our country in the Kunar province of Afghanistan. He suffered injuries when insurgents attacked his unit with small-arms fire. Staff Sergeant Altmann was serving with the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

Mr. Speaker, Staff Sergeant Altmann embodied the best qualities of a true American hero. He was a dedicated soldier and a brave man who fought for a cause greater than himself—a feat to which not many may attest. He served his country not only in Afghanistan, but re-enlisted in order to do so after completing two previous tours in Iraq. He died protecting the freedoms we all too often take for granted.

Staff Sergeant Altmann's heroic sacrifice and exemplary service will not soon be forgotten. He has made his wife, his family, his home State of Wisconsin and his country eternally proud. It is my humbling honor to pay due tribute to him and I urge my colleagues to join me today in honoring the life of Staff Sergeant Joseph Altmann for the sacrifice he made for this country and for our freedom.