

challenge themselves in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Mr. Erickson is respected by all—his students, parents, and administrators alike. Through his hard work and dedication, Scott Erickson is making a tremendous impact in the lives of his students, and this earned him both the title of Teacher of the Year and the admiration of those around him. The North-west Florida community is proud to call him one of our own.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Mr. Scott Erickson for his great achievements and exemplary service. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing him all of the best.

A TRIBUTE TO THE VOLUNTEERS
OF CLARION, IOWA

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and acknowledge the volunteers of Clarion, Iowa, for their hard work and becoming 2012 National Honorees of Make a Difference Day. This year, more than a thousand citizens of Clarion participated in Make a Difference Day activities, earning them the prestigious honor as one of the nation's 2012 Make a Difference Day winners.

Make a Difference Day is a celebration of the power of neighbors helping neighbors. Created by USA Weekend, this annual day of service mobilizes more than 3 million volunteers nationwide to create positive change in their communities.

This group of outstanding volunteers from this three-stoplight town of 2,800 has made a substantial impact in their community by completing hundreds of small acts of kindness that culminated in their well-deserved national recognition. From crocheting robes for seniors to cleaning ditches, from raking leaves to running errands for neighbors in need, this small town came together a thousand strong to make an unforgettable impact on Make a Difference Day.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Clarion and its citizens in the United States Congress and I trust my colleagues in the House will rise to join me in congratulating them on a job well done. Clarion has shown the nation once again that small towns can surely do big things.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE
AMERICAN LIBERATORS OF
WORLD WAR II AND THE 25TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTER-
NATIONAL MARCH OF THE LIV-
ING

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as Holocaust Remembrance Day approaches on April 19, 2012, I would like to commemorate the U.S. forces that liberated concentration camps and death camps throughout Europe during World

War II. I would also like to commend the International March of the Living, which is commemorating 25 years of taking thousands of students to Poland to visit the sites of mass murder by the Nazi regime.

Each year, those participating in the March of the Living solemnly walk the three kilometers between Auschwitz and Birkenau, two sites that represent the largest concentration camp complex during the war. This year marks the first time students will march not with only friends, families, and survivors, but also the liberators who freed so many from the grips of the Nazi regime. These liberators saw first-hand the atrocities committed by the Nazis, and because these atrocities remain achingly clear, it is important that, as the number of liberators dwindles, we ensure their first-hand accounts are never forgotten. These brave soldiers exhibited compassion, and brought hope, to the survivors they liberated. It is for these reasons that I salute the liberators of the concentration camps and death camps, as well as International March of the Living on its 25th Anniversary, and I call on my colleagues to do the same.

THE PASSING OF MARK AYERS,
PRESIDENT OF THE AFL-CIO'S
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION
TRADES DEPARTMENT

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my shock and sadness at the untimely passing of Mark Ayers, President of the AFL-CIO's Building and Construction Trades Department.

Mark led the BCTD with great skill and amazing grace. He was a champion for worker's rights and worked tirelessly to raise the standard of living and quality of life for all working people and their families.

Mark was an extraordinary leader who possessed an unwavering commitment to improving the lives of working families.

Mark leaves big shoes to fill and will be missed by all who knew and loved him. But his legacy will live on.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

BAYLOR 2012 WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Baylor women's basketball team for winning the 2012 NCAA national championship. I was born in Waco, Texas, home of Baylor University, and I am so proud of my hometown team.

The Baylor Lady Bears did more than win, they made history. The Lady Bears completed a 40-0 season on April 3rd, 2012, by defeating Notre Dame 80-61 in the championship game. They became the first team, men's or women's, to go undefeated and win 40 games in one season.

Baylor University women's basketball team also made television history. With 4.24 million viewers, their game ranks as the most viewed national championship final since 2004. Brittney Griner, the Associated Press Player of the Year and the Most Outstanding Player of the NCAA tournament, led the Lady Bears in their sound defeat of Notre Dame. I am pleased to hear that Brittney intends to stay in school and is on track to finish her undergraduate degree.

Baylor University, which also happens to be the alma mater of my own sister, has the most wins combined in football, men's basketball, and women's basketball of any Division I school this season. Baylor should be proud of their many accolades. They have worked so hard to succeed not only in sports, but academically as well. Baylor is a top ranked national university and is an academic gem for the State of Texas and our country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in celebrating the Baylor University women's basketball team for their historic accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. REBECCA POE
OF WEST VIRGINIA

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishment of a constituent of mine Mrs. Rebecca Poe; specifically her twenty-six years of service as Executive Director of the Randolph County Senior Center along with her other accomplishments as Randolph County director for North Central Community Action, campaign chairman for United Way of Randolph County, President of the Elkins Rotary Club and her service on the board of Elkins Rehabilitation & Care Center.

Rebecca, whose first day as Executive Director of the Randolph County Senior Center was July 1, 1985, will work her final day on April 27, 2012. When Rebecca took over the Senior Center it was a small operation with a staff of seven people. Today it has a staff of about 120, including both full-time and part-time positions.

Under Rebecca's guidance the Senior Center home care program began in 1988 with a nurse and coordinator. Today the program has 140 clients and features two full time nurses and a support staff. In 1989 under Rebecca's guidance, the Senior Center made use of a seven-county regional grant to upgrade the nutrition program for their seniors. The Country Roads Transportation program began in 2006 to transport riders of any age.

Although Rebecca has helped the Senior Center make great strides over the years, she insists that the center and the many people she's gotten to know there over the years have made just as big an impact on her.

Mr. Speaker, as the nation's baby boomers move into their senior years, we certainly need more people like Rebecca Poe and the outstanding level of care to our aging population.

I thank Rebecca for her years of service and Randolph County is fortunate to call Rebecca one of its own.

JUMPSTART OUR BUSINESS
STARTUPS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, the Senate amendment to the Jumpstart Our Business Startups, JOBS, Act represents an improvement over the original House-passed version of this legislation, and I will support it today.

Specifically, today's legislation strengthens the crowdfunding provisions of the JOBS Act by adding important investor protections. Under the revised bill, crowdfunding issuances will have to be offered through either an SEC-registered broker or an SEC-registered funding portal, which will further protect investors by improving accountability and enhancing regulatory oversight. Additionally, the maximum amount permitted to be raised in any one crowdfunding issuance has been reduced from \$2 million to \$1 million, and the maximum amount a non-accredited investor can invest has been limited to \$2000 or 5 percent of income for those earning less than \$100,000, and the lesser of \$10,000 or 10 percent of income for those earning more than \$100,000.

Madam Speaker, innovation and entrepreneurship in markets governed by clear and fair rules of the road has always been the key to our economic success. While I believe that there are stronger job creation measures we can and should be considering today, and that this legislation will itself merit continued oversight to ensure it is in fact striking an appropriate regulatory balance, I will support it today for the benefit it may provide.

COACH DAVID SITTON—500 WINS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it's that time of year again; backyards and ballparks are back in full swing. There's nothing like a day, or night, at the ballpark. I remember going to the Houston Buffs games over on the Gulf Freeway, where Finger's is now, and to Colt Stadium to watch the Colt 45s. When the wind blew, the wooden bleachers at Colt Stadium would sway. It was a big deal back then to go to a game. Most of the time, we listened to the broadcast on a transistor radio. (Are there any of those left?) If you can't be there in-person, there's nothing really quite like listening to a game on the radio.

Then came the Astrodome. The first game was played there on April 9, 1965 against the New York Yankees. Governor John Connally threw out the first pitch, and President Lyndon B. Johnson and First Lady Lady Bird joined Astros President Roy Hofheinz in his suite. There were so many flashes going off that it was blinding. The Astrodome was a marvel to the world, the ushering in of indoor baseball. Even with the great home run kings Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris playing for Bronx Bombers, the Astros beat the Yankees 2–1 in 12 innings (those were the days).

There was nothing else like the Dome—the Eighth Wonder of the World. The players would stand in centerfield and hit balls straight up to see if they could hit the roof. And, who could forget the gun slinging cowboy on the scoreboard? As a parent, I brought my kids to the games. They wore Nolan Ryan's number 34 and cheered for players like Terry Puhl, Joe Niekro, Craig Reynolds, Alan Ashby, Billy Doran and Jose Cru-u-u-u-u-u-z. Last season, I watched alongside my grandkids as the train moves along the track, high above the new stadium—Minute Maid Park—whenever Biggio, Bagwell and Berkman (the Killer B's) hit homeruns. Two of my favorite players happen to be none other than Kingwood's own, Phil "Scrap-Iron" Garner (later coach of the Astros) and Craig Reynolds.

With all of the legends of the past, you may not know that we live amongst another baseball legend: Coach David Sitton. Coach Sitton started his baseball career as a pitcher for Humble High School. Lucky for us, he returned to his alma mater and never hung up his cleats. For 28 seasons, Coach Sitton has led his team and truth be told, the folks in Humble would be lost without Coach Sitton. Some say he bleeds purple, and I don't question it.

It is said that the measure of a man is the influence that he has on the lives of others. Coach Sitton has undoubtedly made a lasting impact on the many students and teachers he has worked with over his career. He has guided the Wildcats to 8 District Championships, 2 Regional Semi Finals, 2 Regional Finals, 17 playoff appearances and been named Coach of the Year 9 times. Throughout Coach Sitton's tenure, more than 80 players have gone on to play college baseball, and some went on to play professionally. And, on February 23rd, he led his team to another significant milestone: 500 career wins.

Our hometown hero Coach Sitton also has done great things off the field. He has volunteered many hours to numerous community activities and non-profit organizations. He created the Houston Area Baseball Coaches Association. This association raises money for scholarships and helps unsigned players find colleges to further their playing skills. But, his remarkable contributions to our town were almost taken away too soon. On January 12, 2009, Coach Sitton was involved in a near-fatal motorcycle accident, suffering multiple fractures, head trauma, a broken nose, bleeding in his brain, 2 cracked ribs and a broken pelvis. The community immediately acted to help Coach Sitton and his family. They set up an account so that friends and family could donate money to help pay for medical expenses and they cooked and delivered meals to the family during his recovery. The outpouring of support from the Humble/Kingwood community was in true fashion of Wildcat Pride.

We are grateful and blessed that he survived and, remarkably, is once again dedicating all of his time to our local community. The community is proud of Coach David Sitton for all of his accomplishments as a coach and a leader. His most recent victory was winning his 500th game as the head coach of the Humble Wildcats. We are lucky that he will continue to provide positive mentorship as a coach, husband, father, role model and educator. The Wildcats, and the entire city of Humble, are fortunate to call him one of our own.

Now, let's play ball.
And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO COL. JOHN K.
CARNEY

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifetime accomplishments of Colonel John K. Carney. Col. Carney, originally from Braxton County, West Virginia, passed away less than one month ago on March 17, 2012. He was a World War II veteran and worked more than 38 years in government service.

Col. Carney began his military career in 1941 serving for the United States Air Force. Throughout his tenure, he supervised an array of management and logistics programs for the Air Force both in the United States and abroad. His overseas assignments included tours in South America, Trinidad, and Saudi Arabia, in addition to two tours in the Philippines. His final six years in the military were spent in the Pentagon at Air Force Headquarters. Here, he worked in the Office of the Secretary of Defense where he headed joint service planning and negotiating groups leading to the consolidation of major logistics functions within the Department of Defense.

After 24 years of military service with the Air Force, Col. Carney retired in 1966. It was at this time when he began a second career with the General Services Administration. While working with the GSA, he pursued the development of a government-wide national supply system, which entailed a series of negotiations between the Department of Defense and other federal agencies. He retired a second time in 1980 from his position as Director of Supply Policy.

Along with his dedication to his work, Col. Carney was committed to his community and family life as well. While living in Springfield, Virginia, he played an integral role in the founding of St. Bernadette Catholic Church. It was in Springfield where he and his wife raised their six children, sixteen grandchildren, and nineteen great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, the level of devotion to both family and country by Col. Carney is one deserving of great honor and respect.

I wish to thank Col. Carney for his years of service and Braxton County is fortunate to remember him as one of their own.

HONORING FIRE CHIEF MACK
BORCHARDT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fire Chief Mack Borchardt, the Texas Fire Chiefs Association's 2011 Fire Chief of the Year. It is my privilege to publicly recognize citizens, notably among them Chief Borchardt, for dedicating themselves to the safety and well-being of their communities.