

CONGRATULATING THE GULF  
COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

**HON. VERN BUCHANAN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Gulf Coast Community Foundation on being named the silver award winner for excellence in communications by the 2012 Wilmer Shields Rich Awards Program. Sponsored by the Council on Foundations, the awards program recognizes affective communications efforts to increase public awareness of foundations and corporate giving programs throughout the United States. The Gulf Coast Community Foundation received the honor for its 2012 Agenda for Action in the category of annual or biennial reports.

Since 1995, The Gulf Coast Community Foundation and donors have been a community asset through its philanthropy work. The Gulf Coast has welcomed more than 500 charitable funds, created by generous donors, and have invested more than \$127 million in grants in the areas of arts and culture, health and human services, education, civic and economic development, and the environment.

In addition to awarding grants to nonprofit organizations and scholarships to qualified students for postsecondary education, Gulf Coast creates and funds initiatives designed to effect long-term, systemic change in the communities it serves. Current initiatives include a STEM education initiative to improve student achievement in science, technology, engineering, and math in Sarasota and Charlotte county schools. Gulf Coast also offers low-interest disaster-relief loans to critical local health or human service nonprofit organizations rebuilding in the aftermath of a disaster.

I am proud to honor the Gulf Coast Community Foundation, the largest community foundation in Florida, on having been named the silver award winner for excellence in communications by the 2012 Wilmer Shields Rich Awards Program. I would also like to recognize its exceptional efforts to enrich Florida communities. We hope to see the foundation continue to grow and have a lasting impact for community.

IN HONOR OF ELI AND CHEDVA  
TREITEL

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, a poignant episode in the Chumash reveals a strength of character few can claim. Leah's seemingly odd response to Rachel's request for the Dudaim, "Is it not enough you took my husband? Now you want these too?" begs a question. Didn't Leah know what Rachel did for her? Meforshim explain, Rachel must have given Leah the simonim in a way that concealed the truth. Doing for others is certainly praiseworthy; doing inconspicuously and with

great personal sacrifice warrants the crown called "a good name".

In this regard, Ohavei Torah is especially proud to honor its parents, Eli & Chedva Treitel, with the Keser Shem Tov award. Few positions are as thankless as that of Shul Gabbai. How remarkable it is that the diverse mispallelim of Monsey's Ateres Rosh feel unanimously blessed to have a true "Yehoshua" caring for all the needs of their shul: material, emotional and spiritual. The secret lies in one word: respect. The unparalleled kovod that Eli shows each person and every single shul need never fails. He keeps track of every aliya and chiyuv, buys and sets up Seudah Shlishis each week, sits on the board of directors and locks up the shul each night. For over 10 years, he does it all, notwithstanding his demanding position as Loan Officer for Meridian Capital, one of the largest Mortgage Brokers in the country.

A talmid of Ner Yisroel, Eli's personal avoda reflects equal dedication. It is unheard of for him to miss his early Daf Yomi. Together with Chedva, they share an uncanny ability to make everyone comfortable, traversing all community sectors and ages. Recently, a young man felt reassured enough to open up to Eli about a misunderstanding with his Rebbe. Eli's insight and empathy helped the teen mend the rift, prompting the Rebbe to remark that such helpful advice must have come from an exceptional advisor.

Like her husband, Chedva pursues shalom and chesed. Active in her children's schools and shul functions, her main priority remains always being vigilant about the feelings of others by seeing everyone in a positive light. Her soft-spoken, friendly and unassuming manner belies how much she actually accomplishes, often anticipating needs before being asked. Nothing is too difficult—extra driving, rearranging her schedule, full course dinners for neighbors in need and of course, quality time for each of her children. As Rabbi Pechter describes, "The respect and warmth they afford to everyone is unparalleled." This type of humility, honesty and gentle demeanor make their son Lippy a pleasure to have as a talmid at Ohavei Torah as well.

Both Eli and Chedva's parents model the midos that make their children and grandchildren so well-liked. Eli's parents have upheld the tzarhei tzibor in LA for 50 years: Barbara Treitel as the beloved Hebrew reading specialist at Yavneh Hebrew Academy, now teaching her third generation and Stanley Treitel who tirelessly works on multiple political projects and community affairs on behalf of Klal Yisrael. Chedva's parents, Reuben & Sandra Botnick, noted attorney and real estate broker, respectively, are part of the founding family of Toronto's orthodox community.

Eli and Chedva's children are a great source of pride to their family and community: Lippy, a senior at YOT, Rachaeli, a freshman at Ateres Bais Yakov in Monsey and Michal and Chaim, who attend Yeshiva of Spring Valley. Just as the Treitel Family carries the responsibilities of the community, may the they merit to carry their Keser Shem Tov with overflowing brocha, ad meah v'esrim shana.

I proudly join with Yeshiva Ohavei Torah in honoring this wonderful couple.

A TRIBUTE TO HANNAH  
JORGENSEN

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Hannah Jorgensen, a 13-year-old, 4-H'er of Adair, Iowa, who has been named the state's top middle school youth volunteer for 2012 by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program is our country's largest youth recognition program based entirely on volunteer community service. Since 1995, 345,000 American youths have participated in this program, with only 102 state honorees chosen each year. Hannah's path to this prestigious award began with her efforts through Reach Out Iowa, a federally funded grant that supports young people who benefit their local communities through service. To accomplish this goal, Hannah worked with her peers to create and provide pillowcases and care packages for the emergency homeless shelter, MICA House in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Hannah felt the MICA House mission of "providing a safe, secure and nurturing environment for families and single women who are experiencing the crisis of homelessness" was the perfect partner to assist in her efforts. Shortly after working with the children of MICA House, Hannah quickly made plans to do much more than she originally had planned.

Through her efforts with MICA House, Hannah discovered that the facility was sorely in need of books for children, most notably educational books related to agriculture. Hannah made it her personal mission to raise enough money to donate a total of 500 books to be split between MICA House and the inner-city schools she would visit while in Washington, D.C. Hannah persuaded the members of the Corn & Soybean Association of Adair County to reach into their own pockets, as well as recruit the help of the Iowa Corn Growers Association and the Iowa Soybean Association to raise a total of nearly \$1,000. With this support, Hannah doubled her initial goal and sent each location a total of 500 new children's books to be read and enjoyed for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Miss Jorgensen for her sincere dedication to positively impact the lives of others in her community and beyond. Hannah's commitment to a cause greater than herself is a testament to the high-quality character and unwavering work ethic instilled in Iowans both young and old. I know I speak for all of my colleagues in the United States Congress in congratulating Hannah, thanking her supportive family, and thanking all of those involved in this wonderful project for their life-changing efforts both at home in Iowa, and in our nation's capital.

HONORING ILLINOIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD TECH. SGT. JACOB CURTIS, RECENTLY NAMED A 2012 AIR NATIONAL GUARD AIRMAN OF THE YEAR

### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Tech. Sgt. Jacob Curtis, of the Illinois Air National Guard, who was recently selected as a 2012 Air National Guard Outstanding Airman of the Year.

Tech. Sgt. Jacob Curtis, of Fairview Heights, Illinois, serves with the Illinois Air National Guard 126th Air Refueling Wing's Security Forces Squadron at Scott Air Force Base. He recently received a phone call from Maj. Gen. William L. Enyart, the Adjutant General of the Illinois National Guard, to notify him that he was named one of the 2012 Air National Guard Outstanding Airmen of the Year, the highest national achievement the Air National Guard has to offer.

Tech. Sgt. Curtis will now be in the running to be one of the Air Force's 2012 Twelve Outstanding Airmen of the Year, and he has already received numerous awards in his military career. He was named the NCO of the Quarter in 2011, Squadron NCO of the Year in both 2008 and 2011, Mission Support Group NCO of the Year in 2011, and 126th Air Refueling Wing NCO of the Year in 2011.

Col. Peter Nezamis, commander of the 126th Air Refueling Wing, called Tech. Sgt. Curtis a "gifted and giving professional" and made reference to his family's sacrifice for their country as they have endured numerous overseas deployments. Curtis has recently returned from a 6 month deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

During his deployment in Afghanistan, while at Bagram Airfield, Tech. Sgt. Curtis took decisive action when a nearby building was hit by indirect enemy rocket fire. There were several casualties and Curtis, the first to reach the scene, saw that one Airman had suffered a broken leg that had lacerated his femoral artery. Curtis tied a tourniquet around the Airman's leg and stayed with him until medical personnel arrived.

In addition to this act of heroism, Curtis was also recommended for this award because of his "dedication to duty, superior knowledge, and unwavering volunteerism."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Tech. Sgt. Jacob Curtis on being named a 2012 Air National Guard Outstanding Airman of the Year, and in wishing him and his family the very best in the future.

REMEMBERING UNITED STATES ARMY STAFF SERGEANT DAVID NOWACZYK

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense sadness and great respect that I rise to

remember Staff Sergeant David P. Nowaczyk for his bravery and willingness to fight for his country. Sergeant Nowaczyk was assigned to A Company, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, out of Fort Carson, Colorado. While serving on his third tour in Afghanistan, Sergeant Nowaczyk was killed when his vehicle struck an enemy improvised explosive device in Kunar Province, Afghanistan.

David Nowaczyk, from Dyer, Indiana, graduated from Lake Central High School in 1997, where he was a member of the wrestling and football teams. Later, in September 2005, he enlisted in the Army. Throughout his career, Sergeant Nowaczyk earned several medals, honors, and commendations for his service, including: a National Defense Service Medal, a Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, an Army Service Ribbon, two Army Commendation Medals, two Bronze Stars, and the Purple Heart, awarded posthumously.

Friends describe David as a loyal, kind man who would be willing to do anything for the people in his life. His family describes him as a good son and a great father who was willing to drop anything to be there for his family. Residents in the community are remembering Sergeant Nowaczyk as a dedicated warrior and a true American hero. Sergeant Nowaczyk leaves behind a beloved host of family and friends. He is survived by his devoted wife, Rachel, his adoring daughter, Kiley, and his loving stepson, Conner. David also leaves to cherish his memory his dear mother, Patti, and proud father, Andrew. He will also be greatly missed by his sister, Megan, with whom he was very close. Sergeant Nowaczyk also leaves behind many other friends and family members, as well as a grateful, yet deeply saddened community.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring a fallen hero, United States Army Staff Sergeant David Nowaczyk. Sergeant Nowaczyk sacrificed his life in service to his country, and his death comes as a great loss to our nation, which has once again been shaken by the realities of war. Sergeant Nowaczyk will forever remain a hero in the eyes of his family, his community, and his country. Thus, let us never forget the sacrifice he made to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy.

### HANOVER TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

### HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Hanover Township Police Department, which will celebrate its 100th anniversary on May 14, 2012.

Hanover Township was founded in 1770 by Captain Lazarus Stewart who fought for Connecticut against the Pennsylvanians in the Wyoming Valley. For his services, Captain Stewart and his company of 40 men were granted the tract of land which became Hanover Township. Captain Stewart named the town after his hometown of Hanover in Dauphin

County. In the 1820's, coal was discovered and by 1838, mining became a leading industry in the area. However, prior to the 1900's Hanover Township had very little in the way of municipal services.

Therefore in 1912, the Hanover Township Commissioners established a paid police force to secure the safety of persons and property within Hanover Township. The first force consisted of six officers and was led by Police Chief James H. Campbell. Today, there are fourteen officers, eight cruisers and a K-9 unit which provide for the safety of Hanover Township residents under the leadership of Police Chief Albert Walker.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 100 years, the Hanover Township Police Department has proudly served the citizens of Hazleton, Pennsylvania. Therefore, I commend all those officers who have dedicated their lives to protecting their community and to all those who have gone on to their eternal rest.

### TRIBUTE TO JOHN 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 community leader and a good friend who is being honored for his service by Rock Hill Baptist Church in Saluda, South Carolina on May 12, 2012. Mr. John Gibson, who will be 92 years old later this month, has been an active member of the Saluda County community for most of his life. He is very deserving of this recognition.

John Gibson was born to the late Eddie and Mae Bell Dozier Gibson on May 26, 1920. He is the oldest of six children. He was educated in Florida public schools, and then graduated from one of the first Rosenwald Schools in South Carolina—Cane Brake in Saluda.

Following graduation, Mr. Gibson joined the Army. After entering civilian life, he worked at Fairfield Tractor Company in Columbia until his retirement. In retirement he has enjoyed his hobbies of fishing and gardening.

Throughout his life, Mr. Gibson has been dedicated to his community. He is life member of the NAACP. He has been a faithful member of the Friendship Union and the Ridge Hill Education Association. Mr. Gibson is a member of Peerless Lodge #214 and is a Master Mason.

He is also very dedicated to his church, Rock Hill Baptist Church. He served as Vacation Bible School Director and Sunday School Superintendent. He is also very involved in the church's Bible study groups, and currently serves as Deacon Emeritus.

In 1940, he married Lois Williams, and they were blessed with four children. He also has five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating John Gibson on a life well lived. He is an important unsung hero that has selflessly served his country and his community. I applaud the community for recognizing his many contributions and honoring him in this wonderful way.