

long time friend. When Jeff became mayor in 2009, he opened his two-year term with a "Call to Action" to inspire residents to get engaged in their community and help it recover from the worst recession since the Great Depression. He recommended volunteering at schools, libraries and non-profits and youth sports groups because he knew first-hand that all were suffering during the economic downturn. Under his leadership, and despite tough economic challenges, the city completed a new General Plan and the Downtown Precise Plan, attained a garbage collection agreement, accomplished a partnership with the San Carlos Fire Department to share services and save money, and passed a budget under enormous financial constraints. On his own time, Jeff worked hard to get ballot measures passed to bring more revenue to Redwood City. While mayor, he served on the city's Audit, Finance and Revenue, Jail, Economic Development/Downtown and Fox Theatre committees. He was also the council's liaison for Neighborhood Association co-chairs, and chair of the South Bayside System Authority. Jeff's vision and persistence were instrumental in creating the beautiful downtown of Redwood City. Courthouse Square and the Fox Theater would not be the sparkling jewels they are today without his hard and strategic work. Additionally, he made recycled water a reality for the community. Jeff showed the same creativity, integrity and commitment during his entire tenure on the city council. He will always be known for is the 2004 Great Toilet Giveaway when thousands of residents received low-flow toilets. He saved countless trees by having the city council move to a paperless system for staff reports and digital delivery of agenda packets. You can also thank him for the photo gallery on the city website showing off the beauty of Redwood City. His in-depth understanding of finances and fiscal constraints, and his contribution to creating controls over spiraling costs, helped steer the city through the economic downturn and towards financial stability. As a member of the South Bayside Systems Authority for 13 years, Jeff created the blue ribbon task force to analyze the governing structure of SBSA which resulted in a change on the board to include elected officials and a technical advisory committee. He oversaw the restructuring of the board's commission and committees to make them more effective and to meet the needs of the community. Jeff is passionate about public schools. As a parent, he was deeply involved in Clifford Elementary School in the Redwood City School District, and he worked tirelessly to raise funds for the district. He is committed to equal opportunity for all through quality public education. Jeff also serves as Treasurer of the Sequoia Awards which offers college scholarships to outstanding young people in Redwood City. Jeff has been a major fiscal and spiritual steward of this all-volunteer program for many years. In short, no matter what Jeff takes on, the results are always lasting. Jeff was born and raised in Redwood City and attended Saint Pius School and Saint Francis High School. He graduated from Humboldt State University with a B.S. in Accounting. Jeff is the proud father of Josh, Julie, Jessica and Joseph. While I am sure that he will enjoy more time hiking, kayaking, gardening and traveling after he retires from the council today, I have no doubt he will find ways to stay engaged and to give back to our commu-

nity. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Jeff Ira, one of the finest mayors and public servants San Mateo County has seen. His tireless commitment and contributions to the city and residents of Redwood City will be felt for generations to come.

#### TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINE DAVENPORT

#### HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2013*

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, our Ranking Minority Member, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Christine Davenport who is leaving the House at the end of this year after serving in the Office of the General Counsel for more than ten years, first as an Assistant Counsel and then as a Senior Assistant Counsel. We will miss her.

Ms. Davenport provided frequent and invaluable legal advice and representation to the Committee on House Administration, as well as to Members, officers and other committees of the House more generally. Our staff came to rely on her expertise and guidance, particularly in connection with their internal oversight activities. Over the years, Ms. Davenport played a significant role in safeguarding the legal and institutional interests of the House of Representatives.

Ms. Davenport served the House with great distinction. On behalf of the Committee on House Administration, we thank Ms. Davenport for her devoted service, and extend to her our very best wishes for her continued success.

#### RECOGNIZING THE PARKSIDE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2013*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Buffalo's Parkside Community Association (PCA) for celebrating its 50th anniversary in association with the organization's years of dedicated community service. The PCA will celebrate this impressive landmark on Friday, December 6th at the greatbatch pavilion on the Darwin D. Martin House Complex of Buffalo.

Throughout its storied and active past, the PCA has continually sought to meet the challenges that older urban neighborhoods often present. Some of these hurdles include absentee landlords, zoning and code issues, infrastructure deterioration and cutbacks in city services.

The organization is governed by a Board of Directors which comprises 20 members who all serve on a volunteer basis. Each Board member is elected annually by a neighborhood membership of more than 500 individuals, families, and business owners. It is more

than appropriate that the PCA's leadership consists of volunteers, as they are truly the backbone of the organization. Eight or more standing and ad-hoc committees consisting of neighborhood volunteers regularly contribute an impressive average of 130 volunteer hours per month.

The PCA provides countless services to local homeowners and the surrounding community. In addition to providing referral and crime prevention services for neighborhood residents as well as assisting in the formation of block clubs and community meetings, the PCA also stages neighborhood tours, hosts programs including the Summer Arts Camp and Little Library Program, and manages committees on crime and safety, housing, and traffic. The PCA was instrumental with the opening of the Parkside COPS Satellite station which addresses quality of life issues, and helped to restore two vacant buildings along the major commercial boundaries. The organization has even assisted some homeowners with property improvements through low-interest loans.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to commend the Parkside Community Association of Buffalo on their 50 years of devoted service to their community. It is the admirable hard work and dedication from organizations like the PCA that maintains the strength and integrity of our neighborhoods. I wish the Parkside Community Association the absolute best in all their future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB OF SAVANNAH

#### HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2013*

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rotary Club of Savannah, which will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its founding this January. This club has been instrumental in providing a network for Savannah's business leaders and serving our community.

The Rotary Club of Savannah is the oldest club in Georgia outside of Atlanta and has over 240 members. It was founded on January 12, 1914. The club's first major project was to buy and promote the sale of bonds to build a road to Tybee Island. The Rotary Club of Savannah was very active in World Wars I and II, helping our service men abroad and aiding relief efforts in Europe.

The Rotary Club of Savannah has been one of the largest supporters of the Bethesda Home for Boys, providing funding, clothing, Christmas gifts, banquets, Boy Scout activities, and volunteer services. They have sponsored the formation of eight new Rotary clubs in our state. They have also been instrumental in establishing the Georgia Rotary Student Program, an international scholarship program which invites students from around the world to study in Georgia.

From organizing youth sports programs to constructing water fountains, the Rotary Club has been a force for good in our community for the past century. I am proud to support the Rotary Club of Savannah as they celebrate this historic milestone. My thoughts are with them during this special time.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO  
FAMILY OF DR. CHESTER AIKENS

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2013*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness and a heavy heart, that I wish my condolences to Dr. Chester Aikens' family. Dr. Aikens was not only my dentist, but my long-time friend and community activist whom I greatly respected and admired. Aikens unexpected passing leaves an irreplaceable void throughout the Jacksonville community.

As a recent recipient of Mayor Alvin Brown's "Trailblazer Award," Dr. Aikens embodied that completely. He was a coveted member of the Jacksonville area, where his input, mentorship, and advice was consistently respected and sought out. It is a telling sign towards his character that Dr. Aikens passed after attending a local meeting with the pension reform task force, an issue he was passionate about.

After receiving a doctorate degree in dentistry from Howard University, for 30 years, Dr. Aikens served the Jacksonville area as a prominent dentist. He was a consistent force, acting as one time president of the National Dental Association, a member of the Jacksonville Civic Council, and chairman of the Jacksonville Aviation Authority board to name a few of his accomplishments.

A veteran of the Florida Army Reserve Nation guard, serving 11 years, Dr. Aikens dabbled in just about everything, doing his best to make an impact and improve his community. He was the consummate family man and ultimate professional. I will miss him dearly, but more importantly, the city of Jacksonville and broader Florida community lost an unparalleled leader. That said, he lived a life that should be a blueprint for those to come and an example of great character and unabridged competence.

CONGRATULATING DUKE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL COACH DAVID CUTCLIFFE FOR BEING HONORED AS WALTER CAMP COACH OF THE YEAR

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2013*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Duke University Head Football Coach David Cutcliffe for being recognized by the Walter Camp Football Foundation, Incorporated as Coach of the Year for the all Division I-A football teams in the National Collegiate Athletic Association, NCAA. Coach Cutcliffe is the only Duke football coach to win the award since its inception in 1967.

After being hired as head coach on December 15, 2007, Coach Cutcliffe led Duke this season to a 10-2 regular season record, which is the best record in the institution's history. This season, Duke football defeated two opponents that were both ranked in the top 25 of all Division I-A football teams—the first victories for Duke football over ranked opponents since 1994. Coach Cutcliffe also guided his team to victories over rivals from the Univer-

sity of North Carolina—Chapel Hill and North Carolina State University in 2013. Last season Coach Cutcliffe led Duke football to its first post season bowl game since 1994 and set a school record by scoring a season total of 410 points.

Coach Cutcliffe has also led the Duke football program to success off the field. Students on the Duke football team had a graduation rate of 92 percent in 2013, compared to the average NCAA rate of 82 percent. Under Coach Cutcliffe's leadership, the Duke football team has strengthened the school's relationship with the community through service opportunities with the Duke Children's Hospital, the Ronald McDonald House, and the Oxford Housing Authority Partnership. Prior to joining the coaching staff at Duke University, Coach Cutcliffe served as an assistant coach at the University of Tennessee and a head coach at Ole Miss. Coach Cutcliffe is a native of Birmingham, Alabama and a graduate of the University of Alabama.

The Walter Camp Football Foundation was created in 1967 and is based in New Haven Connecticut. The foundation is named for Walter Camp, a former athlete and coach at Yale University who is known as the "Father of American Football." He is credited with inventing the line of scrimmage, the game's system of downs, the game's scoring system, and the restriction of play to eleven players per team. The Walter Camp Football Foundation is part of the National College Football Awards Association, which is a coalition of the major collegiate football awards.

Mr. Speaker, I commend David Cutcliffe and the entire Duke University football program for their commitment to excellence. This award is a testament to the outstanding leadership demonstrated by Coach Cutcliffe and tremendous performance on and off the playing field from the Duke University football program's student-athletes. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating Coach David Cutcliffe's great achievement in being recognized as the Walter Camp 2013 Coach of the Year.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CHESTER A.  
AIKENS

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2013*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the constituents of the Fifth Congressional District of Florida, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Dr. Chester A. Aikens.

I am deeply and profoundly saddened by the loss of my dear friend and brother, Dr. Chester A. Aikens. This man of prominence and bearing was the epitome of a gentleman and a scholar. I am moved by his passion, emboldened by his commitments, honored by his friendship and made all the better by his innate wisdom and his belief in the integrity of the human experience. His was a purposeful life and one that helped shape the destinies of historical figures with whom he conversed, and equally so that of the common man and woman, in whom he placed unwavering faith. I came to know him as a husband, father, and dedicated servant to his people and causes, a dentist, a humanitarian, a scholar, a civic leader and businessman without comparison.

Dr. Aikens was born in Madison, Florida, where he was the first black football player and honor society member at his high school. He graduated from Howard University, Washington, DC, with a doctorate in dentistry. He later earned a law degree from Florida Coastal School of Law and Master's degree in Business from Jacksonville University. Dr. Aikens was also a Major in the Florida Army Reserve National Guard.

Known as a fearless warrior, Dr. Aikens was a formidable force who influenced a generation of young people to give both time and resources to their community. Inspired by his strong belief in equal opportunity, he was a true civil rights champion, who went on to greatly influence the community as a whole.

As a member of the Jacksonville community for the past thirty years, Dr. Aikens' presence will be missed by many. He served on many community boards up to and including, first African American from Jacksonville to be President of National Dental Association, Jacksonville Civic Council, Jacksonville Aviation Authority, long-time member, and devoted Deacon of Bethel Institutional Baptist Church and many others.

I am assured, for we all came to know the absoluteness of his word, the sanctity of his promise, the depth of his intellect, the breadth of his worldly experiences and his place in Jacksonville history.

CONGRATULATING  
WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2013*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Weyerhaeuser Company on being recognized as one of the most community-minded companies in the Nation. Weyerhaeuser was among 50 companies to be awarded this honor by Points of Light and the National Conference on Citizenship's Civic 50 rankings.

Since 1957, Weyerhaeuser has been an integral part of eastern North Carolina. In the First Congressional District that I represent, Weyerhaeuser operates the Softwood Lumber Mill in Plymouth and the Carolina Timberlands Area and GHW Operations Center in Washington. Weyerhaeuser also owns or leases more than 545,000 acres of timberland across the state. The company employs 1,051 North Carolinians and helps support families and businesses in many rural communities.

Weyerhaeuser has been an important contributor to North Carolina's economy and has served as an environmental steward and strong corporate citizen. Since 2008, Weyerhaeuser has donated more than \$2.5 million to philanthropic causes throughout North Carolina. Since 1903, the company has provided more than \$215 million to support affordable housing and shelter, education and youth development, environmental stewardship, human services, and civic and cultural growth.

The second annual Civic 50 was selected through a stringent survey of S&P 500 companies and measured corporate commitment to improving communities, corporate investment in philanthropy, and civic culture.