

paper and award-winning programs for the remanufacturing and recycling of used toner cartridges.

For these bold business plans, Lexmark has received a wide range of environmental awards. These honors are an excellent reflection of the deep-seated commitment to environmental stewardship that permeates Lexmark, from the CEO to the salesman on the front lines. Corporate Responsibility Magazine, for example, has ranked Lexmark 35th in its listing of top U.S. corporate performers on a range of indicators including environmental protection and corporate governance.

Kentucky is rightly proud of its environmental heritage. We come by the nickname the “Bluegrass State” quite honestly. It is a land of diverse environments and lush, abundant natural resources. To partner with companies like Lexmark, which do so much to conserve our environment while being a source of employment to thousands of Kentuckians, is a source of great pride.

Mr. Speaker, it is a special privilege for me to be able to recognize the outstanding civic and environmental record compiled by my friends at Lexmark. I offer my congratulations for your tremendous successes and offer my encouragement to continue to lead in this area.

RECOGNIZING THE FALLEN AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS FUND

HON. MIKE BISHOP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and praise The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund and its dedicated service to Michigan veterans and their families.

Founded in 2006, The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund was created to support Michigan-based servicemen and women who have served and continue to serve in defense of their nation. The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund, an all-volunteer effort, has served the immediate needs of the men and women of the armed forces, by helping injured American vets pay their living expenses, granting assistance to the families of the fallen, and providing other necessities these courageous individuals, and their families, may need.

This organization has been a vital resource for the veteran community throughout the state of Michigan. Since its inception nearly a decade ago, The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund has raised over \$4M through annual events and corporate and personal donations. An astounding 95 percent of all proceeds end up going directly to Michigan veterans. For these reasons and many others, I am proud to have been a supporter of the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund since its founding.

The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund is just one of many wonderful organizations that assist American veterans across our nation. We will continue to count on the tireless and selfless organizations, such as The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund, for years to come, to ensure that when our service members return home they are properly and respectfully cared for.

RECOGNIZING ROYAL STUDIOS AS THE RECORDING HOME OF THE BILLBOARD HOT 100 #1 HIT, UPTOWN FUNK

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Royal Studios in Memphis, Tennessee for recording Uptown Funk, which has topped the Billboard Hot 100 for fourteen weeks and counting, marking the single as the longest-leading Billboard Hot 100 of the 2010s. Additionally, Uptown Funk's fourteenth week makes it only the Billboard's eighth single since the chart began in 1958 to hold the top spot for at least as long and places it in a seven-way tie for the second longest #1 hit in the history of the Chart. The only single among this elite group of eight to surpass Uptown Funk has held the #1 spot for sixteen weeks. The single also leads the Hot 100's Digital Songs, Radio Songs and Streaming Songs charts. In a raving endorsement of Uptown Funk's popularity, First Lady Michelle Obama with cast from the show “So You Think You Can Dance” performed a choreographed dance to the song as part of her “Let's Move!” initiative on the Ellen DeGeneres Show and at this year's White House Easter Egg Roll. The collaboration between Uptown Funk writer Mark Ronson, singer Bruno Mars and Royal Studios has swept the music scene in America and abroad, and has given listeners around the world a taste of the soulful sound that is unique to Memphis.

Uptown Funk is an example of born-and-bred Memphis musical talent. Ronson, a Grammy-winning artist and a noted producer for talents such as Adele and the late Amy Winehouse, traveled to Memphis in February 2014 looking to recruit singers for his music project. It was then that he visited Royal Studios and met owner Lawrence “Boo” Mitchell, the son of Memphis music legend and producer, Willie Mitchell, and decided to record at the iconic studio. Ronson enlisted Philip Lawrence and notable Royal Studios familiars Steve Jordan, Willie Weeks, Kevin Parker, Trombone Shorty, Mystikal and Michael Chabon to work on the single. Uptown Funk also features Bruno Mars's band member and Memphian, Kameron Whalum, who is the son of Pastor Kenneth Whalum of Olivet Baptist Church in Memphis and the nephew of Grammy-winning saxophonist Kirk Whalum.

The success of Uptown Funk is the latest chapter in the long and storied history of Royal Studios, one of the oldest music recording studios in the world. Housed originally in a movie theater built in 1915, Royal Studios was founded in 1957 and became the home of Hi Records and the Hi Rhythm Section. Since that time, numerous acclaimed artists have recorded there, including Willie Mitchell, Al Green, Ann Peebles, Bobby Blue Bland, Elton John, Robert Plant, Snoop Dogg and many others. The studio has also recorded for Hollywood films including Opportunity Knocks, Pulp Fiction, Good Will Hunting, The Book of Eli, Love Jones, Six Feet Under and other films and television shows. Uptown Funk marks Royal Studios' first #1 hit since Al Green's 1972 Let's Stay Together and the first Billboard 100 Hit out of Memphis since the 1976 hit Disco Duck by Rick Dees.

Uptown Funk continues Royal Studios' long tradition of musical excellence and showing the world what Memphis has to offer. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing Memphis' Royal Studios as the recording home for the Billboard-chart topping single, Uptown Funk, and the dedicated work of Mark Ronson, Bruno Mars, Kameron Whalum, Lawrence “Boo” Mitchell and the entire Royal Studios family in producing a single with such a soulful Memphis sound that has reached listeners worldwide. Many people have noted that Uptown Funk will be one of the hottest hits this summer. If you don't believe them, just watch.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF JOB CORPS

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 50th anniversary of Job Corps. For five decades, Job Corps has helped millions of disadvantaged youths complete their high school education and transition into successful careers or higher education.

Since the 1960s, Job Corps has brought public agencies and private sector businesses together to help nearly 60,000 of our nation's poor and unemployed young people gain the skills necessary to build successful careers. More than 80 percent of Job Corps graduates obtain jobs, enroll in higher education or enter the military.

In the 11th District, the Cleveland Job Corps Center has been an integral part of the community for over 40 years. The first Job Corps women's center opened in Cleveland on April 9, 1965. The center's new campus opened in 2007 and now serves nearly 400 students each year, providing them with a safe and secure environment in which to further their education and gain valuable technical career skills.

Congratulations to Job Corps on 50 years of success. Its dedicated employees provide the continuity and quality training our students need to achieve their goals. The value of Job Corps is clear. Graduates are providing critical services for our economy and communities, and it is important to maintain our commitment to this exceptional program. I am excited to see the impact Job Corps will make in my district and our country in the years to come.

REMEMBERING PAUL TIPPS, OHIO LEADER

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember Paul Tipps of Ohio who passed away yesterday afternoon.

Paul Tipps was a great leader when political giants dominated Ohio. Paul stepped down as Chairman of the Ohio Democratic Party in 1983, and Democrats with his help held the top five statewide offices, both houses of the state legislature, a majority of the state Supreme Court, and both U.S. Senate seats.

Originally from Cincinnati, Paul graduated from the University of Dayton and served as an officer in the U.S. Army. He helped C.J. McLin of Dayton begin his long time career in the state legislature, ran for Congress himself in 1968, and served six years as Chairman of the Montgomery County Democratic Party. C.J.'s daughter Rhine McLin remembers that "Paul understood people and he understood politics."

Paul considered C.J. one of his political mentors along with legendary state House Speaker Vern Riffe and U.S. Senator John Glenn. John Glenn remarked that Paul "did great work as a civic activist through so many years" and that he and Annie Glenn had no better friend.

Paul served as Trustee of Wright State University and on the Board of Advisors at Ohio State's John Glenn College of Public Affairs.

Few have had as many successes as Paul and the secret to Paul's success was his ability to bring people together. I ask my colleagues to share in the memories of the extraordinary service of Paul Tipps and extend our most sincere condolences to all of Paul's family and friends.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CLIFFORD BELL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Clifford Bell, my friend and former colleague and a beloved member of the Buffalo community. A public servant, Mr. Bell served for twelve years as a member of the Buffalo Common Council and chaired the Economic Development Committee.

A model citizen, Mr. Bell worked for 50 years in the dry cleaning business and then joined the Small business Development Center for the Buffalo State College. His commitment to local business does not end there, however, as he also personally led a delegation to France for the Mayor of Buffalo where he discussed international trade while representing five local businesses.

Mr. Bell's dedication to the community extends far beyond his political and economic endeavors as he also was an active member of various community groups. Mr. Bell has been a member of The Luther Church of Our Savior for over sixty years where he has held a number of various positions.

Mr. Bell has also chaired the Martin Luther King Celebration for 30 years, delivering incredible performances at Shea's Performing Arts Center in Buffalo, and has been the recipient of over one hundred awards including the New York State Governor's Martin Luther King Senior's Award for his advocacy of civil rights and community work.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor the life of Clifford Bell. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding Mr. Bell's outstanding history of service to the City of Buffalo and the people of the Western New York community.

HONORING RAY HACKETT ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE NORWICH BULLETIN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a legendary journalist in eastern Connecticut, Ray Hackett. After 40 years in journalism, the past 27 years at the Norwich Bulletin in Connecticut, Ray is retiring this month from the profession he has loved.

Ray's life journey included completing two tours for the United States Army in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War and being awarded the Bronze Star when he was 19. Ray does not talk about his military service often, but his experiences have helped shape his reporting and influenced our region's conscience on the treatment of veterans returning home from war. Ray's account of the first time he visited the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, accompanied by his daughter, to see the names of his fallen comrades is moving and unforgettable.

Ray's first experience in journalism was spending ten years on radio, including time with Armed Forces Radio and Television. He joined the Norwich Bulletin in 1988, covering the city hall beat. Ray was promoted to serve as City Editor from 1994 to 2000 and moved to the opinion page in 2000, serving as Editorial Page Editor and focusing on politics.

As the influence of his political punditry grew, Ray became increasingly tapped as a moderator for political debates for races up and down the ticket. As a debate moderator, he became known for asking tough, thoughtful questions which gave the voters of eastern Connecticut much needed answers. He also connected candidates directly with the public by broadcasting editorial board meetings with all candidates during election cycles.

Ray's numerous honors include being named the three time GateHouse Media Editorial Writer of the Year in 2009, 2011, and 2013. He won awards in 2008, 2012, and 2013 from the Connecticut Society for Professional Journalism for editorial excellence. Additionally, Ray was awarded First Place for the Dear Governor project in 2010 from both the New England Newspaper & Press Association and the Associated Press Managing Editors Association.

In my view, one of Ray's accomplishments outshines even these honors bestowed by his colleagues—the dedicated push he made to bring U.S. Army Captain and Waterford native Arnold "Arnie" Holm's remains home to Connecticut. Captain Holm was killed in action in Vietnam in 1972, and his body never recovered. Working with Holm's friend Bill Cavalieri and his widow Margarete Holm, Ray kept up the drumbeat in the media to find Holm's remains and return them for proper burial. Decades after their passing, Holm's remains were discovered in 2011 at a helicopter crash site in the central highlands of Vietnam. In a fitting final chapter to this story, my office was notified this week that the headstone marking the grave of Holm and his two comrades was installed at Arlington National Cemetery.

Ray has said that his inspiration as a journalist has always been to "think like a reader" and "never forget, they all don't think like

you." This approach has earned Ray access to readers of all stripes in eastern Connecticut and garnered their respect, even if disagreeing with his reporting or his opinions.

When Ray Hackett steps down this month from the Norwich Bulletin, eastern Connecticut will lose an irreplaceable asset—a reporter and editor who embraced the coverage of all 64 towns in the Second Congressional District, the diversity of our urban, suburban, and rural communities, and the politics and policy issues that animate discussions in our diners and at our kitchen tables across our region. Ray leaves a significant journalistic footprint in eastern Connecticut that will not be matched for a long time. Even in an era of a 24 hour news cycle, he represents a journalistic ethos marked by integrity in pursuit of impartial truth.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Ray Hackett on an illustrious career and wishing him the best in a well-earned retirement.

HONORING ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Whereas, the State of Israel has flourished to become the preeminent democracy in the Middle East and today celebrates 67 years of independence; and

Whereas, Israel has been a dedicated partner to the United States, working with our Nation and other allies to build peace collaboratively and work toward common interests and goals including the safety, security and freedom of all people around the world; and

Whereas, Our Nation must continue to protect, strengthen and promote our close friend and ally Israel as we strive to achieve greater stability in the Middle East and around the world; and

Whereas, At 67, despite tremendous challenges, Israel demonstrates continually that principle and motivation are transforming forces allowing Israel to thrive; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Honorable LEONARD LANCE, the Honorable PETER ROSKAM, the Honorable DOUG LAMBORN and the Honorable LEE ZELDIN, Members of the House of Representatives and co-chairmen of the House Republican Israel Caucus, join Israel in celebration of its Independence Day.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF SUSIE WILSON

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleagues the Honorable ANNA ESHOO and the Honorable MICHAEL HONDA, to honor the life and achievements of a distinguished member of our community, Susanne ("Susie") Wilson. She has been a long-standing leader in the Santa Clara Valley as both a public official and a community advocate. Susie served as a member of the San