

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AUGUSTA BRANCH OF THE NAACP ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 38TH ANNUAL FREEDOM FUND BANQUET

### HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of the Augusta Branch of the NAACP and to honor them as they celebrate their 38th Annual Freedom Fund Banquet.

For over a century, the NAACP has served on the front lines of change in America. So often when we recount their success, we think of the most prominent images of the Civil Rights Movement. We remember the heroes who marched peacefully and stood with dignity in the face of injustice. And we remember how they overcame those who hosed and humiliated college students and put dogs on women and children because of the color of their skin. But there has been—and always will be—more to the NAACP than this chapter in the Civil Rights Movement.

The NAACP has committed itself to shepherding the cause of equality and justice in America. In the 50 years before and since the sit-ins and marches that toppled Jim Crow, the NAACP has played a vital role in numerous communities to protect the political, educational, social, and economic rights of all persons regardless of color.

The Augusta Branch of the NAACP in my home district was recently honored with nine awards at the Georgia State Conference NAACP Convention. Among their commendations were awards for overall outstanding contributions as well as recognition for accomplishments in social justice and increased membership.

As a Life Member of the NAACP, it's a particular point of pride for me to see one of the NAACP branches that I represent recognized for their important contributions. I offer them my continued support and many more years of success in Affirming America's Promise.

CONGRATULATING TAIWAN PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU ON HIS RE-ELECTION

### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou on being reelected as President of the Republic of China, also known as Taiwan, on January 14, 2012.

This free and fair election continues Taiwan's long tradition of being a strong and stable democracy. On October 10, 2011 Taiwan celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding. In the past century, Taiwan has matured into a free-market, multi-party democracy that is a model for the world. Taiwan is an important partner in maintaining peace and stability in the region.

As a proud member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I have had the privilege to

travel to Taiwan last year as part of a bipartisan delegation. I had the pleasure of meeting President Ma Ying-jeou and other government officials. I was strongly encouraged by their commitment to maintaining strong ties with the United States.

As a Member of the Homeland Security Committee, I also discussed Taiwan's request for inclusion in the Visa Waiver Program with President Ma. I raised my concerns with President Ma about the need to strengthen their passport security standards before I would be comfortable in supporting Taiwan's inclusion into the Visa Waiver Program.

I was pleased to hear that Taiwan has strengthened their passport standards, and I was proud to send a letter with some of my colleagues to Secretary Clinton recommending that Taiwan be included in the Visa Waiver Program. On December 22, 2011, the U.S. State Department announced Taiwan's nomination for inclusion into the Visa Waiver Program.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating President Ma on his reelection as the President of Taiwan. I look forward to maintaining the strong U.S.-Taiwan relations under his leadership.

IN MEMORY OF JAMES LAWRENCE  
"JIM" ROSE

### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great leader, entrepreneur and motivator, James Lawrence "Jim" Rose. He was a great inspiration and will be missed across the Commonwealth.

Jim Rose was a successful businessman with a thriving entrepreneurial mind and a philanthropic spirit. After attending Berea College and the University of Kentucky, Jim's first taste of success started in his hometown of Manchester, Kentucky. He launched a small coal company in 1959, leading to his post as president and chief executive officer of Interstate Coal Company, continuing to span his company across a dozen counties in eastern Kentucky. When he retired in 1993, the company was one of the top three producers of coal in the Commonwealth and was nationally renowned for its safe coal mining practices and mine rescue team.

In the late 1970's, Jim launched two successful banking ventures. He formed the United Bancorp of Kentucky, Inc. and guided a successful merger with National City Corporation in 1995. He and his wife Judy also became majority stockholders, in the Bank of Lexington and Trust Company and subsequently sold it. His savvy business instincts were coveted across the country and he proudly served as a director or member of numerous trade associations.

With a golden heart of generosity, Jim committed a vast majority of his time to civic and charitable organizations. He served on the Board of Trustees of the University of Kentucky and the Albert B. Chandler Medical Center, Centre College, and Lees College. He was a founding member of the Commonwealth Endowment for Kentucky Educational Television and served as a member of Kentucky's State

Investment Commission. He left one of his largest footprints at the Lexington Christian Academy, where the "Rose Campus" covers 75 acres in Lexington, Kentucky.

Jim Rose leaves behind a devoted family: his loving wife of 49 years, Judy Sizemore Rose; his son, James F. "Jamie" Rose and his wife Kris; his daughter Sonya Rose Hiler and her husband Ken; eight grandchildren and three step-grandchildren. On behalf of my wife Cynthia and myself, I want to extend our deepest heartfelt sympathies to the Rose family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a dear friend and inspiration, the late Jim Rose.

HONORING GARY EICHEN FOR HIS 45 YEARS IN BROADCASTING ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO

### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Gary Eichten, a Minnesota broadcasting legend, as he prepares to retire after a distinguished 45-year career at Minnesota Public Radio, MPR, News.

It is increasingly rare today that one spends his entire career with one employer, but it is even rarer that one can say he helped to put his employer on the map. Eichten can make that claim, beginning his career in 1967 at Minnesota Public Radio as a student announcer at Collegeville's KSJR, MPR's first station. Today, MPR is one of the nation's premier public radio systems with a reputation for integrity and thoughtful civic engagement. Gary Eichten personifies this tradition.

As host of the MPR News "Midday" program, Eichten has been a familiar and down-to-earth voice on its airwaves, providing a forum for civil discourse that truly informs and educates the public. Throughout his career, he has retained his trademark Midwestern sensibility. His colleagues sum it up best, describing him as an "everyman in the newsroom." A recent article in the Star Tribune describes Eichten as a "kid from Mankato," Minnesota, who "traded stories and barbs with state legislators, sitting governors and presidential hopefuls. An evasive answer might be met with Eichten's lovable grumble: 'Aw, c'mon, Senator.'"

Eichten's success as a broadcaster has earned him many well-deserved awards, including the Corporation for Public Broadcasting Award for Best Local News Program. He also assisted in the development of two Peabody award-winning documentaries. In 2007, Eichten was inducted into the Pavek Museum of Broadcasting's Hall of Fame. Most recently, Eichten was awarded with the prestigious 2011 Graven Award by the Premack Public Affairs Journalism Awards Board for his contribution to excellence in the journalism profession.

For many years, Eichten and MPR Midday have been part of my midday ritual. As an MPR listener, I have appreciated his timely and insightful interviews. As an elected official, I have respected his tough, but fair questions—always delivered civilly. It has been an

honor to be a guest on his show. The excellent journalism practiced by Eichten and MPR is even more important today, because it has become a rarity in today's media landscape.

A testament to his notable career is the "Heckuva Farewell" planned for Eichten on January 19 in St. Paul. The evening will begin with what Eichten does best, an interview, with a guest who happens to be a former Vice President—Walter Mondale. Following this interview, Eichten will have the microphone turned on himself as he is subject to an interview about his incredible career at MPR. I know Minnesotans are looking forward to this night.

As he retires after 45 years on Minnesota Public Radio, Eichten's voice will be missed, but his legacy of broadcasting excellence will continue. Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Gary Eichten, a Minnesota icon.

CLAIRTON BEARS PIAA CLASS A  
STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 18, 2012*

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Clairton Bears on another perfect high school football season and their third consecutive PIAA Class A state championship victory.

The Bears' win in Hershey, PA extended their current winning streak to 47 games, the longest in the nation at the high school, collegiate, and professional levels.

These outstanding achievements are the culmination of years of hard work and dedication on the part of the coaching staff and players.

The staff included head coach Tom Nola and assistant coaches Tim Bukowski, Jim Dumm, Eric Fusco, Marc Gambino, Wayne Wade, Jr., and Remondo Williams, Sr.

The players consisted of ten seniors—Trenton Coles, Devante Gardlock, Dakota Halcomb, Remondo Williams, Capri Thompson, Reuben Kelley, Carvan Thompson, Garrett Gallmore, Erik Walker, and Donte Thomas—as well as underclassmen Tyus Booker, Bryon Clifford, Terrish Webb, Titus Howard, Vinny Moody, Robert Boatright, Armani Ford, Ryan Williams, Damion Rump, Devontae Hammonds, Tyler Boyd, Esaias Hammonds, Hasson Petty, Devonte Harvey, Dyran Davenport, Kenny Mason, Garrett Santoline, Jordan Gresse, Vance Gibson, Robert Wellington, and Israel Melvin.

Pittsburgh is proud of the Clairton Bears for continuing the rich tradition of athletic success which our community has come to expect. I congratulate the Bears once again on their victory and flawless season, and I wish the returning players and coaches further success next season. Thank you.

IN HONOR OF MR. JOE DECARO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 18, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Joe DeCaro, an iconic produce

vendor at Cleveland's West Side Market for almost 80 years.

Joe's parents, Italian immigrants, opened the DeCaro vegetable stand at Cleveland's West Side Market in 1934. Joe began working at the produce stand at the age of seven with his siblings. Throughout college at The Ohio State University, he would come home to work the stand on weekends. The only period of time in which Joe did not work at the DeCaro stand was during his service in World War II.

For seventy-seven years Joe has been a fixture at the West Side Market, taking the stand over when his parents passed away. He has run the stand by his motto, which is mounted above his produce: "Good food is not cheap and cheap food is not good."

Today, Joe is the patriarch of a large and close-knit DeCaro family. He is married to his wife Rhea, and together they raised nine children. Joe is also the proud grandfather of 23 and great-grandfather to 14 children.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Joe DeCaro, one of the West Side Market's most iconic produce vendors.

IN MEMORY OF EDWARD D. FRY II

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 18, 2012*

Mr. ROSS of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a good friend and dedicated public servant who recently passed away. On Friday, Jan. 13, 2012, Edward "Ed" Fry, longtime congressional aide and Chief of Staff to three successive Arkansas Congressmen, died of cancer at the much too young age of 55. Ed worked so hard for his state and nation for more than 20 years that he eventually earned the honorary title of "Arkansas's Fifth Congressman."

I knew Ed Fry for many years and considered him a good friend since our days as active members of the Arkansas Young Democrats. In fact, we used to drive together across the state of Arkansas setting up Young Democrat chapters at colleges and universities wherever we could. Ed would later go on to serve as the President of the national chapter of the Young Democrats of America.

Considering himself a life-long "yellow dog" Democrat, politics and helping people were among Ed's top passions in life. So, when Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton decided to run for president in 1992, Ed jumped at the chance to help and joined an enthusiastic group of Clinton supporters—called the "Arkansas Travelers"—who traveled around the country to help elect the 42nd President of the United States.

Ed Fry was born in Illinois, but his family moved to Pine Bluff, Ark., in 1972, where his father worked as a naval architect. He enrolled in Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark., as a 16-year-old student and graduated with his bachelor's degree in just three years. He went on to earn a J.D. from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock Bowen School of Law and a master's degree from Emory University in Atlanta, Ga.

Ed also proudly served his state and nation as a congressional staffer in our nation's capital for more than 20 years, serving as Chief of Staff to three successive Arkansas Con-

gressmen and as a mentor to dozens of young people over the years. He became such a staple in Arkansas politics and was such a strong and passionate advocate for the people of Arkansas that he eventually earned the nickname "Arkansas's Fifth Congressman."

When not working, Ed took to the waters and had a great passion for boating his entire life, even earning his USCG Masters "Captains" License at the young age of 18. He had such a humble, infectious personality that as a friend, I know we will all miss him dearly.

Ed made public service his career, life and passion. Arkansas and the nation are a better place because of the time, energy and life of Ed Fry. Cancer took from us a wonderful human being and a person who loved the American political system and who worked hard to make Arkansas and America a better place to call home.

My thoughts and prayers are with his partner of 17 years, Mark McCullough; parents, Edward and Patricia Fry; sisters, Leah Ann Taylor and Andrea Zomber; six nieces and nephews; and, the rest of his family and friends.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring all of our congressional staffers who work hard every day for the people of this country. I also ask that they join me in honoring the life and legacy of an extraordinary congressional staffer and statesman, Ed Fry—"Arkansas's Fifth Congressman"—who will be deeply missed throughout the halls of Congress and throughout the state of Arkansas.

RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMHERST  
BALLET THEATRE COMPANY OF  
AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 18, 2012*

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the invaluable work that Amherst Ballet has done to advance the culture and education of communities in Massachusetts. Amherst Ballet was founded in 1971 by Therese Brady Donohue to give ballet lessons to 30 students in the old Amherst Junior High School building. In 1977 Donohue relocated her dance school to within walking distance of three Amherst public schools, appended two studios to it, gathered a board of directors and incorporated the Amherst Ballet Theatre Company as a non-profit corporation. In the ensuing years hundreds of children have been trained in ballet, modern and jazz dance and thousands of audience members have delighted in their performances. In 2000 the Theatre Company bought the dance school and became a non-profit entity known as Amherst Ballet. 2004 saw the retirement of Donohue and in the following year Amherst Ballet purchased the building in which it had been housed to firmly establish its permanent home. Catherine Fair joined Amherst Ballet's staff as a teacher in 1997, became its director upon Donohue's retirement and has steadily grown the annual enrollment to more than 200 students.