

quick, easy and inexpensive method that he developed.

As a student at Lawrence High School, Paul participates in numerous activities and clubs. As a member of Young Ambassadors of America, Paul has represented the United States on cultural tours of Japan, Spain and Italy. In addition, he plays on the school's tennis team, is captain of the math team and is a member of the chess club. Paul is also an award-winning musician and manages the chamber orchestra. As a senior member of the Education and Labor Committee, I am truly impressed by Paul's accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, it is with pride and admiration I offer my congratulations to Paul Masih Das and commend his dedication to education and science.

IN TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE
JOHN P. MURTHA OF PENNSYLVANIA

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and honor the accomplishments of Congressman John Murtha who passed away on February 8, 2010.

America lost a great patriot with the passing of Congressman Murtha, and I join the people of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District and countless other Americans in mourning his death. As a veteran, he never forgot the needs of our military and through his leadership as Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, he made sure that our military had the tools it needed to secure America's future. A frequent visitor to injured troops at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Naval Medical Center, Congressman Murtha deeply understood the sacrifices that these men and women made for our country. His ability to empathize with our servicemembers and veterans was absolutely remarkable, and I will deeply miss his leadership in Congress.

Madam Speaker, today I join my fellow colleagues in mourning the death of Congressman Murtha who spent his life serving our country in both the military and the halls of Congress.

HONORING THE PEACE CORPS FOR
49 YEARS OF EXTRAORDINARY
SERVICE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, since President John F. Kennedy announced his vision for an American volunteer service, the Peace Corps has made extraordinary contributions to millions of people across the globe. It plays an ongoing role in encouraging mutual understanding and nonviolent coexistence among peoples of diverse cultures.

In the 49 years since its inception, nearly 200,000 Americans—including my son Paul—

have served in 139 countries across five continents. These volunteers have provided lasting contributions to the agriculture, economy, technology, education, health, youth, and environment in areas of the world that require it most.

In the course of their service, Peace Corps Volunteers learn new languages, gain international experience, and develop an understanding of other cultures. Their work and the skills they develop strengthen our ties to the global community and enhance our positive image abroad.

Because of these achievements and its commitment to volunteerism, the Peace Corps is one of the most cost-effective foreign policy initiatives employed by our nation.

I've proudly supported the Peace Corps throughout my time in Congress. I've fought to increase recruitment of volunteers, develop training programs in education and AIDS prevention, and to help returning volunteers with student loans. Most recently, I voted for and Congress passed an increased investment in the Peace Corps, allowing the creation of new programs in Indonesia and Sierra Leone this year.

On this 49th anniversary of its founding, I applaud the Peace Corps for its important work and honor its volunteers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL E. McMAHON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Mr. McMAHON. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 75, 76, and 77, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING THE 49TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE PEACE CORPS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 49th anniversary of the Peace Corps and to commemorate Peace Corps Week.

Volunteers of the Peace Corps have served valiantly since President John F. Kennedy challenged Americans to work towards the cause of peace. Since its creation on March 1, 1961, nearly 200,000 Americans have answered that call to contribute and improve Americans' understanding of other peoples and other peoples' understanding of Americans. At a time when extremist philosophies are increasing throughout the world, we need these dedicated individuals more than ever.

Madam Speaker, I would like to commend the 6,671 Peace Corps volunteers, including 153 volunteers from the State of Georgia, who are currently working to provide expertise and developmental assistance to 76 countries. These volunteers are dedicating themselves each day to the vision of President Kennedy. These individuals share their time and talents by serving as teachers, business advisors, HIV/AIDS educators, as well as sharing their knowledge of information technology, agriculture, the environment, and health.

On this anniversary I would like to acknowledge Jonathan Lewis, who is a prime example of a volunteer who is working to accomplish the goals of Peace Corps. Jonathan has been working in Kazakhstan this past year to organize the first official youth developmental group in the country, focusing on leadership, work ethics, and healthy lifestyles. At night he volunteers his time teaching English and American culture to students in schools and libraries around the country. Jonathan's efforts and all the Volunteers represent the caring spirit that runs deep in our country.

Today I honor the Peace Corps and its brave volunteers for their service to our nation and to the international community. In our ever-shrinking world, the mission of the Peace Corps is more vital than ever. I hope that each one of my distinguished colleagues will join me in commending these men and women for their service.

HONORING THE REVEREND CEDRIC
HUGHES JONES, JR.

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Reverend Cedric Hughes Jones, Jr. I congratulate Reverend Jones on his installation as the newest Pastor to the Mount Zion Baptist Church in Philadelphia.

Reverend Jones will be the fourth Pastor of the Mount Zion Baptist Church. He is excited to begin a new chapter of its history and will continue to support the church's major community outreach efforts. I am confident that Reverend Jones will carry on the outstanding legacy of community service shared by the previous Mount Zion Baptist Church pastors.

The Mount Zion Baptist Church is excited to welcome Reverend Jones into their community, and is confident that Reverend Jones will continue the church's mission and further build up their place within the surrounding community. The church has a long history of support for and outreach to their community. In providing meals, housing and clothing, as well as scholarship funds and other financial assistance, the Mount Zion Baptist Church has helped those in their community in the most need of help.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in thanking the Mount Zion Baptist Church and Reverend Jones for their work in bettering their community, and congratulate Reverend Jones on the occasion of his installment as Pastor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 75, 76, and 77; H. Res. 1072, H.R. 3820, H. Res. 1097, I missed these votes because car trouble caused me to miss my flight. On the next flight, because of heavy traffic, I missed these votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all.

HONORING TERRY MINOR

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent Terry Minor. Mr. Minor and his business, Cumberland International Trucks, have received the International Circle of Excellence Award for 2009, the highest honor a dealer principal can receive.

Cumberland International Trucks is headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee, where it was founded more than 60 years ago. Terry became a dealer principal in 2007 and currently employs 87 people. The Circle of Excellence Award, awarded by Navistar, recognizes truck dealerships that achieve the highest level of dealer performance.

Before becoming a dealer, Terry worked for Cumberland International in a number of key positions, including regional manager for parts, national account manager for Ryder truck sales, and vice president of sales for the Southwest Region. He is active in a number of industry groups, including the American Truck Dealers, the Used Truck Association, and the National Automotive Dealers Association. He is heavily involved with the Tennessee Trucking Association, where he serves on the board of directors. In addition, Terry is very active in community service, including the Chamber of Commerce and the Brentwood Baptist Church. Terry has been married to his wife Kristen for 20 years. He actively supports Ravenwood High School sports teams, including his daughter Calleigh's volleyball and lacrosse teams and his son Taylor's rugby team. He is also a veteran of the 2nd Battalion, 66th Armored Division of the U.S. Army out of Fort Hood, Texas.

Terry's dedication, strong work ethic, and community participation make him not only a great representative of Tennessee's values, but our Nation's values as well. Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Terry Minor for this honor and for his many contributions to Tennessee and our country.

NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I would like to take the opportunity to honor the Peace Corps during this National Peace Corps Week.

On March 1, 2010 the Peace Corps celebrated its 49th anniversary. It is with the historic contributions of this organization in mind, that I proudly acknowledge the important work of nearly two hundred thousand Peace Corps volunteers since the agency's inception in 1961.

California has been and continues to be the largest producer of Peace Corps volunteers with 792 people currently serving abroad.

I am proud to report that my home District, California's 9th Congressional District, can be called home by 25 current volunteers who have committed themselves to the Peace Corps mission of world peace and friendship through service.

Through volunteer work abroad in fields including health education, food security, local business development, education about HIV/AIDS, and agricultural and environmental improvement, the work of the Peace Corps improves people's lives while enhancing the credibility of the United States abroad, fostering the exchange of ideas, and uniting cultures around values of peace, tolerance, and prosperity.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 336, which calls for the introduction of a semi-postal Peace stamp, which will sell at a slightly higher rate than the normal 44 cents to create additional revenues for the Peace Corps.

In the wake of the recent earthquakes in Haiti and Chile, we are reminded of the power of the international community to assist and empower those who are in need.

During National Peace Corps Week, we salute past and present Volunteers who selflessly serve abroad in support of these ideals.

HONORING THE WORK OF VFW POST 8946

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the work of VFW Post 8946 in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey for their selfless and inspiring deeds towards their fellow citizens. For the past few years this group of extraordinary individuals has been traveling to the Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C. as well as the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. During their trips the members of the Post have spent time with wounded veterans and their families. They have brought items such as clothing, CD players, electric shavers and even a large TV for the recreation room.

After one of their more recent visits to Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, William Huston, a member of the Post, told a local reporter that, "these young men have a remarkable attitude, we cannot properly express the admiration we have for them." It is this sense of genuine commitment towards helping those who have given so much to our nation that makes this Post unique in many ways.

As I reflect on the deeds they have done I cannot help but be reminded of the enduring words from President Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural address. Lincoln challenged his fellow Americans to "care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations." The men of this Post are a living testament to these words.

I want to once again thank this group of exceptional men for their service towards their fellow citizens. I am proud to represent such a fine group of people in the United States House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING CALHOUN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent Calhoun High School and want to congratulate the students, faculty, and staff on their achievements thus far this year.

Principal Wanda Westmoreland, a 17-year Calhoun veteran, has told me that Calhoun's victories in the athletic arena are a direct result of academic achievements in the classroom. Principal Westmoreland leads by example and will be greatly missed when she retires at the end of this school term. Her leadership is one of the reasons Calhoun was listed as one of America's top schools by the U.S. News and World report. Additionally, Calhoun's One Act Plays were the regional champions this year and placed third overall in the state of Georgia.

On the athletic side, I'd like to recognize the following Yellow Jacket teams for their achievements this year: Varsity Football, runner-up in the State Championships and nine time Regional Champions; Competition Cheerleading, the three time State Champions; and, Calhoun wrestler—Hunter Knight—who won a state championship this year.

Congratulations to Calhoun High School for their accomplishments on and off the field this year. Keep up the great work and go Jackets!

IN TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE JOHN P. MURTHA OF PENNSYLVANIA

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my great friend and our dear colleague, John Murtha. America has lost a true hero and patriot and the United States Congress has lost a giant. Madam Speaker, I submit for the record Keith Burris' column from the Journal Inquirer. The Journal Inquirer is a newspaper serving my home district and is the hometown voice of northern central Connecticut. Keith's words capture the essence of John Murtha, and I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring the life of this humble man, dear friend and great American.

[From the Journal Inquirer, Feb. 13, 2010]

MUCH MAN

(By Keith C. Burris)

In roughly 30 years in journalism I have met many politicians. In the beginning, this was exciting. But after a while, you realize that most of them are persons of exceptional ambition, not exceptional conviction, skill, or patriotism. Most people in politics are not very interesting.

But a couple years ago, U.S. Rep. John Larson, himself an exception to the rule, brought to the Journal Inquirer Rep. John Murtha, of Pennsylvania. Murtha's back and forth with editors and reporters here made for one of the most fascinating hours of conversation I can remember.