

a first-grader at Elsanor School in Robertsdale, Alabama.

On the morning of Monday, December 17, 2007, Michael decided to take the bus to school instead of driving his motorcycle as he often does. Michael just had a feeling that he should ride the bus that morning and what followed was simply miraculous.

On the bus ride home from school that Monday afternoon, Michael noticed that 7-year-old Chad appeared to be having trouble breathing. Without hesitation, Michael put to use his first-aid training—training he learned as a part of his Navy Junior ROTC program at Robertsdale High School—and he initiated the Heimlich Maneuver.

When Michael realized that his efforts were not dislodging the object, he quickly began to massage Chad's throat until he located the obstruction and pushed upward. He then attempted the Heimlich Maneuver again and a piece of butterscotch candy came out of Chad's mouth.

In recognition of Michael's efforts, Master Chief Petty Officer Robert Dairy awarded him the Meritorious Service Ribbon, the highest honor available to Navy Junior ROTC members.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me recognizing Michael Patterson for his heroism and commending him on his quick actions to save the life of Chad Hostnick. The citizens of Robertsdale and the state of Alabama are forever thankful. Michael is a true hero.

HONORING THE UPPER MAIN LINE
YMCA

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 17, 2008

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Upper Main Line YMCA on the dedication and grand opening of its new facility.

Since its charter in 1962, the Y has become a vital resource, now serving more than 20,000 residents of Berwyn, PA, and the surrounding communities. In addition to providing traditional exercise facilities, YMCA offers programs, classes, and events for youth, teens, families, and older adults in everything from painting to tennis to babysitting.

In order to accommodate a growing community and membership, over the past 40 years, the Y has renovated, reconfigured, and expanded Cassatt Mansion and the surrounding property. The new building houses an 8,500-square-foot Wellness Center, new locker rooms, exercise, cycling, and dance studios, expanded childcare services, and a cafe overlooking the tennis courts, complete with internet access. In addition, the new facility provides improved handicapped and parking accessibility.

The opening of this new facility furthers the YMCA's mission to build healthy spirit, mind, and body through programs and facilities that nurture children, strengthen families, and build strong communities.

Madam Speaker, I ask everyone to join me in commending all those who have generously contributed their time, effort, and resources to the Upper Main Line YMCA and its state-of-the-art facility.

HONORING ALEXANDER E. COOPER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 17, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alexander E. Cooper of Platte City, Missouri. Alexander is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alexander has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Alexander has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alexander E. Cooper for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MR. MARK MAASSEL

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 17, 2008—

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration and pleasure that I stand before you today to recognize the many years of dedicated service of Mr. Mark Maassel. Having known Mark for a long time, I can truly say that he is one of the most committed, knowledgeable, and honorable citizens in Northwest Indiana. Nowhere has his knowledge and commitment been more evident than in his faithful service as President of Northern Indiana Public Service Company, Northern Indiana Fuel and Light, and Kokomo Gas and Fuel for NiSource. Mark has served NiSource with over three decades of dedicated leadership in different roles throughout the company, and has been a constant fixture and involved in virtually all aspects of NIPSCO's business. For his efforts, I would like to thank him and extend my best wishes for his retirement.

Mark Maassel has spent his entire life, both professionally and personally, working at ways to improve not only NIPSCO, but society as a whole. Mark has continuously devoted himself to our community by serving on the Board of Directors of several local community organizations, such as: the Indiana Humanities Council, the Indiana Chamber, the Ivy Tech Foundation and the Northwest Indiana Forum, at which he served as Chairman in 2006. During this time, Mark has shared his unrivaled expertise and knowledge of his field with local organizations. From his service at NIPSCO and NiSource to his work with various organizations in Northwest Indiana, Mark has always sought opportunities to better our community with his expertise.

Looking back, it is no surprise that Mark was chosen to lead NIPSCO. Following a very successful undergraduate career, earning a Civil Engineering degree from the University of Minnesota, Mark was initially offered a job at NIPSCO to work on a proposed nuclear plant. Since beginning with NIPSCO in the late

1970's, Mark has completely dedicated his professional life to the advancement and improvement of the company and the quality of life for its customers. Due to Mark's involvement at so many levels of NIPSCO's business, his tenure as president will forever be remembered.

Though it may be difficult to imagine where he has found the time, Mark has always been a dedicated husband and father, raising three children with his wife Christine. They are the proud parents of Jesse, Lee and Jill, all now grown. He has also found time to develop several hobbies, becoming an accomplished woodworker and golfer, as well as a novice runner.

Madam Speaker, Mark Maassel has devoted his life to improving NIPSCO and to serving the people of Northwest Indiana. At this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending him for his lifetime of service, perseverance, and dedication. I also ask that you join me in wishing him the best of health and happiness in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE GARRETTFORD
DREXEL HILL FIRE COMPANY
FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 17, 2008

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Garrettford Drexel Hill Fire Company for 100 years of service to the residents of Upper Darby, Pennsylvania.

The Garrettford Drexel Hill Fire Company is the oldest of Upper Darby's five fire companies, and is the only one that remains entirely comprised of volunteers. What began with a handful of citizens committed to protecting the people of Drexel Hill has grown into a company with over 60 active members. These men and women selflessly protect the community while balancing their full-time careers and families. Through the years, their names and faces have changed, but the commitment and pride with which they serve has persevered.

I would like to recognize in particular James Verner, who served as chief of the company from 1913 until his tragic death in 1934. His was the first and only line of duty death to strike the Garrettford Drexel Hill Fire Company.

The Garrettford Fire Company, as it was originally known, started with just two Babcock extinguishers. From these humble beginnings, Garrettford Drexel Hill has expanded to an impressive, modernized apparatus fleet. The current firehouse, built at the site of the converted Baptist church, which originally housed the company, now has four bays and a spacious hall to accommodate this growth.

I ask everyone to join me in commending the members of the Garrettford Drexel Hill Fire Company, past and present, for their service to the community, and to congratulate them on reaching this 100-year milestone.