

with countries in the region, including a constructive relationship with China, and has continued the democratic traditions which have allowed Taiwan to prosper. I call on my colleagues to join me in congratulating President Ma, and wishing him the best of luck as he undertakes four more years as the leader of Taiwan.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES GIBSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend, who is being honored on May 12, 2012 by his church Rock Hill Baptist Church for his lifetime of service to the community. Mr. James Gibson, a youthful 89-year-old, is a stalwart of the community in Saluda, South Carolina, and is very deserving of this recognition.

James Gibson was the third of six children born to Eddie and Mae Bell Dozier Gibson. He attended the historic Cane Brake school, which was one of the first Rosenwald schools in South Carolina.

Upon graduation, Mr. Gibson joined the U.S. Marine Corps and served in World War II. When he left the military, he continued to serve his country by joining the Civil Service. After 30 years, he retired from Fort Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina. In retirement, he has enjoyed watching the Bible Channel and reading his Bible. He gardens and enjoys walks as well.

Mr. Gibson is a dedicated member of the community. He was a Shriner for more than 40 years, and a member of the C.C. Johnson Consistory for over four decades. He is Past Worshipful Master (PWM) of Peerless Lodge #214 and PWP of Peerless Chapter #335 OES. Mr. Gibson is a 33rd degree Mason and a member of the United Supreme Council.

He is also extremely dedicated to Rock Hill Baptist Church. He has served as Adult Sunday School Teacher, Chairman of Trustees, and was Chairman of the Deacon Board for 25 years.

He married Annie Barnes Gibson in 1947. The couple have three children and two granddaughters.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating James Gibson on this great honor. He has served his country and Saluda County with distinction. It is fitting that his contributions are being recognized by his fellow citizens for all that he has done to give back to the community.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIQUE RATIFICATION OF THE 27TH AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to an important milestone in American constitutional history. This month, May

2012, marks the 20th anniversary of the unusual ratification of the 27th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which provides quite simply that any change in the level of compensation which Members of Congress receive from the United States Treasury must take effect until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.

This particular constitutional amendment (sometimes referred to as the "Madison Amendment") underwent the most unorthodox path to ratification of any amendment ever successfully incorporated into the Federal Constitution thus far in our Nation's history. This amendment was originally proposed by Congress on September 25, 1798 but, despite the obvious wisdom of the amendment's purpose, it was not fully approved by enough State legislatures until 202 years later. When lawmakers in more than the required 38 states provided their approvals in May 1992, the 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was finally ratified.

Altering the United States Constitution was never meant to be an easy task. The Founding Fathers wisely composed Article V of the Constitution—which sets forth the process for amending it—in such a manner as to make changes in the document difficult to accomplish without a clear consensus. However, so strong was the common-sense appeal of what we know today as the 27th Amendment that State legislators of diverse political philosophy were able to agree in a bipartisan fashion that such a provision correctly belonged in the U.S. Constitution. As a former member of the Texas House of Representatives back in the late 1980s, I was privileged to have played a direct role myself in the 27th Amendment's idiosyncratic route to ratification. On May 25, 1989, I proudly cast a final "aye" vote on House Joint Resolution No. 6 by which the 71st Texas Legislature endorsed this sound and prudent one-sentence addition to America's highest legal document.

Now, two decades after its ratification was duly achieved, it is appropriate to reflect upon the lesson which the 27th Amendment has taught America, not only about the constitutional amendment process itself, but also about citizen action in influencing the law-making process. To that end, I respectfully request that a June 1, 1992 article from *People* magazine be included in the record at the conclusion of my remarks. The focus of this article is a gentleman named Gregory Watson, whom I had the pleasure to know during my tenure at the State Capitol in Austin while he was employed by a few of my colleagues in the Texas Legislature.

Mr. Speaker, we in the Congress debate every now and then about various proposed additions that some of us advocate to the Federal Constitution. The extraordinary ratification of its 27th Amendment furnishes to us ample evidence that, while perhaps rather time-consuming, it remains worthy of our attention, and merits utilization of our resources, to continue discussion about needed refinements to our Nation's great charter.

[From *People* magazine, June 1, 1992]

THE MAN WHO WOULD NOT QUIT

A TENACIOUS TEXAN WINS HIS 10-YEAR FIGHT FOR A NEW CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.

It only took 202 years, but last week United States Archivist Don Wilson officially certified that the U.S. Constitution has a new amendment. Given the current hostility to Congress, the new measure captured the mood of a fed-up electorate. It prevents Congress from giving itself pay raises retroactively or in mid-term, which it has done from time to time. Despite the new amendment's popularity, it would probably never have become law if 30-year-old Gregory Watson, an obscure administrative assistant to a Texas state legislator, had been a less persistent man. Ten years ago, while a student at the University of Texas-Austin, he began a one-man campaign to enact the Twenty-seventh Amendment. His reason? He got a C on a term paper.

The paper, for a government class, argued that the amendment could—and should—be passed. At the time, the proposal, originally drafted by James Madison in 1789, had been ratified by only eight states, six of them during the 18th century. Watson says his professor felt the amendment was a legal dead letter, even though it had no time limit, and gave him the low mark. "I was very disgusted," he says "but undaunted."

He ran his campaign the old-fashioned way—by mail, writing to legislators in states that had yet to pass the amendment. He spent \$6,000—all of it his own money. He refused all outside help. "I wanted to do it by myself," he says. "I wanted to prove that one person could do it alone."

Prove it, he did. On May 7, Michigan became the 38th—and deciding—state to OK the amendment, which had to be ratified by three-quarters of the states in order to take effect. Later that same day New Jersey voted its approval, and on May 12, Illinois joined in. Watson, who is single, was jubilant. "I wanted to show the American people what can be done if they just put forth a little elbow grease," he says. "You can wield a great deal of power, and one person can still make a difference in this country."

IN HONOR OF MARTIN AND WENDY MAYER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, to watch Parents of the Year, Martin and Wendy Mayer is to suggest a concept described by a valet of Britain's royal family. "Working for aristocracy," he said, "is like being a swan. On the surface, you must look like you're gliding effortlessly, but underneath, you're paddling like crazy." The Mayers' chesed for our Mamleches Cohanin looks easy, but their earnest sharing and resolving the tzoros of others is deliberate and thorough. The catering company provides the perfect venue for their unassuming communal service as they take care of many food needs for organizations and individuals behind the scenes, always seeing the world through the eyes of others. Professionally, the sensitivity and attentiveness at Menagerie Caterers has earned its reputation as the premier caterer in the greater metro area, from the smallest simchas to large, gala affairs.

Midos like this come from hard work. Martin absorbed the essence of his East Side neighborhood—no shtick, no embellishments, just pure ehrlichkeit and yashrus. He's the capable friend and reliable confidant that everyone needs. As part of East Side's Hatzolah, Martin

had the zechus of regularly attending to Rav Moshe Feinstein zt"l, imbibing from his lofty midos. Martin's own parents, z"l, and their courageous strength also deeply affected his life. Joining together from opposite sides of concentration camp fences, Staff Sergeant Herman (Hanoch) Mayer of the US Army Air Corps won medals and citations as a WWII hero who helped liberate the camps. With his own money, he bought medicine, food, and blankets for survivors, even transporting one woman to a hospital for immediate care. Martin's mother, Mrs. Freida (Elizabeth) Mayer survived Auschwitz and Birkenau on less than substandard rations, because she gave of her food to her weaker sister who also survived. Her intense care for her family continued, as she raised her children with unbounded love, often carrying hot lunches to them in school.

Martin and his sisters' beloved esteem for their parents prompted them to establish various memorial tributes: The Bais Medrash of the Agudah of Passaic (HaRav Sacks), the Bikur Cholim room of Englewood Hospital, which Martin supplies, a Sefer Torah written for them and more. Martin's fondest quotes from his Dad pertain to "if you're going to do something, do it right." It was unthinkable for Herman Mayer to be late for shul.

For her part, Wendy's gracious warmth keeps the home running smoothly despite Martin's erratic catering schedule. Besides working in real estate, Wendy tirelessly supports every need for their shul, yeshivos or business. Her selflessness moves her to host communal events and family simchas, create extraordinary cakes or sew decor for school productions, down to every beautiful detail. A caterer's wife might well use her husband's resources for large crowds, but Wendy makes everything herself. The only thing more inviting than her kindness is her fragrant fresh challah. Like her parents, Barbara & Nathan Finkel, Wendy's simchas hachaim and winning smile make everyone feel welcome.

Doing for others flows into the next generation as YOT graduating talmid, Moshe and YOT alumnus Aryeh are known around town as helping hands and smiling big brothers to neighborhood kids. May the honor they bestow upon their parents, as well as their support of Ohavei Torah and other institutions, be a continual source of brocha and hatzlocha for the entire Mayer family.

I am grateful for the opportunity to join with Yeshiva Ohavei Torah in honoring Martin and Wendy Mayer as Parents of the Year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House Floor during yesterday's three rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H. Con. Res. 105, H. Con. Res. 117, and H. Con. Res. 118.

SALUTING THE WORLD WAR II VETERANS OF TENNESSEE

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II veterans who have flown to Washington DC today from Nashville, TN with Music City Honor Flight. This Honor Flight is part of a nationwide effort to bring as many World War II veterans as possible to the memorial created here in honor of their service and in honor of the fallen.

Through their selflessness, these brave men and women who served in World War II saved our country and changed the course of history. We can never adequately repay them for their sacrifice. Whether Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, or Coast Guardsmen, they heroically served their Nation during our time of greatest need. It is my high privilege to welcome them to the Nation's Capital.

I am proud to read into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of each of these distinguished veterans so that they can be recognized for their brave service and so that the Congress of the United States of America can express its gratitude.

Orville Jerome Aasen, Lyttleton C. Anderson Jr., Clarence Arand, James L. Bass, James B. Batey, Jr., Douglas Beard, Dumpsie G. Binkley, Winston Bowling, Eugene W. Brock, Charles J. Brown, Edward L. Buquo, Roger L. Burgess, Hugh Lafayette Callens, Russell M. Campbell, Frank A. Cantwell, James W. Carroll, Francis A. Centimole, Robert E. Chadwell, James Robert Clower, Alfred Damon Corley, James D. Craig, Fred M. Creasy, Rayford H. Danley, James L. Davis, Gerald Alvin Davis, Lloyd F. Driver, James W. Duke, Edward Eugene Durham, Lloyd C. Fisher, David Ray Fussell, Murray O. Fussell, Charles H. Gannon, Gerald Allen Gilman, Harry R. Guttridge, Herald D. Hackett, Thomas Hall Jr., Jones B. Hamlett, Wesley W. Harmon, Jackson Harris, Samuel A. Harris, William J. Harvey, Eldon H. Hatcher Jr., Harley Walter Heilman, Irvan Hardeman Hendon, Wayne Hill, Vernard E. Hixson, Leonard Hollender, Edward L. Holton, Lawrence H. Horn, Edward W. Hudson, Robert W. Hull, Nathaniel B. Johnson Jr., Robert C. Jones, Clinton D. Keel, John W. King, James Fowler Lancaster, Earl Eugene Lerch, George Lukon, Nelson Lyne, Dock H. Lyons, Joseph O. Maddux, Harry Eugene Margrave, Carl M. Martin, Henry C. McCall, Jr., Carl E. Meeks, Ledlie J. Miller Jr., Charles A. Mitchell, Dr. John Myers, Robert M. Nabors Jr., James J. Panipinto, Andrew S. Parker, Baxter Lewis Perry, David M. Pettus, Carlos F. Plott, W H Reeves, Samuel Ralph Rehorn, Eugene R. Rhue, Clarence Richards, Robert McCulloch Rock, Elmer Julius Sager, David Y. Sharpe, Milton Shearer, Robert Love Simpson, William Paul Sitton, Fred L. Stacey, John E. Stephens, Robert Merrill Stoops, Harry Richard Sturm, Glenn Swanson, James F. Tacker, Jr., Denison Taylor, W. Glenn Tinsley, Jess Titus, Glenn Tompkins, Eddie G. Wall, James E. Waugaman, Robert Conway Wilhite, Ross Williams, William E. Wingo, Henry C. Winstead,

Talmadge R. Woodall, Charles Richard Zartman.

HONORING THE 95TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ST. PAUL

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 95th anniversary of the Junior League of St. Paul, JLSP.

The Junior League of St. Paul was founded in 1917 by Elizabeth Ames Jackson, a native of St. Paul and two of her friends Elizabeth Crunden Skinner and Anne Turney White. This chapter was the 19th Junior League created in the United States following the founding of the first Junior League in New York City in 1901.

The Junior League is committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. During its early years, the JLSP collaborated with local community organizations, including the World War I Red Cross Relief Campaign and the Community Chest, to help build a better St. Paul and reflect the overall mission of the organization.

Over the years, the Junior League of St. Paul moved beyond only collaborating with local, existing organizations, to fostering new organizations. As the community evolved, so did the JLSP. From the creation the Children's Hospital Association, Keystone Community Services, United Arts and Lifetrack Resources to the Hmong Art Project, Silent Witness, and most recently Building Bonds through Reading and Play the Junior League of St. Paul has a long legacy of responding to needs of the community and laying the foundation for organizations that continue to provide needed programs and services to residents in St. Paul and the surrounding communities.

These charitable and educational activities go beyond simply helping the members of the community—they also provide meaningful volunteer opportunities and leadership development to the women who are involved with the JLSP. The skills and talents the members develop through League activities help them in other aspects of their lives.

The Junior League of St. Paul has been a valuable asset to St. Paul through their efforts to identify and take on the challenges they see impacting the community. Their hard work is reflected in the numerous organizations they have worked with, the many people who have been served by various JLSP programs, and by its members current and past. I am proud to comment the Junior League of St. Paul on 95 years of success and wish them much success in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of the 95th anniversary of the Junior League of St. Paul, I am pleased to submit this statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.