

were called to make similar decisions about resources in areas controlled by Cuba I well might support similar restrictions for the offshore areas the government of Cuba has decided to make available for exploration and development.

But I think that once the government of Cuba has made that decision, our Government should not insist on preventing American companies from seeking the opportunity to take part in those activities—especially since the American energy industry is unrivalled for its technical expertise and its ability to meet the technical challenges involved. My legislation would allow them to seek that opportunity.

HONORING THE MOSES AND AARON FOUNDATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2007

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the Moses and Aaron Foundation, an organization committed to special needs children and their families. The Foundation's significant and enduring efforts, under the direction of the president, Rabbi Yaacov Kaploun, and Executive Vice President Yehuda Kaploun, deserve the highest praise, as do the philanthropists who have given so much of themselves to fulfill its mission.

The Moses and Aaron Foundation Special Fund for Children, an all-volunteer organization, is dedicated to assisting children with disabilities and their families with a wide range of programs, including social, physical, financial and wheelchair assistance, as well as counseling and guidance.

It also provides scholarship funding to educational institutions; collects, purchases, and distributes clothing for children in need; provides presents to those children at holiday time or when hospitalized.

In cooperation with Bally's Fitness Centers, the Foundation has been able to establish physical fitness and therapy centers. It has also arranged for sound and musical equipment in other institutions.

On July 28, 2007, at the Sullivan County Community College in Lock Sheldrake, New York, the Moses and Aaron Foundation, under the honorary chairmanship of Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel, will sponsor its 11th Summer "Chazak-Strength" Concert honoring and paying tribute to special and outstanding children and their families. The guests of honor will be the special and outstanding children, many of whom will perform with the entertainers on stage. More than 40 organizations and schools serving the physically and mentally disabled children will be represented.

The Chazak Concert and the Moses and Aaron Foundation's other programs demonstrate a caring and compassionate concern for the quality and dignity of life of others and merit the appreciation of all who have benefited from its services.

The Moses and Aaron Foundation was founded in memory of Rabbi Dr. Maurice I. Hecht and Aaron Kaploun, both of whom led lives of exemplary community service. It is in this sentiment of communal dedication that the Moses and Aaron Foundation has devoted itself to serving the needs of a unique group in the community.

I commend the Moses and Aaron Foundation, an organization which exemplifies the generosity of spirit in our society.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT JACOB S. SCHMUECKER

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of SGT Jacob S. Schmuecker, an Atkinson, Nebraska, native who lost his life on July 21 in Balad, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sergeant Schmuecker, assigned to Nebraska's National Guard's 755th Chemical Reconnaissance/Decontamination Company, died when his military vehicle was struck by a roadside bomb.

This young man represented some of the best qualities of Nebraska, and our State mourns his loss.

Sergeant Schmuecker has been described as "calm, cool, and collected"—a man who answered the call of duty and served honorably. His loss will be felt not only by the men in his unit, but in Nebraska where he leaves behind his wife and three young children.

My prayers and condolences go out to Sergeant Schmuecker's family and friends who feel the loss of this brave man. He will be missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2007

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, July 24, 2007, I was with the President in my district visiting our troops at Charleston Air Force Base. As such, I missed several votes related to the Transportation Housing Appropriations Bill. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: rollcall 691, Mica Amendment, "yes"; rollcall 692, Bachmann Amendment, "no"; rollcall 693, Flake Amendment, "no"; rollcall 694, Flake Amendment, "no"; rollcall 695, Chabot Amendment, "yes."

Should you have any questions, please contact my Washington office.

TRIBUTE TO FLORIDA STATE REPRESENTATIVE MIKE DAVIS UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2007

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Florida's most outstanding public servants, State Representative Mike Davis (R-Naples), who is retiring after an exceptional career.

Mike was first elected to the Florida Legislature in 2002, and from the first time I met him, I knew he'd be a great leader. Mike is one of

the hardest-working people I know and his enthusiasm and passion for serving the community is inspiring. Mike's the type of elected official that all of us in public service strive to be—accessible, dedicated, and effective.

I've known Mike for over 5 years and had the opportunity to serve in the Florida Legislature with him. He is one of the most talented and committed representatives. He truly represents the ideals of our region and has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make Southwest Florida a great place to live, work and visit.

Southwest Florida has experienced tremendous growth over the last several decades, and Mike understands the importance of ensuring that we have an infrastructure that can support this growth. As Chairman of the Infrastructure Committee, Mike successfully fought to improve our regional transportation system, pushed for growth management solutions, and worked to ensure that our airports are safe and reliable. He's also worked to make housing more affordable for Floridians.

Of course, Mike's public service does not end with his stint in the Legislature. Mike's held countless positions on numerous civic and charitable organizations throughout Southwest Florida. He's the type of person who believes in giving back to his community tenfold and has done just that. From working with Boy Scout Troop 225, to serving as President of the Naples chapter of the Rotary Club, to volunteering with Hospice of Naples—he's left an indelible mark on our community.

I'd also like to recognize Mike's wife, Patricia, and his two children, Christian and Natasha, for their support during his public service—I know he couldn't have accomplished so much without their love and support.

Madam Speaker, Southwest Florida is better off today because of Mike Davis' tireless work. I wish Mike and his family all the best.

HONORING PASTOR CLARENCE SEXTON

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, on August 26, many people from East Tennessee and others from around the Nation will join together to honor Dr. Clarence Sexton on his 40th anniversary in Christian ministry.

Clarence Sexton is one of the finest men I have ever known. Through his work, he has touched thousands of lives in good and positive ways.

He has a heart for service and has shown simple human kindness to countless numbers of people. This world is a better place and many have been saved because of the life Clarence Sexton has led.

The most successful people in the world try some projects that do not go well or even some that fail. But the most important thing is that they never stop trying.

Clarence Sexton is one of the most successful men I know. He is what I call a mover and a shaker, and he would have been a great success in almost anything to which he devoted his tremendous enthusiasm and work ethic.

But God directed him to the Christian ministry, and God has done great and wondrous things through his servant Clarence Sexton.

Temple Baptist Church is now one of the greatest churches in this Nation, But I am even more impressed by the work of Crown College, of which Dr. Sexton is Founder and President, and its many outstanding students and graduates.

I am fortunate that I can call Pastor Clarence Sexton my friend, as he also is to so many others. I want to congratulate him on his 40 years in the ministry, and I know he will continue to do great things in the years ahead.

This Nation needs more men like Reverend Clarence Sexton, of the great Temple Baptist Church in Powell, Tennessee.

IN HONOR OF ROBERT C. HOLTON,
SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert C. Holton, Sr., of Grady County, Georgia, whose achievements merit our recognition. He is recognized for his 53 years of service to his family, church, and his community.

The residents of Grady County, Georgia, should be proud to have called Holton a neighbor and a friend. Robert C. Holton, Sr., was born on April 30, 1943, to Mrs. Goodie Bell Williams Holton and the late Mr. Henry Holton, Sr. In following the tradition of his parents, Holton tirelessly served God through Jerusalem P.B. Church, which later became Mt. Zion P.B. Holton. For 53 years, Holton served as a deacon and trustee. After graduation, Holton attended Monroe Area Vocational Technical School in Albany, Georgia, where he received a certificate in general auto mechanics.

Far too many stories are told about the elite and their charity; however, today I would like to recognize the story of an ordinary man who gave extraordinarily of himself. It was in Grady County, Georgia, where Holton began his unprecedented commitment to his immediate community. As the founder of Vision & Wisdom and Family Homes Building, Inc., Holton provided affordable housing to needy families. However, this was not enough for Holton, Sr., as he committed 22 years to the chairmanship of the Francis Western YMCA. Also, Holton served in the Thomasville/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce for over 20 years.

Unfortunately, Holton's tragic death came as a shock; he died during an automobile accident on his usual weekend trip. So on this 26th of July, I commend Robert C. Holton, Sr. for his tangible commitments to the State of Georgia. May his work ethic and commitment continue to define our State.

IN RECOGNITION OF PFC JAMES J.
HARRELSON

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, Private First Class James J. Harrelson, age

19, a native of Dadeville, Alabama, was killed on July 17, 2007, in Baghdad. PFC Harrelson was assigned to B Company, 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division based in Fort Riley, Kansas.

PFC Harrelson was a graduate of Dadeville High School, where he was a member of the student council and a talented athlete. He had been serving in Iraq since May of this year.

Words cannot express the sense of sadness we have for his family, and for the gratitude our country feels for his service. Pvt. Harrelson, like other brave men and women who have served in uniform, died serving not just the United States, but the entire cause of liberty. Indeed, like those who have served before him, he was a true American.

We will forever hold him closely in our hearts, and remember his sacrifice and that of his family as a remembrance of his bravery and willingness to serve our nation. Thank you, for the House's remembrance at this mournful occasion.

RECOGNIZING G. KEITH AND
WANDA SHUPE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize two outstanding constituents of Missouri's Sixth Congressional District: G. Keith and Wanda Shupe of Stanberry, Missouri. Keith and Wanda will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on July 27, 2007.

Keith and Wanda were married on July 27, 1957 at the Francis Street First United Methodist Church in St. Joseph, MO by the Reverend Powell. They have two children, Tim Shupe of Stanberry, MO and Jackie Shupe of Columbia, MO. They also have two grandchildren, Derek Shupe of St. Croix, VI, and Brooke Shupe of Washington, DC.

Keith and Wanda Shupe have been outstanding citizens of Gentry County and Northwest Missouri for the past 50 years. Keith is a semi-retired farmer from a third generation family farm and Wanda is a retired hairdresser and office manager for the Tenorio's Doctors office in Albany, MO. Keith and Wanda have been lifetime supporters of the Republican Party within the 6th district and across Missouri. Wanda is currently a member of the Missouri Federation of Republican Women and serves as treasurer for the 6th district Republican Congressional Committee.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Keith and Wanda Shupe. Their marriage of 50 years is inspirational, and I am honored to represent them in the Congress.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
R.L. LEWIS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize Mr. R.L. Lewis for 23 years of dedicated public

service. Mr. Lewis, a member of the Milton City Council, is a highly-regarded figure whose contributions to the advancement of the city of Milton are immeasurable.

A native of northwest Florida, R.L. is the son of R.V. and Louise Lewis. After graduating from T.R. Jackson High School in 1957, R.L. attended Pensacola Junior College and later went on to serve in the United States Army for 2 years. When R.L. returned to Milton, he began his career with a local division of Monsanto Company, a multinational agricultural biotechnology corporation, from which he retired in 1995.

In addition to being the first African American to serve on the Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary in northwest Florida in 1972, R.L. was also the first to serve on the Milton City Council. He was first elected in 1984 and has been reelected in every subsequent election.

As city councilman, R.L. currently serves as the chairman of the Public Works Committee and a member of both the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Insurance Committee. For the past 40 years, he has been employed as a funeral advisor with Lewis Funeral Home. He also serves as chairman of the deacon board at Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church and chairman of Milton-Keyser Cemetery Committee.

Through his leadership and dedication, R.L. has honorably and spiritually served the northwest Florida community. He is a longtime member of the NAACP and former member of numerous other church and civic organizations. These include: West Florida Planning Board, Islam Shrine Temple No. 182, Florida League of Cities Nominating Committee, and Review Board for Law Enforcement.

Despite all of his professional success, R.L. would be the first to say he would not have accomplished so much without the support of his loving wife, Paulette Larkins Lewis.

Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to a man who has served as a role model to us all, a true servant to the Milton community. I am thankful for his exemplary service and leadership in northwest Florida and recognize him for 23 years of dedicated public service on the Milton City Council.

RECOGNIZING THE THIRD ANNI-
VERSARY OF HOUSE CONCUR-
RENT RESOLUTION 467 DECLAR-
ING GENOCIDE IN THE DARFUR
REGION OF SUDAN

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, three years after the U.S. Congress passed a resolution officially recognizing the genocide in Darfur, the crisis continues today unabated. We continue to hear credible reports of armed attacks on aid workers, food convoys, and civilians by the government-supported Janjaweed militia. While assistance from UN troops is critical given the limited African Union resources, President Bashir has prevented such assistance from taking place. Madam Speaker, with 2.5 million people murdered in Southern Sudan, 450,000 killed in the Darfur region, 35,000 women and children