

marriage and family therapist has served as an adjunct professor in the College of Biblical Studies while taking on various duties and privileges as First Lady of ACU. As education has played an invaluable role in their lives, Dr. and Mrs. Money want to provide other young, achieving minds with the same opportunities they have had. The recently established Royce and Pam Money Fund for Excellence in Education provides scholarships for top-ranking students to continue their educational endeavors at ACU with a goal of \$1.9 million in aid.

Royce and Pam are deeply involved in the university community. They frequently extend a personal invitation to students to share a meal together. It is not uncommon to find Dr. Money eating lunch in the Bean Cafeteria with students, getting their perspective. The Monneys are both committed members of the Church of Christ and attend University Church of Christ, which is directly across the street from the university.

Dr. Money has enriched the educational system across Texas and throughout the country through memberships, chairmanships and board positions. More importantly, lives have been influenced in a positive way because students crossed paths with this remarkable man—Royce Money.

Beyond his commitment to academia, Dr. Money is an esteemed author, an outstanding role model and community member. He has served as chair of Abilene Chamber of Commerce and as president of the Lone Star Conference, as well as in positions on countless other boards throughout the community. Dr. Money's dedication to the community was honored when he was named Abilene's Citizen of the Year in 2007.

I am humbled to have had the pleasure to know Royce and Pam during my time on the board at ACU. Dr. Money is a man of integrity, who lives by his principles and stands up for his beliefs. Dr. Money will always hold a place in the hearts and minds of everyone whose life he has touched.

We honor Dr. and Mrs. Money for their lifetime service to this educational institution whose university goal is to "Change the World." We look forward to seeing more great things come in the story of Abilene Christian University as Dr. Royce Money's influence does in fact help university students to change the world for the better.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COMMERCE BANK

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, Chairman FRANK and I would like to extend our congratulations to Commerce Bank, its officers, directors, shareholders and employees on being designated by Forbes magazine as the third-best bank in America in 2009. Commerce Financial Corporation head-quartered in Kansas City, Missouri, is an \$18 billion bank founded in 1865. It is the largest bank ranked in the top 10 by Forbes. Five generations of the Kemper family have owned and/or operated Commerce Bank. Currently David Kemp-

er is the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President of Commerce Bancshares, Inc., Jonathan Kemper is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Commerce Bank, N.A. and Vice Chairman of Commerce Bancshares, Inc. Commerce Bank operates in five states—Missouri, Kansas, Illinois, Oklahoma and Colorado. The Bank's corporate mission is "To raise the voice of the customer and, in doing so, create a differentiating experience which encourages our customers to develop a relationship with Commerce and then become long-tenured, loyal customers." The company's customer promise is "ask listen solve. That means the company promises to ask the right questions, listen carefully to what our customer is telling us, then solve for the appropriate solution to meet our customers' specific needs."

Commerce Bank embodies strong community involvement in all the communities it serves. Commerce Bancshares Foundation invested more than \$1.4 million in community and charitable programs throughout their service areas in 2008 with a total of 780 grants awarded to 635 organizations. Through their employee volunteerism and corporate donations Commerce stands tall with their communities. In fact Commerce Bank just received an "Outstanding" rating from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency in their recent public evaluation of Commerce's community lending and participation.

Also in 2009, Commerce Bancshares, Inc. received J.D. Power and Associates Award "Highest Customer Satisfaction with Retail Banking in the Midwest Region Two Years in a Row, Tied in 2009."

Commerce is committed to environmental sustainability to reduce their environmental footprint. They encourage recycling, try to consume less paper, encourage employee carpooling and public transportation and monitor and manage energy usage. In 2008, Commerce opened Missouri's first LEED-certified bank branch in O'Fallon, Missouri. They are working hard to reduce their energy use, minimize water use, and use outdoor lighting and general building comfort in new branch designs as well as remodeled facilities.

When the largest banks in America were trying to repay billions of dollars in TARP funds and to improve their balance sheets and to deal with the impact of severe economic problems in the states where they do business, Commerce was keeping to their business strategy, conservative with slow, steady growth. Their non-performing loans as a percent to total loans was 1.6 percent, which ranked them 20th in this category in the country; reserves as a percentage of non-performing loans was 114 percent; and their Tier 1 capital ratio was 12.1 percent. Their stock trades at 1.8 times its book value. To be rated the third-best bank in America in 2009 by Forbes out of the 100 largest banks and thrifts in America is a great honor for everyone at Commerce Bank. Madam Speaker, again we offer Commerce Bank and all its employees, officers, directors and shareholders our heartiest congratulations on a job well done.

CONGRATULATING JORDAN MALONE ON HIS OLYMPIC BRONZE MEDAL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to congratulate Jordan Malone of Denton, Texas. Jordan is one of our nation's athletes who competed in the XXI Winter Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Jordan, as a member of Team USA, helped the men's 5000m relay capture bronze in short track speed skating. The Vancouver Games was Jordan's Olympic debut, and the bronze he won for speed skating at Pacific Coliseum on the night of February 26, 2010, was his first Olympic medal.

Jordan is a dedicated athlete who has accomplished great things in his career as a speed skater. Jordan is currently the only short track skater in the U.S. to compete in all five of the past World Championship events. He has won five gold medals, two silver medals, and eight bronze medals.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to celebrate the accomplishments of one of our nation's finest athletes, Jordan Malone. I am proud to represent such a dedicated athlete in the United States House of Representatives.

NATIONAL DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1186 to support designation of April as National Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

Distracted driving is a growing danger on the nation's roads. According to the recent National Motor Vehicle Crash Causation Survey, 80 percent of all traffic incidents and 65 percent of all near-crashes involve some type of distraction. Cell phone usage is a growing culprit, causing an estimated 2,600 deaths and nearly 330,000 injuries every year.

Strong federal action is needed to address this serious public safety issue. Last year, Transportation Secretary LaHood convened the first-ever Distracted Driving Summit. This led to the formation of FocusDriven, the nation's first nonprofit devoted to combating distracted driving, and the creation of www.distraction.gov, the federal government's official Web site to educate the public about the dangers of distracted driving. The designation of Distracted Driving Awareness Month is an important part of this public awareness campaign.

Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained at the time of the vote on H. Res. 1186. I had intended to vote for this important resolution. I applaud Secretary LaHood's efforts to ensure driver safety and support the designation of Distracted Driving Awareness Month.