

As a proponent and champion of unions, Mr. Whiston fostered a strong working relationship with all unions in the district, which was instrumental in settling contracts that kept jobs in the district, balanced the budget, and saved valuable taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Mr. Whiston for achieving this accolade. I am confident his fantastic work with Dearborn Public Schools will transcend into his tenure as Michigan's next State Superintendent.

HONORING LOS CERRITOS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, congratulations. Los Cerritos Elementary School in Long Beach, CA was recently selected as a 2015 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School, an honor shared by several other schools in the Long Beach Unified School District.

The dedicated faculty and staff, students, and families who share the same ideals of conservation and sustainability in their community are commended for integrating these ideals while meeting state education standards. Through hands-on application of activities such as farming and recycling, students become good stewards of their communities and environment and expand the margins of their K-5 education. Additionally, the campus has adopted new technologies to bring their existing infrastructure up to efficient standards. In sum, Long Beach Unified School District has saved approximately \$4.9 million in energy costs across multiple school campuses.

Los Cerritos Elementary School is the fifth school in the school district to receive this distinction. I am proud that Long Beach continues to be a leader in green education and I encourage other schools, at all levels, to follow suit in adopting and implementing the leadership necessary to reduce environmental impacts. The environmental instruction being developed by Los Cerritos Elementary as well as previously recognized Green Ribbon Schools should be a model for adoption by all schools nationwide. The value of a quality education to our community cannot be overstated, and investing in green education will offer great returns to our future.

HONORING MRS. CAROLYN SIMS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Carolyn Sims, who is retiring after over 26 years of public service in Tarrant County. The communities where she has served in various positions over her career are better places because of her efforts.

For over a decade I had the privilege of working with Mrs. Sims during her tenure. However, her service and commitment began long before we met, and will have a lasting im-

pact beyond her official duties' end. After graduating from the University of North Texas, Carolyn began working at a bank until she shifted to public service in education, as a middle school teacher and then as a school counselor. Mrs. Sims then served as the President of the Colleyville Chamber of Commerce as well as for the Arts Council of Northeast Tarrant County.

During the 2003 legislative session, State Representative Vicki Truitt recruited Mrs. Sims to serve as her chief of staff in Austin. After returning to North Texas, Carolyn returned to her education roots and began to work for the Town of Westlake, Westlake Academy Foundation, and then the Northwest ISD Education Foundation. Finally, Carolyn utilized her connections and skills to serve the residents of Northeast Tarrant County as the 3rd Precinct County Administrator for Commissioner Gary Fickes.

Over the course of her career, Carolyn has been recognized multiple times for her significant contributions to the North Texas community. In 1994, she received the Women's Award for Business by the Women's Shelter Legacy. In 1995, she received recognition from the Northeast Leadership Forum as the "Outstanding Community Volunteer". Adding to her accolades, the Star Telegram named Mrs. Sims the 1999 "Woman of the Year", while the Business Press named her the "Most Influential Woman" the same year.

As Carolyn retires, her community service and dedicated work will be greatly missed. During her service of over 26 years, spanning from school board to chief of staff, Carolyn habitually placed others ahead of herself. It is my privilege to honor such an outstanding citizen in the U.S. House of Representatives.

A TRIBUTE TO SARAH ELIZABETH
WILLIAMS, SEPTEMBER 3, 1918–
MAY 9, 2015

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary woman and a life-long friend to my family, the late Sarah Elizabeth Williams.

Sarah Elizabeth Williams was born on September 3, 1918 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She was the oldest of four children and the only daughter born to Rev. Charles E. Williams and Ethel Davis Williams. Her three brothers, Charles, Matthew, and James preceded her in death.

When Sarah was very young, the family moved to historic La Mott, a suburb of Philadelphia, located in Cheltenham Township in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. In 1885 the village was officially named for the famous abolitionist and suffragette, Lucretia Mott, who had moved to the area in 1850. Many longtime residents like Sarah as well as new ones were proud of their community's heritage which stood as an important landmark in black history. One of the first communities to encourage integrated living, the village represented a turning point in the social and racial development of residential communities in the post-Civil War era. "Roadside", the home of Lucretia Mott, was a stop for slaves trav-

eling the Underground Railroad north to safety.

After graduating from Cheltenham High School, Sarah moved to Norfolk, Virginia, attending Virginia Union Jr. College for two years. She took classes in English, Biology, and Zoology, before returning home to help look after her three brothers following her mother's illness and death.

For many years, Sarah worked as a technician at the Fels Research Institute at Temple University in Philadelphia. Her marriages ended in divorce, but out of the union she had one child, Sandra.

Always looking to explore new horizons, Sarah took the Federal Civil Service exam and moved to Washington, D.C., in 1950 to secure employment in the federal government.

Sarah, affectionately known as "Gramm" by family and friends, worked for H.E.W. in Washington, D.C., and the Army Corps of Engineers in Gravelly Point, Virginia. She transferred to the U.S. Department of Justice in 1963, and worked there in the Civil Rights Division. At the Department of Justice Sarah provided support to several attorneys, among them her heroes, Thurgood Marshall, and Assistant Attorney General, John Doar.

In 1968 and 1969, Sarah traveled with legal teams to Montgomery and Birmingham, Alabama, and to Chicago, Illinois, to help prepare briefs for various trials. The duration of these trips ranged from three days to as many as three weeks for the trial in Birmingham. One important case in 1980 involved an appeal in a suit alleging brutality and other unlawful practices on the part of the Philadelphia Police Department. Sarah always said her work with the attorneys in the division to combat racial and various other forms of discrimination in housing, education, and employment, while enforcing civil and voting rights, gave her a sense of pride and purpose and she received many special achievement awards for her "Superior Performance".

Sarah retired in 1983 but always stayed connected to her former colleagues, and in 2007, was the oldest former employee to attend the Commemoration of the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division's 50th anniversary at the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C.

Prior to retirement, Sarah began living with her daughter and her husband, E. Lucien Cox, in Montgomery County, Maryland. She was a wonderful influence in the lives of her three grandchildren and family friends, providing them with much of her wisdom and experience. Sarah's example helped them to appreciate the value of hard work, commitment, and best of all, *joie de vivre*.

After retiring Sarah was able to travel to interesting places throughout the world, become more active in her church, and dote on her seven great grandchildren, as well as volunteering with reading programs at local schools. She continued to be active until age 87, when her health began to fail.

Sarah, to quote Maya Angelou, was truly a "phenomenal woman", who always seemed to be ahead of the curve. Her interest in ecology and nature, and even encouraging the grandchildren to recycle, goes back 45 years. She also stayed relevant by listening to and engaging young people. They learned from her and she learned from them and respected their views.

Sarah's sense of humor was legendary. Everyone who met her knew she never missed

a beat. You never could predict what was coming next, but you just knew it would be memorable. There will never be another like "Gramm".

When Sarah's family moved near her beloved Chesapeake Bay, to the Eastern Shore of Maryland in 2009, she accompanied them. She was a resident at the Berlin Maryland Nursing Center for five years and was cognitive and witty up until her passing on May 9, 2015. One of her greatest joys was living to see President Barack Obama elected twice, and to see Loretta Lynch confirmed as U.S. Attorney General. As she said, "I never thought I would live to see all of this".

Mr. Speaker, I urge members of Congress to join me in honoring the memory of Sarah Elizabeth Williams. Our wonderful memories of her will sustain us all.

CONGRATULATING KASSIE
MCKNIGHT FOR COMPETING IN
THE SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELL-
ING BEE

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kassie McKnight for her achievement in representing southwest Missouri at the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Kassie is a Bolivar native and was an eighth grader at Bolivar Middle School during the time of the competition. She worked hard to get to the top, going through her local spelling bee in Bolivar to the Southwest Missouri Regional Spelling Bee at Missouri State University in Springfield. Kassie competed against 34 other spellers through 64 tough rounds at the regional competition, ultimately spelling "exacerbate" correctly to secure her spot at the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington. Kassie was one of 285 contestants to compete in the esteemed national bee.

These accomplishments took a great deal of hard work, including hours of practice and completion of numerous spelling drills, not to mention the ability to spell many difficult words that are rarely used in everyday conversation. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Kassie on a job well done. It is great to represent in Congress such amazing talent found in the Missouri's Seventh Congressional District.

IN HONOR OF STEVE BOLLINGER

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, losing a father, mother, husband, or wife is an emotionally traumatic experience for any family. In addition to the burden faced by families that have experienced this type of loss, losing a head of household has severe economic implications for their journey forward. The Bollinger family learned this three decades ago, after unexpectedly losing their beloved Steve, leaving his wife, Lin, with four children and no income other than social security and several small in-

surance policies. Luckily, the Bollingers had a strong team behind them to help them through the immediate difficulties this presented.

During the Reagan Administration, Steve was Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Previously, he had run for Cincinnati City Council and served as the head of the Public Housing Authority of Columbus, Ohio, where he served honorably. His dedication rendered a sincere appreciation and respect from his colleagues, and these individuals would be the ones that summoned the means of supporting the Bollinger family until they won a worker's compensation claim that enabled them to return funds to the newly established Bollinger Foundation. And so, the group had a newly empowered mission: to support families that faced the same struggle.

I had the opportunity to work with Steve when I was a young staffer on Capitol Hill, working for the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, & Urban Affairs. Steve came before the Committee to bring the Reagan Administration's deregulation of the Community Development Block Grant.

Steve, a young man at the age of 36, died while traveling to Savannah, Georgia, to speak to the Georgia Municipal League. Lin was pregnant with their fourth child, and Steve, who had been a public servant most of his adult life, had not had enough time to build a sufficient nest egg to properly take care of the future needs of his family.

Since its founding, the Bollinger Foundation has provided nearly three quarters of a million dollars to families who have lost a loved one, with assistance given to families of individuals having worked in community or economic development, or assisted housing, as Steve did.

The Foundation has helped countless families including families affected by the bombing of the Murrah Federal Office Building in Oklahoma City, in which the greatest loss of life and injury was to people who worked for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Numerous families have benefitted from the efforts of the Foundation and their committed members, and their efforts represent Steve's memory well. I am grateful for Steve, our friendship of long ago and or the continued work of the foundation bearing his name.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following Roll Call votes on June 3, 2015 and would like to reflect that I would have voted as follows: Roll Call 289: No.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD MILLER

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Richard Miller, a resident

of Cheshire, Connecticut, who passed away recently at the age of 100.

Mr. Miller dedicated his life to serving others and was a leader in the community. He served on various municipal boards including the town's Board of Education, Cheshire Hospice, and Senior Center. He also volunteered with countless civic organizations and societies and served three elected terms as the town of Cheshire's Police Commissioner.

Mr. Miller was a long time member of the First Congregational Church in my hometown of Cheshire, and was a very active member of the Rotary. He also established the Cheshire Food Drive, and raised funds for countless charitable organizations.

Mr. Miller was a civil engineer who worked with The American Brass Company and Anaconda Copper before completing his career with Platt Brothers & Company in Waterbury, CT in 1981.

He served our country in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for four and a half years, mainly concerned with the training of Special Engineer service and combat units at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He was honorably discharged in April 1946 with the rank of Major CE.

Mr. Miller was an inspiration, and I know he is greatly missed by many, especially those in Connecticut's 5th Congressional District.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TRADE
TRANSPAREN-C RESOLUTION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Trade Review Accountability Needs Sunlight and Preview of Any Regulations and Exact Negotiated Components Resolution, or the "Trade TRANSPAREN-C Resolution."

Congress has granted the last eighteen presidents the authority to negotiate trade agreements withdrawing significant Congressional participation in the process. The recent past has seen a transformation in this authority, originally established to serve as negotiating guidelines. Today, it is little more than Congressional consent to be a rubber stamp as this implementing legislation sometimes referred to as "Fast-Track" or "Trade Promotion Authority," grants sweeping authority to the Executive branch to negotiate trade deals. And it undercuts the Constitutional responsibility of Congress to regulate commerce with foreign nations as outlined in Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution. Instead we are allowed merely an up or down vote.

Today, I introduce this resolution to take back our Congressional authority, and to shine light on the negotiation process and final text of these increasingly massive trade deals.

The Trade Promotion Authority currently under debate would usher through the top secret Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement. It would also grant that fast track authority for up to six years. During that time we would be prohibited from any Congressional amendments or hearings, and given at most 60 days to review any proposed trade deal. This is a very short window if you consider that the draft TPP is between 800-1000 pages.