

Anne was born on March 4, 1911. Anne is a mother of seven successful children, many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Anne, a dedicated and caring mother of strong faith, also helped support her family by working as a school teacher for many years in Massachusetts.

Anne, a woman of many talents, is an avid reader, daily solver of crossword puzzles and finds time to pursue her artistic talents in painting, stained glasswork and woodcarving. She has an unfailing positive outlook and is a wonderful example to her family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Anne Theroux on this joyous occasion of her 104th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her many more years of health and happiness.

#### TRIBUTE TO LEONARD NIMOY

#### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 2, 2015*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Leonard Nimoy of Los Angeles, California, who passed away on the morning of February 27, 2015, at the age of 83.

Leonard Nimoy, best known for his iconic role as Mr. Spock in the popular science fiction television series and motion picture franchise *Star Trek*, was born on March 26, 1931 in Boston, Massachusetts, to Dora and Max Nimoy, Orthodox Jews and Ukrainian immigrants.

Leonard began his acting career at 8 years old performing in local plays and continued acting through his high school years. After coming to Hollywood, he landed small parts in the movies *Zombies of the Stratosphere*, *Queen for a Day* and *Rhubarb* and in 1952, had his first starring movie role with *Kid Monk Baroni*. During the early 1950's, Mr. Nimoy enlisted in the United States Army Reserves where he spent nearly two years, writing, narrating, and emceeding shows for the Army Special Services branch.

After leaving the military, he returned to California, and achieved wide visibility appearing on television shows such as *Rawhide*, *Perry Mason* and *Wagon Train*, until he landed the role in 1966 of the half-Vulcan Mr. Spock in *Star Trek*, for which he garnered three Emmy nominations. It was in this role that he became a folk hero, helping create Vulcan culture such as the Vulcan salute and Vulcan neck pinch. The incredibly popular original series spawned an animated television show, various new television series, movies and sparked a devoted following of *Star Trek* that exists to this day. After the original *Star Trek* series ended in 1969, Leonard continued acting in movies and television, performed voice-over work and acted in stage plays. In 1979, he returned as Mr. Spock in the movie *Star Trek: The Motion Picture* and in 1982's *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*, directed the movies *Star Trek III: The Search for Spock* and *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home* and appeared in the 2009 and 2013 *Star Trek* movies.

In addition to being an actor, producer and director, Mr. Nimoy was also a prolific poet, writer, photographer and singer, who often lent

his talents to charitable organizations. He and his wife, Susan Bay-Nimoy were generous supporters of the arts, educational programs and public astronomy. They provided substantial assistance to the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles through their Leonard and Susan Bay-Nimoy Family Foundation, the esteemed The Thalia Theater in New York was renamed the Leonard Nimoy Thalia Theater, and they were major supporters of the Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles' historic 2002–2006 expansion, where the Leonard Nimoy Event Horizon theater shows the Leonard Nimoy-narrated documentary film *The Once and Future Griffith Observatory* about the history, recent renovation, and future of the Observatory.

Leonard is survived by his wife, actress and director Susan Bay-Nimoy, his children, Adam and Julie Nimoy, stepson Aaron Bay Schuck, six grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and his brother Melvin.

I would like to convey my deepest sympathies to Leonard's family and friends, as well as extend my heartfelt thanks for his many contributions to the arts and science. The entire global community will greatly miss Mr. Spock, who indeed lived long and prospered.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THE ARMENIAN COMMUNITY IN SUMGAIT, AZERBAIJAN

#### HON. KATHERINE M. CLARK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 2, 2015*

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, February 27 marked the 27th anniversary of harrowing violence against the Armenian community in Sumgait, Azerbaijan.

I am proud to stand today with the Armenian-American community, including many of my constituents in Massachusetts, in remembrance and mourning of this unspeakable tragedy.

In February of 1988, anti-Armenian rallies through Azerbaijan gave way to waves of ethnically-motivated violence, death and destruction. In the aftermath of these terrible events, Azerbaijan's Armenian community all but disappeared, with thousands displaced, culminating in a war against the people of Nagorno Karabakh.

That war resulted in almost 30,000 dead on both sides. Hundreds of thousands of refugees were forced to flee their homes. And to this day, those who lost their lives or were displaced by this violence still seek resolution and justice.

Many displaced Armenian families have sought refuge in America, and are now making vital contributions in the Fifth District of Massachusetts. Proudly, our diverse District is home to one of the largest Armenian communities in the nation. Together, our community is a thriving example of strength and perseverance in the face of extreme adversity.

Like the persecution of too many others before it, the lessons of the Sumgait Pogrom must not be forgotten.

We have a moral obligation to promote tolerance and justice, and we have a duty to recognize the atrocities that have kept us from our common goal.

#### A TRIBUTE TO FRANK W. BERLIN IN THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 2, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Frank W. Berlin III on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

After graduating from Valley High School in West Des Moines, Class of 1963, Mr. Berlin enlisted in the United States Army, 173rd Airborne Brigade. From 1965 to 1967, Private First Class E3 Berlin served with undeniable valor while deployed to the Republic of Vietnam. In fact, while serving as gunner on a UH-1D PFC helicopter during an emergency extraction, PFC Berlin, with utter disregard for his own safety, stationed himself on the landing skid of the aircraft and counter-attacked the enemy below, saving his flight crew and the extraction team. For his actions, PFC Berlin was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism on December 7, 1966.

Following Vietnam, Mr. Berlin returned to Iowa to get married, start a family and with the entrepreneurial spirit of that generation, establish a successful insurance agency under his namesake. That legacy continues on today.

Mr. Berlin is an Iowan of whom we can all be proud. We must never forget those who have served this nation and fought for our freedoms. Mr. Berlin continues to proudly support our Department of Defense military service men and women. His efforts benefit military families through local, state and national charities.

It is with great honor that I, along with his five grandchildren—Isabelle, Emma, Gretta, Evan and Frank—recognize his patriotism on his 70th birthday. I know that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring his accomplishments. I thank him for his service and wish him and his family all the best moving forward.

#### SHEETZ—500 AND COUNTING: HONORING SHEETZ AND THE BEST SANDWICHES IN THE COUNTRY

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 2, 2015*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of the Sheetz family and their all-American story of business success. Once a small family operated dairy store in Altoona, Pennsylvania, the Sheetz brand has grown into one of the most well loved brands in the country, with 14,500 employees and 437 locations across six states. Their business has changed with the demands of the country, and they have brought us innovations like MTO sandwiches and touch screen ordering, which was first installed in Altoona back in 1993. Recently, the Sheetz family proudly opened their 500th store in Thomasville, North Carolina—over 400 miles away from where the business was first born 63 years ago in Central Pennsylvania.

Originally called Sheetz Kwik Shopper, the company's success is a wonderful example of what makes this nation great. It all started

when Bob Sheetz purchased one of his father's dairy stores. After hiring his brother, Steve, the pair's original business plan was to open one store a year by 1972. With 500 stores currently open across Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, and North Carolina, their plan was a resounding success. Five members of the Sheetz family serve on the company's executive committee including Bob's son as president, and Steve, as Chairman of the board. Despite all of their growth and expansion, it remains a family business to this day.

That is why it is no surprise that the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and Team Pennsylvania Foundation have named Sheetz one of the best places to work in Pennsylvania for the last 13 consecutive years. I want to thank the Sheetz' family for their dedication to the community, and their friendly service to the thousands of families that visit their stores each day.

I would also personally like to congratulate Sheetz on opening their 500th store. Their effort to turn the business into one of the fastest growing family operated convenience store chains in the world is remarkable, but is also no surprise to anyone who has met a member of the Sheetz family. With plans to open 1,000 total stores in the future, Sheetz is not slowing down. I am extremely proud to represent the Altoona area, and to be able to tell all of my colleagues on Capitol Hill that the 9th District is the birthplace of some of the best sandwiches in the country.

RECOGNIZING MRS. KAREN BURCH  
AS THE 2016 SANTA ROSA COUNTY,  
FLORIDA, TEACHER OF THE  
YEAR

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 2, 2015*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mrs. Karen Burch as the 2016 Santa Rosa County, Florida, Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Burch has proven to be a truly exceptional educator whose impact extends far beyond her students, and I am proud to recognize her success and outstanding achievements.

Mrs. Burch began her education career as an Exceptional Student Education (ESE) para professional, working to ensure that ESE students received the instruction and attention needed to thrive in the classroom. Her commitment to serving the ESE student population led her to enroll in the University of West Florida's Para to Teacher program, and after graduation from UWF, Mrs. Burch began working as an ESE teacher at S.S. Dixon Primary School. During her seven years as a teacher at S.S. Dixon, Mrs. Burch's determination and patience have helped her provide exceptional education to ESE students from kindergarten to second grade.

Constantly striving to lead by example, Mrs. Burch demonstrates her leadership skills outside of the classroom as the head of the school's Positive Behavior Committee and as a mentor to other teachers and student teachers currently enrolled at the University of West Florida.

Prior to her professional career in education, Mrs. Burch honorably served our Nation as a member of the United States Air Force. During her military service, Mrs. Burch worked as a Training Manager in a Civil Engineering Squadron and maintained top secret materials and information for the F-15 Fighter Training School. The leadership skills and commitment to service that Mrs. Burch developed while in the Air Force have proven to be integral to her success working with students with emotional and behavioral needs and inspiring them to reach their full potential.

Mr. Speaker, teachers are amongst our most valuable public servants, and they play an integral role in shaping the future of our Nation. The Santa Rosa County Teacher of the Year award is a true reflection of Mrs. Burch's steadfast dedication to the students of Santa Rosa County. She has proven to be among the many exceptional teachers in our Nation, and on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Mrs. Karen Burch for her accomplishments and her continuing commitment to excellence. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mrs. Burch as the 2016 Santa Rosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year and thanking her for her dedication to serving the students, teachers, and families of the Northwest Florida community. We wish her all the best for continued success.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 2, 2015*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,149,752,816,959.60. We've added \$7,522,875,768,046.52 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING GRACEWORKS MIN-  
ISTRIES ON THEIR 20TH ANNI-  
VERSARY

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 2, 2015*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate GraceWorks Ministries on their 20th anniversary of success. GraceWorks Ministries is a Christian non-profit that cares for struggling citizens in need in the Tennessee Seventh Congressional District.

Each of us has a duty to be good stewards to our fellow citizens. Whether that means serving in Washington, on the battlefield or in our local communities and homes. Beginning in 1995, a handful of concerned residents based in Williamson County, Tennessee recognized a growing number of their fellow residents were struggling to meet basic physical,

emotional and spiritual needs. These residents banded together to provide financial assistance, food, faith, friendship and relief.

Twenty years later, thousands of Tennesseans continue to volunteer from community congregations, businesses and organizations to further the mission of GraceWorks Ministries, "by God's grace, to provide immediate and long-term resources to neighbors in need." In 2014 alone, GraceWorks helped well over 40,000 people by providing nutritious food, holiday baskets, gifts, clothing, home goods, educational programs and family counseling. These services not only rescue those in need, but also encourage participants to gradually move toward self-sufficiency.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Graceworks for their magnificent and generous service, which has enriched the lives of Tennesseans for the past twenty years.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL ZACHARY  
IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE  
114TH CONGRESS

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 2, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Michael Zachary of Dowling Catholic High School for winning the Class 3A 132 pound bracket at the Iowa High School State Wrestling tournament on February 21, 2015.

Iowa has a long and proud history of strong wrestling programs in our state, producing college and Olympic champions for years. Winning a state championship is the culmination of years of hard work and commitment, not only on the part of Mr. Zachary, but also his family, teammates, and coaches.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this student-athlete demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent Michael and his family in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating Michael on competing in this rigorous competition and wishing continued success in his education and wrestling career.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF MAJOR JOSEPH REYNES, JR., UNITED STATES AIR FORCE RETIRED

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 2, 2015*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life of Northwest Florida's beloved Major Joseph Reynes, Jr., United States Air Force Retired, who passed away on February 23, 2015. Major Reynes was a decorated veteran, committed public servant, and a loving family man, who served our Nation with honor and distinction. The Northwest Florida community mourns the loss of a great and compassionate man.

Born on March 1, 1934, in Medina, New York, to Joseph and Alice Jay Reynes, Major Reynes developed a fascination for fighter aircraft as a young child growing up on Long Island. While attending the State University of