

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.

James Kelly did not survive the sinking of the Titanic. His body was discovered by the Mackay-Bennett, which was one of the ships chartered by White Star Lines to recover bodies. Each body discovered was given a number and entered into a ledger—James Kelly was number 70. The ledger indicates he was buried at sea on April 21, 1912 wearing a dark suit, vest, trousers, white socks, black boots and a set of rosary beads.

Even in the face of this tragedy and the loss of their patriarch, the Kelly family did not waiver. James' widow, Catherine, and their other children left Ireland and arrived in New Haven in June of 1912. While life in America was not without its challenges, they took it upon themselves to fight through the hardship and build a better life for their respective families. There are now more than 100 proud descendants of James Kelly living in our great country. The Kelly motto, "God is My Tower of Strength," perfectly reflects the will power and vigor of the Titanic Kelly's and I am proud to join them as they celebrate their remarkable history.

HONORING MR. EUGENE CHIN YU,
24TH PRESIDENT OF THE FED-
ERATION OF KOREAN ASSOCIA-
TIONS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Eugene Chin Yu, the 24th president of the Federation of Korean Associations. Mr. Yu has dedicated his time and energy to representing Korean Americans on the local, regional, and national level for his entire adult life.

Starting as a young man, Mr. Yu has steadily risen in prominence as he championed the causes of his fellow Korean Americans. As president of the Federation of Korean Associations, Mr. Yu continues his diligent work ensuring the success of Korean culture in America.

Mr. Yu also serves the greater community as a leader and a role model. Having served in the United States Army, Mr. Yu embodies the virtue of defending the freedom of our great nation. As a former Georgia State Trooper, Mr. Yu was committed to protecting the safety of his community. And as a successful business owner, Mr. Yu shows us that with hard work and dedication, anything is achievable in America.

Mr. Speaker, Eugene Chin Yu's legacy as a community leader is well recognized and deserving of our honor. I join the Korean American community of Southern New Jersey in honoring Mr. Yu and his many great accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE J.M. TATE HIGH
SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL TEAM AS
THE 22ND FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL
STATE CHAMPIONS

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 J.M. Tate High School and

to congratulate Asia Cravens, Sarah Barlow, Tanner Newman, Hannah Malone, Matthew Bailey, Chance Sturup, Tatiana Teate, Amy Sapp, Brianna Riddell, Andrew Belt, and Ryan Colburn as the 22nd Florida High School Mock Trial State Champions. This award is evidence of their tireless work and steadfast dedication to excellence.

On the road to state championship, Tate's Mock Trial Team was tasked with defeating teams from eighteen judicial circuits across the state. Following four rounds of intense competition, Tate High School defeated the Community School of Naples in the final round and prevailed as Florida State Champions.

No single component by itself renders a champion, but rather to be a champion requires a combination of discipline, desire, focus, and determination. The Tate High School Mock Trial Team bounded together by their passion for justice and dedication to the rule of law found the perfect blend of these elements and made Northwest Florida proud.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the Tate High School Mock Trial Team and their coaches, Angie Sapp and Travis Johnson, on their leadership and accomplishments. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating them, and we wish them all of the best for their continued success.

HONORING CAPTAIN ROBERT C.
GRANT

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Captain Robert C. Grant, on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Coast Guard Reserve. For over 30 years, Captain Grant has dedicated his life to serving our nation and protecting South Florida, and it is truly an honor to represent him here in Washington.

Captain Grant is an exceptional public servant. As Deputy Chief of Staff of the seventh Coast Guard District, he served as a senior advisor to eight admirals, and provided support to Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield. And as Congressional Liaison for Florida's 19th district, Captain Grant assisted Congress in passing legislation that has proved instrumental in addressing new maritime smuggling tactics.

But Captain Grant's work also extends to the realm of community outreach. He helped strengthen the relationship between the Coast Guard and the Cuban and Haitian communities in South Florida through a dedicated public outreach initiative. Furthermore, he was able to assist with relief efforts in the wake of the devastating 2010 earthquake in Haiti, and has received numerous awards and accolades for his exemplary service.

Captain Robert C. Grant's service in the United States Coast Guard has made an extraordinary local, national, and international impact, and has made South Florida a safe place where families can grow and thrive. It is my hope that his example will inspire others to serve their communities for generations to come.

TO THE 10TH POWER, A TRIBUTE
TO CAPTAIN DAVID WOODARD,
FOURTH BRIGADE TENTH MOUN-
TAIN, UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker I rise today in honor of Captain David Woodard: a strong son of the south, one of Georgia's finest, and member of the 4th Brigade 10th Mountain of the United States Army. April 28th marks the three year anniversary of an IED explosion in Sadr City, Iraq that almost took Captain Woodard's life. Although Captain Woodard lost his leg in the attack, he has not missed a beat. His recovery and "can-do" attitude has helped sustain him and inspire us all. With the help of his lovely wife Danielle and their beautiful son David, who is a carbon-copy of his dad, Captain Woodard is past the road to recovery and is preparing to embark on the next phase of his heroic life.

TO THE 10TH POWER

How high can a heart so climb?
To what heights may we so reach in time?
But, to the very top to teach us we find!
To the 10th Power!
Throughout our nation's history . . .
Have come such fine men of faith and courage, so indeed . . .
Strong Georgia Men, who are but our Nation's best friends . . .
Who've worn the title of, 10th Mountain Men . . .
Who go off to war, and but for all of us . . .
so much endure . . . and depends!
Who but only with their Beliefs, so gallantly fight for our peace!
Who above all others so tower, as up to new heights they reach!
Like the Tenth Mountain Men, whose courage upon us showers . . .
Showers, us with great courage and heroic faith!
Men of the hour, who will not fade . . .
Who in the moment of truth, their fine hearts rise, to the 10th Power . . .
Men, who upon battlefields of honor, death, and glory . . .
While, lying gravely wounded . . . close to death, they tell their story . . .
Who give up their fine arms and legs . . .
And come back home to write another great chapter . . .
Another chapter, all in their life's most heroic page!
As they must somehow start all over again!
Men like David, these most heroic to 10th Mountain Men . . .
Whose, great hearts much somehow grow even greater than!
Men who teach us!
Who so beseech us!
All in how they so reach us!
As they start their lives all over again . . .
Just like his brother Bob Dole, Captain Woodard too has such a fine soul!
As both are cut from the same mold!
In life, how high can a heart so rise?
As to what heights will it so climb?
When it all depends on . . . what is so found deep down inside!
As to the 10th power, your heart so begins to rise!
Bringing tears even to the angel's eyes . . .
As David, yours has so!
And if I ever have a son!
David, I but hope and pray he could be like you . . . this one!