

honorary doctorate degrees from Ball State, Colgate, Indiana State, and Vincennes Universities as well as the Catholic University of America.

Van and Margaret met through mutual friends and were married on November 19, 1950. They made their home in Muncie, Indiana, where they continue to be active members of the community. The Smith's have a large and loving family, including five children and nineteen grandchildren. Margaret has been a loving and tirelessly devoted spouse, mother, and grandmother, while Van has been the leader and captain of their tight knit family.

Both Van and Margaret have given back to their local community for decades now, and I cannot praise them enough for their many generous charitable gifts. Margaret remains active with St. Mary's Parish, Tri Kappa Sorority, and the Harvest Soup Kitchen. For over 50 years, Van served as an owner and executive leader of Ontario Corporation, employing hundreds of Hoosiers. He was also instrumental in purchasing the Sherry Laboratories unit, where he still reports for work daily at the age of 82. He is recognized by community and business leaders as a respected and honored entrepreneur, dedicated to faith, family, and integrity. His accolades and achievements, though too numerous to list in this brief tribute, have had an immeasurable impact on not only my congressional district, but the entire state of Indiana and beyond. Perhaps most moving to me is the influence that Van and Margaret Smith have had on my life and on my family. My history with Van and Margaret goes back many years, and not only are they dear friends, but they have been a source of great guidance to me; words are inadequate to relay the depth of gratitude I feel for them both. The Good Book tells us that "the fear of the Lord adds length to life," and it is clear that the Lord has had His hand on this remarkable couple. Their contribution is indeed impressive on a local, state, national, and international level. However, their defining characteristic is the depth of their humility and the breadth of their generosity. As is evident to all who are fortunate to know them, Van and Margaret have strived to live their lives honoring to God, family, friends, and their community with integrity and character.

Madam Speaker, I again congratulate Van and Margaret Smith on their fifty wonderful years of marriage and humbly thank them for their years of community service and friendship. I honor and applaud them for their dedication and generosity and pray God's best for them and their family.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING  
MR. JOHN HARWOOD OF ST.  
LOUIS, MISSOURI

### HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2010*

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John Harwood of St. Louis, Missouri.

On Saturday, September 25th, 2010 John Harwood passed into eternity. Mr. Harwood lived an exemplary life of service. He dedicated over a quarter of a century to helping fellow men live lives based on spiritual principles. He assisted many with the develop-

ment of personal character based on humility, faith, love and service. Mr. Harwood was known as a tough man, who had the courage of his convictions and unique powers of persuasion. Yet, he had a deep sense of service and dedication to fellow human beings. Mr. Harwood often stated that one of the secrets of life is to "learn to love another human being." He exemplified this philosophy in his own life, every day, as he held out his hand to many who needed a little experience, strength and hope on the way to a better way of being.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John today.

IN HONOR OF THE LEBANON REGIONAL FFA CHAPTER FOR PLACING SECOND AT THE EASTERN REGIONAL FFA DAIRY PRODUCTS CONTEST AND QUALIFYING FOR NATIONALS

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2010*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lyman Memorial High School students Rachel Mackewicz, Kelly Pestey, Erin White and Emily Von Edwins. I want to offer my congratulations to these students who placed second at the Eastern Regional FFA Dairy Products Contest on September 18, 2010.

These students, along with their faculty advisor Mrs. Brenda Wildes, honorably represented themselves, their family and their community at the Eastern Regional FFA Dairy Products contest. By finishing in second place, the team not only placed higher than any previous Lebanon FFA team, but also qualified to compete for the national title at the National FFA Convention.

Since it was founded in 1928, The Future Farmers of America has promoted agricultural education for millions of students across the country. FFA's commitment to bringing students, teachers and agribusiness together helps to ensure that each generation of our nation's leaders comes equipped with the agricultural understanding necessary to lead our country. Last summer, I was fortunate enough to meet with some of these impressive young leaders at the Connecticut state FFA convention and saw firsthand the important impact the FFA has on middle and high school students across the country.

It is important to highlight the important role the FFA and this team of students in maintaining our rural heritage and promoting the agricultural ideals that serve as the backbone of our country. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me, and the people of Connecticut in recognizing the Lebanon Regional Future Farmers of America Chapter for their achievement and wishing them good luck at the national competition.

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT U.  
CASSEL, WORLD WAR II VETERAN

### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2010*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Robert U. Cassel of Mantua Township, New Jersey, who died September 1st, 2010 at the age of 95. A longtime resident of Gloucester County, Mr. Cassel has left a legacy of dedication and commitment to his community.

Mr. Cassel was born in Philadelphia and graduated from Woodbury High School in 1932. An avid learner, Mr. Cassel continued on to Lebanon Valley College to study biology, leading to his career as a chemist with the Mobil Corporation.

During World War II, Mr. Cassel's supervisor advised him that he was exempted from the draft as a result of the importance of his position. Understanding the call of his country, he ignored that exemption and entered the 94th Infantry Division, arriving in France three months after D-Day. He later became a battalion operations officer in the 301st Infantry Regiment. In that position, he was awarded two Bronze Stars for helping fellow battalion members escape a trap that could have destroyed the unit. During his service, Mr. Cassel collected several battle artifacts that he shared at veteran events and Veterans Day presentations at schools. He later donated these items to the University of Georgia. Until recently, he was also the editor of the Hoodlum News, a quarterly newsletter for the 301st Infantry Association.

Combining his passion for nature with his dedication to the community, Mr. Cassel was a founding member of the Gloucester County Nature Club in 1949. Furthermore, Mr. Cassel embodied a spirit of volunteerism, dedicating his time to the Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial, the Mennonite relief warehouse in Lancaster County, and the Boy Scouts of America.

He is survived by his wife Carol and his two daughters, Claire Cassel and Judith Cassel Williams, as well as three grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and a sister. Mr. Cassel is predeceased by his first wife, Eve.

Madam Speaker, Robert U. Cassel's endless dedication to Gloucester County and our country should not go unrecognized. I express my sincere condolences to his family for their loss and pay tribute to the memory of this exceptional man.

A TRIBUTE TO JWCH INSTITUTE  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE NON-  
PROFIT ORGANIZATION'S 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF PROVIDING  
QUALITY AND AFFORDABLE  
HEALTH CARE TO THE COUNTY'S  
UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

### HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2010*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the John Wesley Community Health Institute—also known as the