

advocate Malcolm X; first lady Eleanor Roosevelt; president Ronald Reagan; former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger; then-Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Despite his steely demeanor, Mike Wallace struggled with personal hardships, including the death of a son and bouts with depression. At a time when such vulnerabilities were often hidden from public view, Mike Wallace shared these challenges with American audiences. His bravery and openness helped to dissolve the social stigma around depression and made a tremendous impact on the lives of many Americans.

Mike Wallace was honored with 21 Emmy Awards, five Peabody Awards, and the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award. He was also inducted into the Television Academy Hall of Fame in 1991. His legacy continues through the Knight-Wallace Fellowship program at the University of Michigan, which gives mid-career journalists the opportunity to explore new subjects of interest.

Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on the life and legacy of Mike Wallace, one can be certain that his memory will be an inspiration for a new generation of journalists as well as for every American who values such a strong commitment to integrity and truth.

PAUL ALLEN AND THE ALLEN  
INSTITUTE FOR BRAIN SCIENCE

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a philanthropist and forward-looking individual who made a remarkable announcement a few weeks ago. Paul Allen, the founder of the Allen Institute for Brain Science, yesterday announced that he is giving \$300 million toward the invaluable research at the Allen Institute for Brain Science, which he started with \$100 million of his own money.

Mr. Speaker, the researchers at The Allen Institute employ an extraordinary team approach to brain research and all strive, every single day, toward the same goal: mapping the human brain with the goal of finding the causes and cures of vexing diseases—Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, dementia, autism, depression and many more.

Perhaps most impressively, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Allen's team at the Institute share what is learned as it happens. Each month, tens of thousands of scientists from around the world access the vast data stores and web-based tools available via the Institute's brain map website to learn and advance their own research. The investment Mr. Allen and the brilliant team of researchers make are intriguing and hopeful.

I'm proud to say, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Allen and his team are doing the bulk of their work in the Pacific Northwest providing hope for the future—and opportunities for the present. I salute Mr. Allen, his team of researchers, and our talented and motivated medical professionals around this Nation. The dollars and time being invested should never be forgotten in this House, nor by humanity.

CLINTON RIVER WATERSHED  
COUNCIL CELEBRATES FORTY  
YEARS

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Clinton River Watershed Council as it celebrates 40 years of making a positive difference to the Clinton River and its watershed.

Forty years ago, the Clinton River was a very different waterway than it is today. Decades of uncontrolled dumping of industrial wastewater and raw sewage had taken a huge environmental toll on water quality in the river. There were no fish to speak of in the river, and certainly none that you would care to eat. Far from being an asset to the communities along its banks, the Clinton River was slowly dying.

That might have been the end of the story except for two key developments in 1972. The first was the passage of the Clean Water Act which spelled out ambitious programs for water quality improvement. The second key development was the formation of the Clinton River Watershed Council. Both of these had a profound impact on water quality in the Clinton River.

Passage of the Clean Water Act 40 years ago was one of the most important environmental milestones in our nation's history. It marked a fundamental change in how our nation views and manages water in this country. After decades of polluting the Great Lakes and their tributaries—including the Clinton River—we finally recognized that healthy rivers and lakes are vital to the health of our communities, and we required that steps be taken to restore them.

The formation of the Clinton River Watershed Council marked another important turning point. It takes time and resources to undo decades of pollution and neglect, and still more time for an ecosystem to heal. Restoring an urban waterway like the Clinton River is especially complicated. I am convinced that the effort to heal the Clinton River has gone much faster because it had advocates to coordinate action and focus attention and resources. Thanks to the work of the Clinton River Watershed Council and its members and member units of government, real progress is being made on water quality, and once again the Clinton River is being used for fishing, canoeing, and hiking. The Council's efforts in the areas of watershed management, stewardship and education have also had a tangible, positive impact.

There was a time when we turned our backs to our rivers and lakes. Today, we know better. As the hard-won progress in the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair shows, waterfront development is a real generator of economic activity and a one-of-a-kind asset to communities.

We need to build on the progress that has been made in the Clinton River Watershed as well as Lake St. Clair. This absolutely requires a partnership of effort by Federal, State, and local governments, as well as local stakeholders and advocacy groups. It also means a continued commitment of resources from the Federal Government, especially when it

comes to funding the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Now is not the time to cut funding for this vital initiative. Congress and the Obama Administration must also work to clarify and restore long-standing Clean Water Act protections for U.S. streams, wetlands, and other waters.

But the real work of completing the restoration of the Clinton River will continue to be done by groups like the Clinton River Watershed Council and the many volunteers and sponsors that support their efforts. The Watershed Council's work underscores the value that a healthy Clinton River holds for our citizens and communities. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Clinton River Watershed Council as it begins its fifth decade of work to protect, enhance and celebrate the Clinton River and its watershed.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND  
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT OF  
SENIOR AIRMAN ALEXANDER W.  
BLENCH, UNITED STATES AIR  
FORCE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievement of Senior Airman Alexander W. Blench, who recently received the 2011 Lieutenant General Leo Marquez Award as the Air Force's Outstanding Aircraft Maintenance Airman.

Originally hailing from Escondido, California, SrA Blench joined the United States Air Force as an F-15 Avionics Technician in 2008. He served at RAF Lakenheath, England and in Afghanistan before reporting to Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, in 2010. A self-described tinkerer who developed a love of mechanics as a child working in his father's machine shop, SrA Blench now specializes in repairing electronic warfare and countermeasure systems in F-15C and F-15E aircraft. He also works on aircraft wiring, flight controls, environmental systems, munitions guidance systems and video lines. At only 24 years old, SrA Blench has already compiled an impressive list of contributions to our nation's Air Force. His sharp eye and keen understanding of avionics allowed him to identify and quickly rectify countermeasure and flight control failures, faulty telemetry data, a radar elevation discrepancy and crucial systems malfunctions. His personal efforts led to five modifications of three separate types of aircraft and contributed directly to 1,700 sorties and over 2,600 flying hours resulting in the success of several critical test missions.

SrA Blench's dedication to excellence, however, goes beyond his professional duties. In addition to his significant professional achievements, SrA Blench also completed a Community College of the Air Force degree in Avionics Systems Technology. He is also pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree with a 3.95 GPA, he volunteered his off-duty time to clean and paint a local middle school, and he participated in a local Northwest Florida beach conservation effort by assisting with planting 1,400 trees along the shoreline. Not only has SrA Blench proven himself to be a good Airman, he has also shown himself to be a good

neighbor and an outstanding representative of the United States Air Force in the Northwest Florida community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize SrA Alexander W. Blench. His dedication to duty, his technical competence, and his contributions to the local community all bear testament to his personal embodiment of the Air Force's core values—"Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do." My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating SrA Blench, and we wish him all the best for continued success.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOLLIDAYSBURG AREA YMCA

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 16, 2012*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to recognize the Hollidaysburg Area YMCA upon the 100th anniversary of their continued service to our community. I, along with close to 6,000 of my constituents, am proud to call Hollidaysburg home and am pleased to have the opportunity to call attention to such a respected mainstay in our community.

The Hollidaysburg Area YMCA, founded in 1912, currently boasts roughly 4,000 members. These members are provided training, education, the use of the grounds and facility, and access to multiple wellness events throughout the course of the year. In 2011, they proudly bore the title of the largest wellness program available in Blair County, teaching and advocating youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. This feat is made all the more impressive by the fact that they serve as a completely non-profit community center with no subsidy from tax revenues. Beside their own regular members, an estimated 25,000 individuals come through their doors each month to receive the same high quality care and instruction that YMCAs all across the United States provide on a daily basis.

In addition to general safety and instruction, the Hollidaysburg Area YMCA also operates one of the largest childcare centers in the area, providing a resource for American families in surrounding areas, encouraging and supporting the hard work and diligence that makes America great. This, combined with their welcoming community center, their extensive aquatic programs, and the financial assistance provided to nearly 600 individuals annually, has endeared this establishment to its people and community.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the YMCA of the Hollidaysburg Area for 100 years of history, growth and success. This organization continually lives out their mission by putting "Christian-Judeo principles into practice through programs and services that build healthy spirits, minds, and bodies for all." Hollidaysburg is honored to boast such a vital and interactive part of our community and I invite the American people to help celebrate this anniversary by exploring the opportunities and advantages that the YMCAs of America provide their communities.

#### HONORING ERIKA GARZA

#### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 16, 2012*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share these with my House colleagues.

Erika Garza is a senior at Pasadena Memorial High School in Harris County, Texas. Her essay topic is: In your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

The role of the government is to represent, help, and speak out for its people. Specifically, when dealing with the government of the United States, it is basically supposed to be ruled by the people, for the people. The public, although not everybody does it, participates in the government by voting. We vote representatives into office, with the thought that they have the intention to make a difference in our country, dealing with specific issues that we believe need to be changed. The government has many different levels to it, yet it is composed of people who come from similar backgrounds and wanted to be the voice for their fellow people. This is not an easy task, as it takes a lot of hard work and time to be elected into office. Once a person is elected into office, their job becomes even more difficult. They then have to try and do what is best for the people but also have to deal with other representatives as well who have the complete opposite opinions. Not all the elected think alike, nor do they have the same goals, which makes making laws or setting standards difficult. Yet, their main focus is to represent the people who have chosen them to do what others in the past have failed to do. That is basically the role of the government and how people participate in it daily.

#### HONORING THE MOUNT HERALD MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 16, 2012*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of the community, the Mount Herald Missionary Baptist Church. Mt. Herald M. B. Church served as a catalyst during the civil rights movement in Sharkey County, Mississippi.

The Church was organized in 1908, under the leadership of the late Rev. B. S. Scott. Over the years physical structure was built under the leadership of Rev. B. C. Cook and the new foundation was laid by Rev. G. P. Phillips in 1924.

During the Civil Rights era, the Mt. Herald M. B. Church was used as one of the many

safe houses for the brave men and women who stood up for the rights of African Americans in the segregated South, including the Mississippi Delta. These brave warriors gave their lives for the rights that we now have as African Americans.

Before the states were ordered to end all segregated school systems the Mount Herald M. B. Church was used as the first high school for African American students in the Rolling Fork, Mississippi community.

On April 4, 2003, the Mt. Herald M. B. Church family purchased the property located at 140 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Street, in Rolling Fork, Mississippi so they could accommodate the growth of the church family and continue their mission for the good of all mankind. The Mount Herald Church is truly a church full with members who are truly making a difference in the community. The Mount Herald Missionary Baptist Church is currently under the leadership of Pastor Gregory D. Young.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that our colleagues join me on this 9th anniversary of acquisition of the Mt. Herald Missionary Baptist Church to honor its exemplary service and dedication to the state of Mississippi.

#### MARKING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SINKING OF THE TITANIC WITH THE STORY OF THE KELLY FAMILY OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 16, 2012*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, April 14th will mark the 100th Anniversary of the Titanic tragedy and for one family, the Kellys of New Haven, Connecticut, it will mark the anniversary of the loss of a very special member of their family, James Kelly. The Titanic Kellys, as they have been known since the days of this tragedy, will gather for a reunion and a celebration of the strength and resiliency of this wonderful family.

In the early part of the 20th century, life in Leixlip, Ireland was difficult to say the least and James Kelly determined that it was time for his family to seek a new life in America. In order to obtain the necessary money to move the family, the eldest daughter, Margaret left her home and family and immigrated to New Haven, Connecticut where she would work until she had earned enough for her father to join her. The plan was for Margaret and James to then work to bring the rest of the family to New Haven.

Margaret worked at the garment company Strause-Adler and soon had enough wages saved to send to her father. It is not fully known exactly how James Kelly obtained passage on the Titanic, but what is known is that he boarded at Queenstown, Ireland and his ticket number was 330911. This third class passage ticket was purchased for approximately \$40.00 and being third class, James was segregated from the other passengers and, while his movement was limited, some of the accommodations were actually better than what he saw at his two room house in Leixlip. It is not hard to imagine the hope that was in his heart—the dreams of a better life for his family. Unfortunately, fate had different plans.