

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING REX DAVIDSON

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Ms. CLARKE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate, pay tribute, and honor Mr. Rex Davidson on the occasion of his retirement from his post as a very valued Board Member of the New York City Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and as President and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey of 36 years.

On April 8th, I had the pleasure of visiting the New York City WIB for a briefing on the programs that we in Congress fund through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and how these programs reach the constituents of my district.

During this visit I had the opportunity to tour the Brooklyn Workforce1 Career Center which provides important customized services to both jobseekers and businesses to promote and increase the employment, job retention, earnings, and improve the occupational skills of New Yorkers.

The Career Center, funded through WIA and operated by Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey, just recently celebrated its 15,000th placement; an exciting and momentous achievement.

In my district alone in 2008, 7,083 customers received services through the Brooklyn Workforce1 Career Center and 1,554 Constituents from New York's 11th Congressional District found jobs.

Rex Davidson attended my visit to the Brooklyn Workforce1 Career Center to give both the perspective of an operator of one of our City's local One-Stop service locations and Board Member of the WIB.

It was clear from this interaction with Rex that he is passionate about his work both with Goodwill Industries and the Workforce Investment Board; he cares about the role of the business-driven workforce development system in New York City and the important need to link economic and workforce development to achieve the best outcomes for New Yorkers and New York City businesses.

Throughout his tenure with the WIB, Rex exhibited this passion helping to drive the increasing performance of not only the Center which Goodwill operates, but also that of the entire Workforce1 Career Center system.

Of his many accomplishments as a WIB Member, Rex served as Chair of the WIB's Prisoner Re-Entry Steering Committee.

The make-up of the Steering Committee is of experts representing the critical sectors and disciplines in New York City that focus on prisoner reentry issues, as well as, other key Board Members. Its goal is to address the complex issues associated with the reentry of people with criminal histories into New York City's workforce.

In June of this year, Rex Davison will leave his post at the New York City WIB and at

Goodwill Industries as he pursues other ventures out West.

At this critical moment in our nation's history, as we seek to improve the economic vitality of neighborhoods and ensure that more Americans can get back to work, it seems particularly fitting to honor Rex and the work that he does in New York City, particularly for the residents in my district, and ensuring that more New Yorkers than ever have access to services provided through WIA.

The Workforce Investment Board, Goodwill Industries, the people of New York City, and indeed the people of New York State will truly miss Rex. Rex Davidson is truly a credit to our nation.

I hope that you will join me in thanking him for his service and wishing him well on his future adventures.

JESUS TORRES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jesus Torres who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jesus Torres is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jesus Torres is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Jesus Torres for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2346, the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009.

The FY 2009 Supplemental Appropriations bill implements President Obama's plans for winding down the number of troops in Iraq and refocusing our fight against al Qaeda in Afghanistan and Pakistan—a plan I strongly support. The bill includes funds to train Afghan security forces and police, and help with eco-

nom development in this struggling nation. This investment in Afghanistan will also strengthen governance and expand the rule of law there.

It provides our troops who are in harm's way with the equipment they need while they work tirelessly to implement the strategy set forth by President Obama. For those soldiers who have suffered the hardship of stop-loss, which keeps them on active duty longer than planned, it provides long overdue compensation.

For Maryland, the Supplemental means \$208.3 million in funding for the relocation of Walter Reed Hospital National Military Medical Center to Bethesda. This money will support our wounded warriors and provide world-class care for these brave men and women. In addition, at our request, the President's budget includes separate funding to address the traffic congestion challenges that the Center will bring.

Additionally, in an effort to protect our country from global health risks, the Supplemental provides \$2 billion for pandemic flu response. This money will be used to expand the federal stockpiles of anti-viral drugs, and develop and purchase vaccines. It also assists state and local responses and supports global efforts to track and contain the spread of a pandemic. The recent outbreak of H1N1 flu is a clear example of why this funding is vital to our health and safety.

When President Obama was elected, he made a pledge to end the war in Iraq. With this Supplemental, we take another step in fulfilling the President's plan to remove all combat troops by August 2010 in a way that makes our country safer and our armed forces stronger.

21ST CENTURY GREEN HIGH-PERFORMING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BOBBY BRIGHT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 2187) to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to State educational agencies for the modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities, and for other purposes:

Mr. BRIGHT. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment to H.R. 2187, the 21st Century Green High Performing Public School Facilities Act. Put simply, this amendment allows the Secretary of Education to reserve 5 percent of Section 102 grant funds for local educational agencies serving geographic areas with significant economic distress or recovering from a natural disaster.

In its current form, the bill sets aside money for schools damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Indeed, those two storms caused

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

unprecedented damage to the Gulf Coast, including my home state of Alabama. Americans will never forget the images of storms that overwhelmed a city and region and left hundreds of thousands of people homeless and destroyed its infrastructure, including schools and educational facilities.

However, Congress would be shortsighted if we don't recognize that natural disasters happen across the country, across all seasons. Whether it's wildfires in the west, floods in the Midwest, ice storms in the north, hurricanes in the Gulf, or tornadoes throughout the country, our schools are also damaged when Mother Nature strikes.

The specific need for this amendment came to my attention because of the ongoing struggles that a community in my district has experienced. On March 1, 2007, a tornado ripped through the town of Enterprise, Alabama. In the middle of its 180-meter path of damage was Enterprise High School, full of children going about their daily routines and preparing themselves for their futures. The tornado left eight children dead, and left a community devastated by more than just material losses.

Over two years after the tornado, Enterprise is still struggling to fully rebuild, and the memories of those departed weigh heavily on the minds of the city and surrounding Coffee County. The high school continues to conduct classes out of nearby Enterprise-Ozark Community College. Though construction for a new school is underway, the city and school board has exhausted most of their options for fully funding the rebuilding of the school. Whenever I talk to Mayor Ken Boswell and Superintendent Jim Reese, finding a way to get Enterprise High School reopened as quickly as possible is always at the top of their priority list.

I cite the example in Enterprise because I'm sure other school districts across the country will experience similar issues as they recover from natural disasters. Over the past two months, my district alone has seen flooding and storms that have led to at least one federal disaster declaration. Small towns across America are simply not equipped to rebuild a mainstay in their communities like schools when they are destroyed by natural disasters. This is a way for the federal government to lend a helping hand to school districts in need.

Moreover, I am a believer in the old adage "if you're going to do something, do it right." Rebuilding and repairing these schools to 21st Century and environmentally efficient standards will help create a positive and healthy learning experience for our students. The families and students who utilize these schools will be able to take pride in them for years to come.

In closing, I would like to thank Chairman MILLER and his staff on the Education and Labor Committee for their attention to this issue and working with my staff to help draft this amendment. I would also like to thank the Rules Committee for ruling in favor of the amendment and allowing me to present it on the floor today. Finally, I thank my colleagues from Texas HENRY CUELLAR and AL GREEN for their continuing support and commitment on this issue.

I urge passage of this amendment, and passage of the final bill.

ALEXANDER WATSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alexander Watson who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Alexander Watson is a senior at Pomona High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Alexander Watson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Alexander Watson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RIGHT TO
A SECOND MEDICAL OPINION
ACT OF 2009

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Right to a Second Medical Opinion Act of 2009 to ensure the accessibility and coverage of medical second opinions.

Imagine that your doctor tells you that you must undergo surgery that may threaten the use of a limb or leave you with a serious chronic condition. It is only natural to want a second opinion from another doctor when facing such a serious health event.

Besides giving patients much-needed peace of mind, second opinions can benefit health plans by reducing the number of invasive procedures and result in better patient care through increased dialogue about treatment options. Some health care groups see the value in such requests and provide patients with a second opinion.

When I was a member of the California State Assembly, I heard from a number of patients who experienced a glitch in their health care coverage. They noticed the absence of a clear process for obtaining medical second opinions. These patients, many struggling with challenging health conditions, had difficulties obtaining second opinions through their health plans.

After meeting with patients, physicians and health groups, I authored a law in California that guarantees coverage of second opinions. The law in California was a good first step. Unfortunately, only a small number of states have similar laws on the books. It is time to extend second opinion coverage to health plans nationwide.

Americans deserve quality and comprehensive health care coverage. I urge you, Madam Speaker, and all of my colleagues to pass this critical legislation into law.

A TRIBUTE TO BILLIE WESTERNOFF, CALAVERAS COUNTY RESOURCE CONNECTION FOOD BANK DIRECTOR

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Billie Westernoff, who is retiring after 20 years of dedicated service at the Calaveras County Connection Food Bank.

Ms. Westernoff's career at this important community facility has been solely based on her desire to serve the public. Her vibrant personality and remarkable ability to connect with people have brought national recognition to the food bank. Furthermore, her determination to provide comprehensive programs and services related to nutrition, prevention and intervention for families in Calaveras County has strengthened my district and our Nation.

Let me also say that in 2007, Ms. Westernoff testified before Congress on the importance of fresh fruits and vegetables as a part of a child's daily diet. As a result of her testimony, the Mother Infant Child Harvest program was piloted in Calaveras County and served as the model for the federal Women Infant Children program nationally.

Her dynamic focus and ability to inspire others to assist individuals in need will be her legacy. It is an honor to recognize Billie Westernoff for her immense dedication to improving the quality of life for so many individuals and for her commitment to collaboration and equality. She has served my district and our Nation proudly.

INDIAN ELECTIONS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I want to commend the people of India on their successful election concluded Saturday. I want to congratulate Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and his United Progressive Alliance for winning the most seats, 262, in what is a month long voting process with as many as 700 million eligible voters.

Prime Minister Singh has been instrumental in forging a stronger alliance between India, the world's largest democracy, and the United States, the world's oldest democracy—including the U.S.-India civilian nuclear agreement which will mean jobs and cleaner energy for both our nations. As evidenced by the vibrant success of Indian Americans in American commerce and society, the shared values of our two nations are stronger than ever before.

I have met Prime Minister Singh in New Delhi and Washington, and I wish him and the people of India much success moving forward. There are tremendous challenges in that region, but I know that working together with their neighbors and allies, India can have a bright future.

CHARLIE WAGNER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Charlie Wagner who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Charlie Wagner is a senior at Pomona High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Charlie Wagner is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Charlie Wagner for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

CELEBRATING TAIWAN'S PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU FIRST ANNIVERSARY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to convey my support for the Taiwanese president, Ma Ying-jeou, his many successes, and the guiding principles of his country. President Ying-jeou is to be commended for championing strengthened ties between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China, since assuming office on May 20, 2008.

It is with tremendous pride that we will collaborate with our long-time friend and ally, the Republic of China (Taiwan), at the upcoming World Health Assembly (WHA) later this month in Geneva, Switzerland. This is the first time since 1972 that Taiwan has been afforded international standing among sovereign nations at a United Nations event. This Congress most recently honored the U.S.-Taiwan bilateral relationship with the passage of H. Con. Res. 55, recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations. The passage of this Act illustrates the commitment and friendship between our two great nations. The strong leadership and cooperation of President Obama and President Ma Ying-jeou will unquestionably help strengthen our nations' unity.

Charged with the task of promoting global public health, the work of the WHA assumes great significance particularly in the midst of H1N1, HIV/AIDS, SARS, and avian flu threats. We welcome the meaningful cooperation of world-wide partners to make for safe and sensible solutions amidst continued dangers that jeopardize public health. I am confident of Taiwan's intention and ability to help combat these threats and help meet the ever-changing demands and needs of its people and the global community at large.

I urge my colleagues of the 111th Congress to please join me in extending continued best wishes to President Ma Ying-jeou on his first anniversary in office on May 20, 2009.

IN RECOGNITION OF SUSAN J. SPUNGIN'S RECEIPT OF THE MIGEL MEDAL FROM THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. NADLER of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Susan J. Spungin. In March of 2009, the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) awarded the M.C. Migel Medal to Dr. Spungin at their Josephine L. Taylor Leadership Institute in Washington, DC.

The M.C. Migel Medal was established in 1937 by the late M.C. Migel, the first chairperson of the American Foundation for the Blind. The award was created to honor professionals and volunteers whose dedication and achievements have improved the lives of people who are blind or visually impaired. It is the highest honor in the blindness field.

This year's recipient, Dr. Spungin recently retired from her position as Vice President of International Programs and Special Projects at the American Foundation for the Blind, and as Treasurer of the World Blind Union.

An internationally renowned expert on the education and rehabilitation of individuals who are blind or visually impaired, Dr. Spungin joined AFB in 1972 as a national specialist in education. In this capacity, she identified nationwide issues affecting blind, deaf-blind, and severely visually impaired children and youths, and worked in partnership with schools, agencies, state departments of education, universities, the federal government, and other organizations to resolve those issues. Additionally, she was instrumental in shaping the American Foundation for the Blind's research and policy work, specifically, its national programs in the areas of early childhood development, aging, employment, rehabilitation teaching, low vision, orientation and mobility, and career education.

Dr. Spungin's leadership and influence within the field of blindness and vision impairment are evident in her many publications and workshops, lectures, and keynote speeches she's presented around the world; in her mentorship of newer leaders in the field; and the awards and honors she has received and the enormous respect and reverence that greet her wherever she goes.

Dr. Spungin's forty-four years of distinguished work on education and rehabilitation of blind people in national and international arenas is commendable and fully deserving of the commendation of the M.C. Migel Medal.

TRIBUTE TO WESLEY SAVAGE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, each May, I hold a small business procurement con-

ference at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, Missouri. Through the years, many individuals have contributed to the success of this event, which helps entrepreneurs and small business owners to cut through bureaucratic red tape associated with the procurement process and to make business connections.

One individual who was particularly helpful in gluing together my annual conference was Wes Savage, a good friend and expert in entrepreneurial studies and business development. Wes passed away rather unexpectedly last July, so the 2009 conference will be the first one without him.

As I prepare for this year's event, let me take a moment to reflect on the life of a truly outstanding figure at the University of Central Missouri, a good family man, and a friend to so many people.

Wes was born on May 25, 1937, in Decatur, Illinois. He received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering & industrial engineering from the University of Missouri—Rolla and a master's degree in production management & human resource management from Butler University. He also completed continuing education courses in psychology, banking, and basic programming.

Wes enjoyed working and became an expert while being employed in a wide range of industries and organizations. He was a Registered Professional Engineer in the state of Missouri and gave time to the Engineers Club of Kansas City. He was affiliated with the Missouri Board of Architects, the Engineers and Land Surveyors, and the National Development Council.

In 1987, Wes began working at the University of Central Missouri as the Consulting Engineer for the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and became coordinator for the SBDC in 1990. Wes served as the Center's director until he became Director of the Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies and Development at the University.

In his role at the University, Wes assisted and advised numerous Missouri business owners and entrepreneurs. He gave sound advice to help Missourians begin or improve business operations, which in turn, helped to create jobs and boost economic productivity in the Show-Me State. I have heard from many individuals through the years who have expressed gratitude for working with the SBDC because of the Center's positive impact on business.

Wes also cared deeply about teaching university students about entrepreneurship and the unique opportunities and business tools available to people in this country. This is why he was particularly thrilled when the University created the Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies and Development and why he helped create an online course and co-taught with staff the first entrepreneurial course at the University.

Wes Savage applied the things he learned in education and in life to his professional career. He was an experienced manager who motivated those around him with his strong work ethic and his relaxed, friendly demeanor.

I know Members of the House will join me in expressing gratitude for Wes's life and for extending best wishes to his wife, Jane; his sons and their wives, Craig and Deana Savage, Scott and Gina Savage, and Grant and Erika Savage; his six grandchildren; and all of his friends and colleagues.

HANNAH TURNER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Hannah Turner who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Hannah Turner is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Hannah Turner is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Hannah Turner for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

INTRODUCTION OF VETERANS
EDUCATION TUITION SUPPORT
ACT OF 2009

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Veterans Education Tuition Support Act of 2009 or the VETS Act to address some of the difficulties our military personnel face when they are activated while attending college.

Thousands of military reservists have been activated to fight in Iraq and Afghanistan directly from their college campuses. Unfortunately, students who serve in the military face unique hardships when called upon to defend the United States.

Most colleges and universities refund tuition and fees to students when the activation occurs during the academic calendar. However, instances have occurred when a service member has not been reimbursed.

The goal of the VETS Act is to provide our service members with certain rights when they are activated while in college to defend our country. The legislation requires colleges and universities to refund tuition and fees for unearned credit for unexpected withdrawals due to activation.

It also sets guidelines for the Department of Education to forgive student loans when a student service member for the semester or quarter in which the service member is activated to defend the United States.

Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this legislation to give rights and protections to the service members activated while attending a college or university. This is the least we can do for our brave men and women in uniform who sacrifice so much for us.

ON THE BIRTH OF JOHN PATE
McMAHON**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I am happy to congratulate Aris and Gibson McMahon of Alexandria, Virginia, on the birth of their new baby boy. John Pate McMahon was born on May 6, 2009, weighing 8 pounds and 11 ounces. He has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future.

On behalf of my wife Roxanne, and our entire family, we want to wish Aris, Gibson, and John all the best.

A TRIBUTE TO HUGH "SMITTY"
SMITH, AN AMERICAN HERO

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Hugh "Smitty" Smith, an American hero who served our nation through five major campaigns in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany during World War II.

Mr. Smith served on the front lines with the 744th Light Tank Battalion of the United States Army. As he advanced on the Axis Powers as the commander of an M24 tank, he was wounded by a German sniper in the face. Determined to fight for the liberation of Europe, he returned to his battalion three weeks later. Epitomizing the strength of the Allied Forces, Smitty staved off starvation and suffered a concussion, only to stay his new post guarding German prisoners until they were relocated.

Serving as a de facto battalion commander and even as a medic when his comrades were targets of German snipers, Smitty was known by his men as a "go to guy." Always rising to the occasion during the worst battlefield conditions, Smitty guided, calmed and assisted his men when they needed him most. Mr. Smith's bravery was simply unmatched.

One of Mr. Smith's most admirable leadership qualities is his fervor for serving others. As this was evident in his youth, he continues today to lead by example and improve the wellbeing of his community by being a member of the CAPS team, the volunteer citizens patrol unit for the Galt Police Department. This role only solidifies what we know to be true about Smitty, that he is always ready and willing to serve others.

The ability to inspire and live a life of complete selflessness is the legacy of a true hero. It is an honor to recognize Hugh "Smitty" Smith for his immense dedication to improving the quality of life for so many individuals both here and abroad, and for his unwavering commitment to equality and justice. He has truly served my district and the United States of America proudly.

JOSEPH STIKA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Joseph Stika who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Joseph Stika is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Joseph Stika is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Joseph Stika for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

HONORING MRS. KIM SCHMIDT

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mrs. Kim Schmidt, recipient of the Harford County Public Schools Teacher of the Year award. Kim is dedicated to motivating her students and ensuring they receive an excellent education.

Kim has been an educator for 18 years, 16 of which have been in the Harford County Public School System. While Kim wanted to be a teacher from the time she was a little girl, her dream of teaching temporarily faded while she became interested in physical therapy. However, in college, Kim discovered her love for history and her desire to teach others.

Graduating from the University of Delaware in 1991, Kim began her teaching career as a middle school Social Studies teacher at Old Court Middle School in Baltimore. In 1993, she began teaching at Havre de Grace High School and in 1996 she became the History Department Chairperson at Fallston Middle School. From 1997 to 2005, Kim held a variety of positions in the Harford County Public School System before moving back to the classroom at Havre de Grace High School to teach United States History.

Throughout her career in Harford County, Kim has served on the School Based Instructional Decision Making Teams, School Improvement Teams, the Maryland Geographic Alliance, and the Maryland State Department of Education reading in the content area task force. In addition to receiving this award, Kim will compete for the title of Maryland Teacher of the Year to represent Maryland's teachers as an education spokesperson.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mrs. Kim Schmidt on this memorable occasion. Her dedication to the students of Harford County is showcased by her continuing drive to motivate her students to

success, and ensure that they receive the highest quality of education.

TRIBUTE TO SAMUEL L. GRAVELY, JR., FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN U.S. NAVY FLAG OFFICER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today, to recognize the christening of the USS Gravelly, the 57th Arleigh Burke class Aegis Guided Missile Destroyer, in honor of the late Vice Admiral Samuel L. Gravelly, Jr.

Samuel L. Gravelly, born in Richmond, Virginia in 1922, was the first African American to command a fighting ship (USS Falgout) and to command a major warship (USS Jouett). As a full commander, he made naval history in 1966 as the first African American commander to lead a ship—the USS Taussig—into direct offensive action. He was the first African American to achieve flag rank and eventually Vice Admiral.

In 1942, Gravelly interrupted his education at Virginia Union University and enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He attended Officer Training Camp at the University of California in Los Angeles after boot camp at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station in Illinois, and then midshipman school at Columbia University. When he boarded his first ship in May of 1945, he became its first African American officer.

In 1945, when his first ship reached its berth in Key West, Florida, he was specifically forbidden entry into the Officers' Club on the base. Gravelly survived the indignities of racial prejudice and displayed unquestionable competence as a naval officer.

Vice Admiral Gravelly's tenure in the naval service was challenged with the difficulties of racial discrimination. As a new recruit, he was trained in a segregated unit; as an officer, he was barred from living in the Bachelor's Officers' Quarters.

Gravelly exemplified the highest standards and demanded very high standards from his crew. Vice Admiral Gravelly was a trailblazer for African Americans in the military arena. He fought for equal rights quietly but effectively, letting his actions speak for him. Vice Admiral Gravelly died on October 22, 2004, at the naval hospital in Bethesda, Maryland.

Samuel L. Gravelly, Jr.'s performance and leadership as an African American naval officer demonstrated to America the value and strength of diversity. Gravelly was a true professional with superb skills as a seaman and admirable leadership attributes. His spirit aboard the USS Gravelly will be an inspiration to its crew, the United States Navy, and America for generations to come.

HONORING CLEO ZENT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Cleo Estelle King Zent of

Petaluma, California, for an unusual accomplishment. Cleo just celebrated her 100th birthday, an event few people have the opportunity to enjoy.

There is no one secret to Cleo's longevity. Cleo maintains that genetics and a healthy lifestyle have kept her spry. She always avoided alcohol and tobacco use and, since she never drove, she got her exercise by walking everywhere. Cleo's positive outlook has also allowed her to experience ten fulfilling decades of life.

Cleo, daughter of Hugh and Laura Walker King, was born in Floyd, New Mexico on April 9, 1909. Her father was a leading citizen who championed education and promoted school issues among voters.

In 1927, Hugh and Laura King moved the family to Rio Vista, California where Hugh and his sons worked for Speckels Sugar Company until moving to Lodi, California three years later.

Following Prohibition, Cleo worked as a waitress in a local coffee shop where local winemakers gathered for breakfast and conversations. Cesar Mondavi and August Sebastiani were among Cleo's customers.

On May 2, 1942, Cleo married Claude R. Zent. The couple spent most of the World War II years in Alameda, where Claude worked as an electrical engineer at the Naval Air Station. Their first son, William R. Zent, was born in 1945, followed by the birth of Jack Zent in 1948.

After the War, the Zent family moved to a 12-acre plot of land just outside the city of Petaluma and Claude transferred his employment to the Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo.

For the next twenty years, Cleo and her family spent their time building and improving their homestead. According to Cleo, for years their house looked like they were just moving in or just moving out. When Cleo's dreams for her home were almost realized in 1966, Claude died of a brain hemorrhage. Cleo remained on the family's property walking to and from the grocery store, mowing the lawn and maintaining her home until she was in her 90s.

Today, Cleo lives in the Golden Living Care Home in Petaluma and she shares her life with her sons and her four grandchildren, Caryn Estelle, Kevin, Christy and Christopher Zent.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to honor Cleo Zent whose experience is a testament to the fact that a healthy lifestyle and optimistic outlook can lead to a long and fulfilling life. Happy Birthday, Cleo!

MELISSA TEBEAU

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Melissa Tebeau who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Melissa Tebeau is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Melissa Tebeau is exemplary of the type of achieve-

ment that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Melissa Tebeau for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

SOUTH CAROLINA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD RECEIVES HONOR

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am grateful to recognize the South Carolina Army National Guard's 218th Brigade Combat Team who was recently honored with the Joint Meritorious Unit Award. Presented by the Department of Defense's Joint Chiefs of Staff, this award is given to units that have achieved distinction in their duties and is the second highest award given to a military unit.

The 218th, led by Major General Bob Livingston, served for a year in Afghanistan as part of Task Force Phoenix advising and training Afghan police and army forces. As a result of their heroic and dedicated service, Afghanistan has doubled the size of its army to 52,000 troops, and the number of Afghan police officers killed in action each month has been cut dramatically.

As a 28 year veteran of the 218th, I want to extend my gratitude and that of the entire nation to Major General Stan Spears, commander of the South Carolina National Guard, Major General Livingston, his brave soldiers and their families for their tremendous commitment to protecting American families by defeating terrorists overseas.

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN FAHEY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, for the past 30 years, Kevin Fahey has dedicated his personal and professional life to the students and faculty of the University of Connecticut. This year, he will retire as the President of the University of Connecticut Professional Employees Association (UCPEA), the union for professional staff at the university. While he will remain an active member of the UConn community, I rise to recognize his years of contributions to faculty and staff at the university.

Kevin joined the UConn faculty over three decades ago and currently serves as the Senior Associate Director in the Department of Student Activities. As Senior Associate Director in the Department of Student Activities, he advises the Student Union Board of Governors (SUBOG), Kappa Alpha Theta, and Tau Kappa Epsilon in academics, community outreach, and personal and professional growth.

For the past 15 years, Kevin has also served as the President of UCPEA.

Madam Speaker, the success of our education systems relies on the strength and passion of our academic leaders. I can personally attest to Kevin's passion for education, the UConn community, and the students he advises, which has led many to conclude that he "bleeds husky blue". While his leadership with the UCPEA will certainly be missed, he will continue to enrich the UConn community and energize its students. I ask my colleagues to join with me and the UConn community in recognizing his decades of service.

BRITTANY SMITH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brittany Smith who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brittany Smith is a senior at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Brittany Smith is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Brittany Smith for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO JEFFREY M. COHEN

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my most trusted advisors and closest friends, Jeffrey M. Cohen.

Jeff has a long history with the Mack Family, going back almost 20 years. He interned for my father, U.S. Senator Connie Mack III, and later served as his press secretary for several years. After working in a variety of public relations and management positions in the private sector and on political campaigns, Jeff agreed to serve as my campaign manager during my first run for Congress in 2004.

Since then, Jeff has been my right-hand man, effectively and efficiently managing my congressional office as well as my 2006 and 2008 campaigns. He is my sounding board, a dedicated public servant, and a strong advocate for the ideals of freedom and free markets. Jeff is passionate about what he does and his work and management style reflect this.

A professional with Jeff's talents and expertise would be an attractive candidate for any firm, and I've been fortunate to have him by my side for so many years. But Jeff has been

afforded a wonderful opportunity that will allow him to grow in his career.

After 5½ years as my chief of staff, Jeff is moving on to take a position in the private sector.

Jeff has been named executive vice president of Alexandria, Virginia-based Direct Impact, a leading national grassroots, public affairs, public education and corporate reputation firm, and a subsidiary of Burson-Marsteller.

While I am happy for Jeff to begin this next phase of his professional career, make no mistake about it, he will be greatly missed. He has been a valuable member and irreplaceable part of my team, but I will continue to count on his advice and friendship in the years ahead.

Madam Speaker, I would not be where I am today were it not for Jeff's dedication, service and hard work. On behalf of the people of Florida's Fourteenth Congressional District, I want to thank Jeff for his years of service to the people of Florida and the Nation. He is my friend, he is a true public servant in every sense of the word, and I wish him all the best as he begins this new and exciting chapter of his life.

HONORING 43 YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE OF ROBERT WAYNE WILCOX

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 43 years of military service of Robert Wayne Wilcox, a farmer from Moberly and Randolph County Eastern District Commissioner. I want to commend Mr. Wilcox for his two combat tours in Vietnam and two tours in Iraq, and I would also like to draw special attention to the fact that Mr. Wilcox volunteered for multiple tours of duty in both Vietnam and Iraq.

Mr. Wilcox began his military career by entering active duty on March 21, 1966 and served proudly until this past March 23, 2009. Mr. Wilcox accumulated more than 4,000 hours of flight time as a military pilot and during his last tour of duty in Iraq, he flew Black Hawk helicopters in over 400 hours of combat.

Mr. Wilcox has attained numerous awards, including: three Bronze Stars for meritorious service, one Meritorious Service Medal, one Army Commendation Medal, 18 Air Medals, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, a Vietnam Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" device, one Army Service Ribbon, an Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Vietnam Gallantry Cross with bronze star attachment.

Our soldiers, sailors, and pilots sacrifice everything they have in service to America and will serve as a permanent reminder of the bravery, loyal patriotism, and love of country.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing Robert Wayne Wilcox our sincerest thanks and appreciation for his commitment, dedication, and service to

our nation. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress.

IN MEMORY OF MAYOR BOB WASSON

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Mayor Bob Wasson of Sedalia, Missouri. Bob was a lovely man and a dedicated servant to the city of Sedalia, his family, and his friends.

Bob was born on October 20, 1933, in Las Vegas, Nevada. He was raised in Sedalia, Missouri, and graduated from Hughesville High School. In 1953, Bob dedicated his services to the country by volunteering for the army during the Korean War. He spent his time in Korea as a typist and played a pivotal role in hiring KATUSA soldiers, Korean Augmentation Troops to the United States.

In 1962, Bob married his wife, Eleanor. In 1974, they moved back to Missouri, where Bob spent the remainder of his years dedicating his time and efforts to the community. He began his service as owner of his local grocery store, Bob's AF Super. It was through his store that Bob began to meet and interact with residents of Sedalia. In addition, Bob also spent several years as the director of the Sedalia Senior Center. In 1994, he began to reach out to the community by preaching at the Broadway Baptist Church. He was ordained in 1997 and spent time preaching at the Dresden Baptist Church and the Lamine Baptist Church before becoming the pastor at Mt. Herman Baptist Church, where he remained pastor up until his death. As Bob steadily became a noticeable figure in the Sedalia area, the decision was made to run for public office in 2002. Having no previous political experience, Bob was victorious in his first mayoral election, defeating the 11-year incumbent, winning more than 70 percent of the votes.

As a politician, Bob is noted for starting the new recycling program, building a new community center, supporting Whiteman Air Force Base, and developing the economy. However, he is most known for his visibility in the community and his interaction with Sedalia citizens. Councilwoman Wanda Monsees framed it well when she said, "When I think of Mayor Wasson, the image I get, is of how he would be in the parades, and he would have his young grandsons with him. That just personifies the kind of guy he was to me."

In 2008, Bob was diagnosed with a brain tumor and in April he underwent surgery to remove it. In May, he underwent a second surgery to remove a tumor discovered in his colon. However, even while battling cancer, Bob continued to serve Sedalia as Mayor. I admire the tenacity he displayed as he battled cancer and the courage it took to continue working and providing sound advice during difficult times.

Madam Speaker, Bob Wasson was a great man. It was a pleasure to work with him on issues that affected Sedalia and central Missouri because he fought hard to make it a better area. I will miss him terribly and I hope the

House will join me in expressing our deepest condolences to his family and friends. He was a dedicated servant to the Sedalia community, but above all he was a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother, son and friend.

DARYA SHEVCHENKO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Darya Shevchenko who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Darya Shevchenko is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Darya Shevchenko is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Darya Shevchenko for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

DAYTON PLAYS IMPORTANT ROLE
IN AMERICA'S AMATEUR RADIO
SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, last weekend the Dayton, Ohio area played host to America's Amateur Radio operators. The Dayton Hamvention, located in Trotwood, has been a fixture of the Amateur Radio community since the event's founding in 1952.

There are 663,000 FCC-licensed amateurs in the United States and Ohio ranks fourth nationally with a total of 27,800. Many traveled to the Dayton area to attend the Hamvention.

The Amateur Radio Service, which began in the early 1900s, is both a challenging hobby and a valuable national resource in times of local and national disasters. Amateur Radio has repeatedly proven its value in providing two-way communications for local emergency operations centers and public safety officials during hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, earthquakes and even terror attacks. Its motto, "When all else fails . . . Amateur Radio," is more relevant today than ever.

For most of the 20th century, Amateur Radio attracted and nurtured telecommunications skills in America's youth, inspiring many to seek careers in communications and engineering while advancing the art of radio communications. Today, Amateur Radio satellites link hobbyists around the globe, and Amateur Radio operators combine the latest computer technology and digital communications with a commitment to public service.

The Dayton Hamvention, sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association, has steadily grown in size and popularity to become the premier annual gathering of ham radio operators from around the world. The three day event offered exhibits of the latest in radio and digital communications technology and forums for hams to share their skills and interests.

Thanks to the never ending hard work of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association, hams eagerly look to Dayton each year for innovation and inspiration.

IN TRIBUTE TO BISHOP SEDGWICK
DANIELS

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a compassionate spiritual and community leader from the Fourth Congressional District, Bishop Sedgwick Daniels. Bishop Daniels is the pastor and spiritual leader of Holy Redeemer Institutional Church of God in Christ. His involvement in the well-being of this community, whether it is his church ministry or providing critical services, has been a lifelong pursuit. Bishop Daniels is a recognized leader at the national, regional and local level for his work.

Bishop Daniels has been recently honored with his election and elevation to the General Board for the International Church of God in Christ. The General Board oversees both the temporal and spiritual affairs of the church in the United States and in more than 50 countries. The 12-member General Board of Bishops is elected to this board from the Church of God in Christ's International Board of Bishops.

Bishop Daniels is the jurisdictional Bishop for the historic Wisconsin 1st Jurisdiction, where he oversees more than 90 congregations and includes all of Wisconsin and northern Illinois. In addition to his duties as jurisdictional Bishop, he oversees an array of resources and services to assist the community as leader of the Holy Redeemer Institutional Church including: a credit union, youth programs through the Daniels-Mardak Boys and Girls Club, educational programs and plans for the development of Bishop Creek Initiative.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Bishop Sedgwick Daniels' contributions to the Fourth Congressional District.

HONORING THE 19TH ANNUAL DC
BLACK PRIDE CELEBRATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, Memorial Day Weekend, May 17th–25th, is the 19th Annual DC Black Pride celebration in Washington, DC.

DC Black Pride is an exciting six-day event complete with dynamic workshops, receptions, cultural arts activities, small and large nightclub events that culminates in the world's old-

est, most inclusive Black Pride Festival. Many consider DC's festival one of the world's pre-eminent Black Pride celebrations. The Festival consistently draws more than 30,000 people to the Nation's Capital. Attendees come from every major urban area in the United States as well as Canada, the Caribbean, South Africa, Great Britain, France, Germany, and the Netherlands. The Black Pride Festival features activities for the entire family, including performances by national recording artists, 200 exhibition booths, book signings from noted writers, participation from national and local health organizations, and arts and crafts.

Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, Inc. (BLGPD), the celebration's organizing body, chose the theme "Pure Love" to encourage the Black lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community to recommit themselves to advocacy, continuing the work towards combating homophobia and heterosexism, promote health and wellness, strengthen their community, and inspire Black LGBT people everywhere to live their lives with pride and integrity.

Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, Inc., a non-profit organization with a volunteer Board of Directors, coordinates this annual event. BLGPD's 2009 Board of Directors consists of: Khalid Parker, President; Christopher Lane, Secretary; Maegan Marciano, Treasurer; and the following Members at Large: Jhabriel Moore, Karim Shabazz, and Jimma Eliot-Stevens; and these Members Emeriti: Earl Fowlkes, James W. Hawkins, Eric E. Richardson, Clarence J. Fluker, Courtney Snowden, Sterling Washington and Cheryl Dunn, who lead BLGPD in its mission to build knowledge of and to create greater pride in the Black LGBT community's diversity, while raising funds to ameliorate and prevent health problems in this community, especially HIV/AIDS.

I ask the House to join me in welcoming all attending the 19th annual DC Black Pride celebration in Washington, DC, and I take this opportunity to remind the celebrants that United States citizens who reside in Washington, DC, are taxed without full voting representation in Congress.

JUSTIN TRUJILLO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Justin Trujillo who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Justin Trujillo is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Justin Trujillo is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Justin Trujillo for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF FRANCIS "BOB"
GALANTE OF BROCKTON, MASSA-
CHUSETTS

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Francis Galante, in recognition of his bravery, sacrifice and service to the United States of America.

Francis is the son of Teresa (Ferrante) and Carl Galante who emigrated from Frigento, Italy. He was born on August 28, 1916 in Brockton, Massachusetts, and lived in West Bridgewater with his aunt and uncle through the Depression.

He graduated from Brockton High School, married Diana Ferrini in 1939, enlisted in the United States Reserves, and was then drafted into the United States Army. He was deployed overseas and stationed in Africa, leaving his wife and ten-month-old daughter.

Francis was later shipped to Salerno, Italy, with the 34th Infantry nicknamed the Red Bull Division. He served as a ranger behind enemy lines. He was hit with shrapnel in Leghorn, Italy, wounding both of his legs and his head. He crawled for days to get back to base in order to receive medical treatment. He received the Purple Heart while in the hospital August 9, 1945.

After being hospitalized in Italy, Atlantic City, and Framingham, Massachusetts, he was discharged August 9, 1945, VJ Day, and returned home to Brockton. He then drove an Eastern Mass bus and also worked for his father-in-law's bakery, Superior Bakery, making over 200 deliveries in one day. Later, he was an important part of the creation of the cabinet company, Wood-Hu Kitchens, in Brockton, later becoming President. He retired from Wood-Hu Kitchens in August, 1981.

Francis was a star athlete, held records in track, and was also a professional gymnast performing in many Brockton clubs. He was a member of the YMCA since he was eight years old and was the longest standing member of the YMCA until his recent illness. He was a member of the Thorny Lea Golf Club in Brockton for over forty years.

Madam Speaker, Francis had many passions in life, the most important being family. He was married at the age of twenty-three to the love of his life, the late Diana. He was the proud parent of two children, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Francis was known for his amazing health and vigor at the age of 92. He always had the ability to make people laugh while poking fun at the same time. Francis is remembered and admired by his family and many friends.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take the floor of the House today to join with Francis Galante's family, friends, and contemporaries to thank him for his remarkable service to his community of Brockton and to the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO HELEN CROFT

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the extraordinary life of Helen Croft, who died unexpectedly this month at the age of 45.

Known for her warmth, optimism and contagious enthusiasm, Helen was an art teacher at North Allegheny School District's Hosack Elementary School. In this capacity, she positively impacted the lives of thousands of young students, including most recently my two daughters, Natalie and Grace.

She treated every student, teacher and parent with respect, and brought a smile to the face of seemingly everyone with whom she came into contact. She exhibited a love of life that extended well beyond the school.

She also worked as a coach in a community soccer league, and cultivated at her home a renowned colonial-style garden that drew admirers from across western Pennsylvania. A graduate of Buffalo State University and the Fashion Institute of New York City, she was known for her talent for embroidery, which she regularly shared with friends and neighbors.

She will be greatly missed by those friends and neighbors, as well as the entire North Allegheny School District, especially her students. But of course her loss will be most deeply felt by her husband Corky and their two children, Jacob and Hannah.

Her work lives on in the hearts of everyone she touched, and she serves as a lasting inspiration to the students who loved her.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE OHIO AERO-
SPACE INSTITUTE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Ohio Aerospace Institute, as they celebrate their 20th anniversary on 20th of May, 2009.

The Ohio Aerospace Institute (OAI) is a non-profit organization whose work is supported by several institutions, including the NASA Glenn Research Center, the Air Force Research Laboratory, and the Wright Patterson Air Force Base. The institute works in conjunction with ten public and private universities in the State of Ohio by offering students the opportunity to study aerospace engineering for their graduate work, as well as with numerous companies around the country.

The OAI leads research projects and develops technology partnerships in order to connect universities, laboratories and industries working in the field of aerospace engineering. Their partnerships with local universities educate and mentor local students, creating the future leaders of our aerospace workforce. The OAI also brings together various representatives of the governmental, industrial and educational sectors—fostering and improving stronger cooperation between them.

Since OAI's inception 20 years ago, they now have 80 employees and have led more

than 250 research and development projects funded by 206 million dollars from the space industry sector and the federal government. The OAI is continuing Ohio's instrumental and historical role in space research by inspiring our future John Glenns, Wright Brothers, and Neil Armstrongs.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the tireless service and significant contribution that the Ohio Aerospace Institute has provided to the State of Ohio and to our entire nation.

SHELBY WEST

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Shelby West who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Shelby West is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Shelby West is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Shelby West for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING TAIWAN ON OB-
TAINING OBSERVER STATUS IN
WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Taiwan on its participation as an observer in the 62nd annual World Health Assembly (WHA), which is taking place in Geneva this week. The recent H1N1 influenza outbreak serves as yet another reminder that international cooperation is vital to protecting against the spread of infectious diseases. In order to achieve this goal, it is important to have broad participation in the activities of the World Health Organization (WHO), and I commend the WHO for inviting Taiwan to assist in carrying out its mission.

Taiwan is a key trading partner for the United States and the fifth largest overseas market for U.S. agricultural exports. With growing attention to ensuring the safety of the food supply in a global economy, our close economic ties with the people of Taiwan present another compelling argument for Taiwan's involvement in the WHA. Furthermore, I believe the Taipei delegation will bring a valuable perspective to the WHA in light of Taiwan's remarkable success in advancing the public health of its people.

This Congress has repeatedly passed legislation promoting Taiwan's meaningful participation in the WHO, and I am encouraged to see these efforts finally come to fruition. I am especially pleased that this development comes in the context of steady improvement in relations between Taipei and Beijing, and I applaud officials on both sides of the Taiwan Strait for their efforts to pursue peace and stability in the region.

I look forward to increased cooperation among Taiwan, the United States, and other members of the international community to share public health information and guard against global pandemics.

TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR WILLIAM
KERR

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the incredible life of a truly great man, Monsignor William Kerr, who died last week at the age of 68. Monsignor Kerr was known, respected and loved throughout the world and his loss will be felt around the globe.

His professional life began as a parish priest in his hometown of St. Louis, and ended as Executive Director of the Claude Pepper Center for International Dialogue in Tallahassee, Florida. In between, he spent his entire career traveling the world working for peace, fighting for human rights, and promoting education and diplomacy.

He spent the majority of his professional life in Pittsburgh, Washington, DC, and Tallahassee, home of his beloved Florida State University, where he received multiple degrees and spent the early part of his career as an adjunct faculty member and an instructor of history, in addition to his position as Catholic Campus Minister.

Throughout his life, Monsignor Kerr traveled the globe to carry out his true callings of spiritual ministry and education. His travels gave him the opportunity to meet and befriend countless dignitaries, and to advance the cause for which he dedicated his life, human rights.

He served as a vice president at Catholic University here in Washington, DC, and as president of La Roche College in McCandless, Pennsylvania.

It was at La Roche College that I first met Monsignor Kerr. As a Trustee at La Roche, I worked closely with him and witnessed firsthand his love of education and the ease with which he interacted with people, whether they be Heads of State or freshman students.

During his twelve years as president of La Roche College he created programs to educate future leaders and assist students from war-ravaged countries to get an American education. The Pacem in Terris Institute, which he created at La Roche, established a scholarship program for outstanding college age men and women from conflict and post-conflict nations, such as Bosnia and Rwanda. The students would receive an education at

La Roche to study leadership and diplomacy in return for their agreeing to return to their home country after graduation to help rebuild their nations. In all, 450 students from 21 countries received scholarships. This program fulfilled Monsignor Kerr's dream of educating the future leaders of developing regions as a way to stem conflict and promote peace.

Through this program he developed a lifelong friendship with many world leaders and throughout his life he cultivated a wide and eclectic network of friends and colleagues. And while he was comfortable hosting high profile dignitaries, Monsignor Kerr was at his best when he was among the students that he loved. It seemed that he knew the names and life details of every student he encountered during his daily walks across campus, and he could often be seen sharing laughter and camaraderie with groups of students in between their classes.

After leaving La Roche College in 2004, he returned to Washington, DC, to become the director of the Pope John Paul II Center, where he stayed until returning to Tallahassee to lead the Claude Pepper Center.

Through it all he maintained his commitment to spiritual leadership, and he continued to celebrate mass. And it was during his celebration of mass at the Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Tallahassee that he suffered the stroke that claimed his life at the age of 68.

I count myself fortunate to be one of the many that have had the opportunity to know and work with Monsignor William Kerr. He had a profound impact on my life as he did the lives of nearly everyone he encountered. His like will not be seen again, and he will be deeply missed.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 234, SUPPLEMENTAL AP-
PROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to note that the rule and the process leading to its presentation are flawed and consequently, the underlying bill does not adequately serve our military forces or the taxpayers of this country.

Since 2002, billions of dollars have been given to the Pakistan military and much of that amount has not been accounted for.

Pakistani military commanders continue to consider certain extremists as their "strategic assets" in their seemingly never-ending security concerns involving fears about India; and the Pakistani military continues to fail to give proper attention to Pakistan's existential threat—the very extremists who associate with and harbor Al Qaeda and are also a threat to Afghanistan, our forces in Afghanistan, and others throughout the world.

I proposed, with a number of colleagues, and believe the bill must be improved by, an amendment establishing enforceable benchmarks on U.S. military assistance to Pakistan that would lead to the articulation of reasonable expectations.

Functionally, the amendment requires that the President make reasonable determinations about the state of mutual security objectives of Pakistan and the United States before any remainder of the military assistance for Pakistan can be obligated.

It does not seek to condition any civilian assistance to Pakistan. The American people and its government are the friends of Pakistan and its people, and we fully understand the crisis nature of the economy and civil governance status. The assistance in any measure should certainly be accounted for, and should be put to effect in such a way as to ensure it maximizes benefit to the Pakistani people. America is making a long term commitment to Pakistan, its democracy and its future prosperity.

Nevertheless, with respect to military funding, specifically, the amendment requires determinations on Pakistan—through its military—to make concerted progress toward:

- (1) Ceasing of all support to groups presenting cross-border terrorist threats,
- (2) Dismantling training facilities for such groups across Pakistan,
- (3) Preventing and disrupting cross-border attacks,
- (4) Strengthening and increasing counterterrorism prosecutions and extraditions,
- (5) Degrading such groups' radio broadcast infrastructure, and
- (6) Extending Pakistan's legitimate governmental writ across its territory and the protection of all its citizens' civil and human rights without discrimination.

As an oversight forcing function, the amendment requires written justification of the President's determinations and also tasks the U.S. Government Accountability Office with providing an independent analysis of the categories requiring Presidential determination.

Additionally, the amendment includes language allowing the President to waive the requirement if such action is certified to be vital to the national security interests of the United States. Finally, there is in the amendment a process for Congress to disprove of such certification if in its judgment such action is appropriate.

We must stop just handing out cash slush funds only to witness conduct not conducive to both nations' national security.

We have a right to expect that dangerous suspected terrorists will not just be set free as has reportedly happened with the Pakistani military's complicity; and a right to expect accountability for the hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars that should be targeted to effective security for our troops in Afghanistan and people here at home.

We must ensure resources are focused on Pakistan's and America's common security interests and the only really verifiable way to have that occur is to condition any funds sent to the Pakistani military in the way set forth in the proposed amendment.

For too long our military, and our government, have dealt directly with the Pakistani military and ignored the civilian government empowering their military to circumvent democratic accountability and hindering our ability to account for our investment. The way to resolve matters in Afghanistan relies heavily on circumstances in Pakistan. The situation in Pakistan cries out for accountability if we are to successfully protect our security.

IN RECOGNITION OF PEARL ROAD
AUTO PARTS AND WRECKING

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Pearl Road Auto Parts and Wrecking of the Old Brooklyn neighborhood of Cleveland, Ohio, as they become the first business ever in the City of Cleveland to implement wind technology by constructing a wind turbine at their place of business. Pearl Road Auto Parts and Wrecking, owned by the Kaplan family for four generations, will generate nearly 100% of the electricity needed to run their business from a wind turbine. I also rise in honor of Susan Spear and the entire staff of EcoWatch Ohio, who collaborated with the Kaplans to make this project become a reality.

The wind turbine will be set upon a 140-foot tower, capturing the north coast drafts high above Pearl Road near Interstate 480. For years, current owners Myron Kaplan, and his sons, Jon and Kevin, worked toward realizing their vision of constructing a wind turbine on the property. Their innovative ideas are part of the legacy of the Kaplan business and for nearly eighty years, the owners of Pearl Road Auto Parts and Wrecking have been leaders in implementing environmentally progressive practices, including solid waste reduction, fuel reduction and other recycling programs.

Moreover, the Kaplan family of Pearl Road Auto Parts and Wrecking is active in community programs and events, and has reflected an unwavering commitment to the betterment of the Old Brooklyn neighborhood. As leaders in community arts as well, from 1980 to 1990, residents gathered free of charge at the Auto Parts lot as Kaplan family hosted live theater, musical and poetry performances.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the Kaplan family, the entire staff of Pearl Road Auto Parts and Wrecking, and EcoWatch Ohio, for their collective vision and persistence in being the first ever to construct a wind turbine to run a business, inspiring others to follow in their path. Whether catching gentle breezes or gale force winds rushing south across Lake Erie, the wind turbine holds the promise of clean power, renewable resources and endless possibilities in alternative energy programs and job development throughout our community and our nation.

WEBCASTER SETTLEMENT ACT OF
2009

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Chairman Conyers and my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee for reporting the Webcaster Settlement Act of 2009, a bill I introduced to clear the path for private negotiations to determine the royalty rates for the use of music over Internet radio.

The Copyright Royalty Board (CRB) is a government body tasked with determining roy-

alty rates for the use of music over Internet radio. In 2004, the CRB was tasked with determining a rate structure at the direction of Congress, and released its decision in March of 2007. The rate structure determined by the CRB substantially increased royalty fees that webcasters would be forced to pay.

Since the CRB is authorized to set and establish a royalty rate structure, stakeholders need Congressional authority to forge an agreement that the government would adopt. H.R. 2344 provides that critical authority, and allows private groups 30 days from enactment to work out a settlement amongst themselves to replace the rate structure established by the government.

Webcasters and copyright holders, including those in Washington State, like Washington's 101, WebRadioPugetSound, WildMixRadio Network.com, and Hollow Earth Radio need this legislation so they have the freedom to negotiate and craft a fair royalty rate structure for all impacted parties. Currently, Internet radio pays 47% of its annual revenue in royalty fees, a rate that will eventually crush the industry.

An estimated 42 million people tune to Internet radio on a weekly basis. Internet radio offers consumers not only entertainment value, but it serves niche markets and allows access to independent labels and artists, diversifying programming. Webcasters in Washington State allow small, local, Northwest bands an opportunity to have their music heard across the country. This bill will allow small webcasters serving those markets to continue to compete and be an outlet for minority voices.

I urge my colleagues to consider this important bill, and to help keep the music playing online.

IN HONOR OF THE SURVIVORS
AND VICTIMS OF THE PONTIAN
GENOCIDE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the survivors and victims of the Pontian Genocide of 1915–1923. On May 19 we remember the treacherous actions of those who murdered hundreds of thousands of Pontian Hellenes and destroyed their communities, and we remember the survivors and the fallen.

Nearly a century ago, there were large communities of Hellenes living across the Ottoman Empire. In a few short years, these communities were destroyed, and hundreds of thousands of lives were taken at the order of the Ottoman government. Hellenic Pontians had lived along the southeastern coast of the Black Sea in what is now northern Turkey for more than three millennia. The perfidious decision to destroy these peaceful communities resulted from the fear that foreign populations under Ottoman rule would join with their mother countries and destroy a crumbling empire.

During a bloody eight year reign of terror, the Ottoman government orchestrated the killing or displacement of hundreds of thousands of Greeks, Armenians and Assyrians who had been living in the Pontus region. Thousands of

people were murdered outright. The rest were uprooted and forcibly marched across the Anatolian border, without food or other provisions, to the Syrian border. Mass rapes and abductions of women and children also occurred. More than half of the Pontian population perished from violence, starvation or disease.

Roughly 400,000 Pontians refugees survived the onslaught and fled to Greece, Russia, and the United States. Despite the huge number of people who died or were displaced, most of the world paid no attention to their suffering. The fact that so many people could be murdered or removed from their homes without facing any consequences empowered future genocidal regimes to take similar actions.

One of the greatest tragedies of genocide is that the aggressors often succeed in eliminating the memory of those who fled. Few Americans today know about the Pontian Genocide. We have an obligation to honor the memory of those who died and teach our children about those dreadful times in hope that they will never be repeated. On May 19th, 2009, on the annual day of remembrance, members of the Pan-Pontian Federation will pay solemn homage to the victims. Although the genocide almost caused the extinction of the Pontian people, their traditions and culture still resonate today.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Pan-Pontian Federation as they honor the sacrifices and memory of their noble ancestors. I commend the Pan-Pontian Federation in their efforts to preserve Greek culture and history. May the victims of the Pontian Genocide rest in peace.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE JIM
HUDSON

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Jim Hudson of Texarkana, Arkansas, who passed away on May 3, 2009, at the much too early age of 56. As a man of faith, a devoted husband and father, and a committed statesman, his life and legacy is an example to us all.

As a circuit judge for the 8th judicial district south serving Miller and Lafayette Counties since 1991 and as a former prosecuting attorney, Jim was one of the most fair-minded and selfless people I have had the pleasure to know. Arkansas lost a true public servant with Jim's passing and he will be deeply missed.

I knew Jim my entire adult life and was proud to call him my friend. His steadfast commitment to justice and his devotion to his community made Jim a person many of us looked up to and respected, as we witnessed Jim help countless individuals and families throughout his career in public service. He was so respected in his profession that both Arkansas's U.S. Senators Blanche Lincoln and Mark Pryor recently selected Jim as a possible nominee to fill a U.S. district judge's position in the Western District of Arkansas, a position for which he would have been perfectly suited.

Jim's cheerful personality was contagious and he was liked by all he encountered. In

fact, over the course of Jim's difficult five-week struggle with post-surgical complications, a website updated daily with information regarding his progress was visited more than 60,000 times.

As a respected jurist, Jim's greatest legacy is to the legal profession where he had a coveted grasp of complex legal issues and a commitment to helping troubled youth find their way. He also mentored numerous young lawyers and jurists that now practice across the region, passing on his knowledge and teachings that exemplified his fairness and passion for law. His legacy will live on for decades in our region's legal system through the many lives and careers he touched.

My thoughts and prayers and those of every Arkansan are with Jim's family during this difficult time, especially to his wife, Kathy; his two daughters, Sarah and Claire Hudson; his stepmother, Jane Hudson; and, his grandson, Jaxson Hudson.

Jim left us much too early and those of us who knew him will always remember the laughter and lessons he shared with us all. We too often forget how much one person can make a difference in this world and Jim's life and legacy is an example of how one man can better the lives of so many, the profession he cared so deeply about and the church, community and state he called home.

DOÑA STOREY, PRESIDENT AND
CEO, QUALITY TECHNICAL SERVICES,
INC., VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

HON. GLENN C. NYE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. NYE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor America's entrepreneurs, those distinguished individuals who support our communities, drive innovation, and keep our nation strong. Small businesses bring fresh ideas to the table, develop the resources to meet the demands of an ever-changing world, and make a meaningful impact on our neighborhoods. Entrepreneurs are responsible for providing 60 to 80 percent of all new jobs, giving them the potential to propel rapid economic growth and expand ever-developing fields. Some of the country's largest companies began as start-ups in small offices, homes and garages exploring these new fields. Limited only by their imagination, these firms performed cutting-edge work in emerging industries that have become the very foundation of our society.

As our nation and the world face the most difficult economic conditions in decades, entrepreneurs have the potential to lead us back to prosperity. The resiliency and adaptability shown by small businesses in past recessions demonstrate their capability to meet the challenges standing in their way and emerge

stronger than ever. America's small businesses will drive the economic recovery from this downturn and our economy will emerge stronger than ever. Times may be tough, but America's entrepreneurial spirit is tougher.

To recognize the monumental achievements of our nation's small firms, the Small Business Administration (SBA) has declared May 17–23 as the 46th Annual National Small Business Week. The House Small Business Committee is celebrating all our country's hard-working entrepreneurs by saluting the Heroes of Small Business, those men and women who have shown the strength, leadership, and resourcefulness that keeps our economy moving forward.

I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in recognizing and thanking Ms. Doña Storey for her tremendous accomplishments on behalf of small businesses. Ms. Storey is president and CEO of Quality Technical Services, Inc. (QTS), a minority and woman-owned small disadvantaged business. Founded in 1980, QTS provides strategic management consulting and manages multiphase, multi-location interior design projects. QTS counts among its clients some of the nation's largest corporations such as Time Inc. and Johnson & Johnson, and has contracted with federal, state and local governments.

Ms. Storey has garnered several accolades for her entrepreneurial success and contributions to the business community, including being named by the Small Business Administration in 2007 as Virginia's "Women in Business Champion of the Year." She participates in speeches and mentoring programs to educate other entrepreneurs about navigating the government contracting process, and is the creator of an online guide that provides information on how to succeed in the federal marketplace.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Storey has exemplified the remarkable accomplishments of which America's entrepreneurs are capable. This week, she will testify before the House Small Business Committee to share her story. I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join with me in honoring her for the extraordinary work she has done for the small business economy. Her efforts demonstrate that if given the right resources, America's small businesses can be the catalysts that lift our economy from the current downturn and put us on the road to recovery.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FATHER
AVED TERZIAN

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of Fa-

ther Aved Terzian serving at the Parish of the Armenian Church of Our Saviour.

Father Aved was born in Istanbul in 1956. He grew up in the church and decided to study divinity after high school. The person who really influenced his life was His Beatitude Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem, and it was at his invitation that Father Aved came to America in February of 1975. In 1984, "Deacon Onnig" was ordained by his spiritual mentor Patriarch Torkom Manoogian. Following the tradition of the Armenian Church, the Patriarch named him Aved.

As the longest serving Armenian priest in Worcester, Father Aved has played a vital role in the promotion of Armenian culture, bringing the community together for Genocide Commemorations, Joint Christmas Eve Services, and the Greater Worcester Armenian Chorale. He has maintained a positive relationship with the Armenian Church of Our Saviour's neighbor, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, giving commencement prayers and providing crisis counseling.

In 1984, he participated in a Task Force to introduce holocaust studies to the Worcester Public Schools Curriculum. He has worked on the Community Partnership for Police and Clergy, the City Manager's Coalition on Bias and Hate, the Diocesan Council Governing Body, the St. Nersess Seminary Board, and as an advisor to the Dean of Clark University.

Father Aved was instrumental in coordinating efforts to renovate the Armenian Church of Our Saviour, an ambitious project that included the Church Sanctuary, Sunday School, Church Hall, Cultural Center and an elevator to accommodate the handicapped and elderly. During his tenure, Memorial Endowment Funds were established as a means to generate income for the church.

Looking back over the past twenty-five years, Father Aved believes one of his greatest accomplishments has been to bring the parishioners, "the backbone of his ministry," to work together in serving the church. Father Aved is thankful that the people of Worcester have accepted him, and been generous with their love and respect. When asked how he came to serve the Armenian Church as a priest, Father Aved referred to his calling as a process of getting closer to God, one that unfolded within him. Being a priest has been very rewarding for Father Aved. It is not a job, but a life he has chosen. As a representative of Christ, he is able to give people comfort, and lift their spirits when they are faced with life's challenges. He is, in his own words, a "wounded healer."

Madam Speaker, I commend Father Aved Terzian for his commitment to the Parish of the Armenian Church of Our Saviour for 25 years. The Parish celebrates this Silver Anniversary milestone with Der Hayr, his wife Yeretzgin Vivian and sons Onnig and Raffi. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in paying tribute to this remarkable man.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 20

9 a.m.
Foreign Relations
African Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine developing a coordinated and sustainable strategy for Somalia. SD-419

9:30 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP). SD-538

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Business meeting to consider S. 599, to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employee's duty, S. 629, to facilitate the part-time reemployment of annuitants, S. 707, to enhance the Federal Telework Program, proposed Enhanced Oversight of State and Local Economic Recovery Act, S. 920, to amend section 11317 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the transparency of the status of information technology investments, to require greater accountability for cost overruns on Federal information technology investment projects, to improve the processes agencies implement to manage information technology investments, to reward excellence in information technology acquisition, S. 942, to prevent the abuse of Government charge cards, S. 469, to amend chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, to modify the computation for part-time service under the Civil Service Retirement System, S. 692, to provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances, H.R. 918, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 300 East 3rd Street in Jamestown, New York, as the "Stan Lundine Post Office Building", H.R. 1595, to designate the

facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3245 Latta Road in Rochester, New York, as the "Brian K. Schramm Post Office Building", H.R. 663, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12877 Broad Street in Sparta, Georgia, as the "Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim Post Office Building", H.R. 987, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 8th Street in Freedom, Pennsylvania, as the "John Scott Challis, Jr. Post Office", H.R. 1284, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 103 West Main Street in McLain, Mississippi, as the "Major Ed W. Freeman Post Office", and the nominations of David Heyman, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, Cass R. Sunstein, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Robert M. Groves, of Michigan, to be Director of the Census, Department of Commerce, Marisa J. Demeo, of the District of Columbia, and Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, each to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. SD-342

Appropriations
State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of State. SD-192

10 a.m.
Finance
To hold a closed meeting to examine financing comprehensive health reform. SD-215

Judiciary
Immigration, Refugees and Border Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine securing the border and America's points of entry. SD-226

Appropriations
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Forest Service. SD-124

Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine oil and the economy, focusing on the impact of rising global demand on the United States recovery. 210, Cannon Building

11 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold closed hearings to examine developments on the ground in Pakistan and Afghanistan. SVC-217

1:30 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine foreign policy priorities in the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2010 for international affairs. SH-216

2 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SR-253

Armed Services
Strategic Forces Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and Future Years Defense Program for military space programs; to be pos-

sibly followed by a closed session in SVC-217. SR-232A

Aging
To hold hearings to examine pension plans. SR-432

2:30 p.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Disaster Recovery Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the role of Community Development Block Grant Program in disaster recovery. SD-342

Judiciary
Crime and Drugs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine criminal prosecution as a deterrent to health care fraud. SD-226

Armed Services
Personnel Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and Future Years Defense Program for active component, reserve component, and civilian personnel programs. SR-222

MAY 21

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and the Future Years Defense Program for the Department of the Air Force. SD-106

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine a new strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan. SD-419

Veterans' Affairs
Business meeting to markup pending legislation. SR-418

10 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Economic Development Administration. SD-406

Finance
To hold hearings to examine The United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement. SD-215

Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 417, to enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege Act, S. 257, to amend title 11, United States Code, to disallow certain claims resulting from high cost credit debts, S. 448 and H.R. 985, bills to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, the nominations of Thomas E. Perez, of Maryland, to be Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, David F. Hamilton, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Andre M. Davis, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, and committee's subcommittee assignments. SD-226

Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold hearings to examine the role of small business in stimulus contracting. SR-428A

10:30 a.m.
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and
 Insurance Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine health and
 product safety issues associated with
 imported drywall. SR-253

Appropriations
 Defense Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed
 budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for
 the Missile Defense Agency. SD-124

Energy and Natural Resources
 Business meeting to consider pending
 calendar business. SD-366

Appropriations
 Labor, Health and Human Services, Edu-
 cation, and Related Agencies Sub-
 committee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed
 budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for
 the National Institutes of Health. SD-138

11 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related
 Agencies Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed
 budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for
 the National Aeronautics and Space
 Administration. SD-192

2 p.m.
 Appropriations
 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and
 Drug Administration, and Related
 Agencies Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed
 budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for
 the Food and Drug Administration. SD-192

Homeland Security and Governmental Af-
 fairs
 To hold hearings to examine financial
 regulatory lessons from abroad. SD-342

2:15 p.m.
 Indian Affairs
 To hold hearings to examine executive
 branch authority to acquire trust lands
 for Indian tribes. SD-628

2:30 p.m.
 Appropriations
 Legislative Branch Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed
 budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for
 the Government Accountability Office,
 the Government Printing Office, and
 the Congressional Budget Office. SD-138

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Science and Space Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine the Presi-
 dent's proposed budget request for fis-
 cal year 2010 for NASA. SR-253

Intelligence
 To hold hearings to examine the nomina-
 tions of Stephen Woolman Preston, of
 the District of Columbia, to be General
 Counsel of the Central Intelligence
 Agency, and Robert S. Litt, of Mary-
 land, to be General Counsel of the Of-
 fice of the Director of National Intel-
 ligence. SH-216

JUNE 10

9:30 a.m.
 Veterans' Affairs
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine
 the Department of Veterans Affairs'
 construction process. SR-418

JUNE 24

9:30 a.m.
 Veterans' Affairs
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine
 the Department of Veterans Affairs
 quality management activities. SR-418

POSTPONEMENTS

MAY 20

2:15 p.m.
 Appropriations
 Energy and Water Development Sub-
 committee
 To hold hearings to examine funding and
 oversight of the U.S. Army Corp of En-
 gineers and the Bureau of Reclamation. SD-192

MAY 21

Time to be announced
 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
 Business meeting to consider S. 717, to
 modernize cancer research, increase ac-
 cess to preventative cancer services,
 provide cancer treatment and survivor-
 ship initiatives, and any pending nomi-
 nations. SD-430

2 p.m.
 Appropriations
 Military Construction and Veterans Af-
 fairs, and Related Agencies Sub-
 committee
 To hold hearings to examine proposed
 budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for
 the Department of Veterans Affairs. SD-124