

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF SAND CITY POLICE
CHIEF J. MICHAEL KLEIN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sand City Police Chief J. Michael Klein, who was recently named Police Chief of the Year by Crisis Intervention Team International. This award recognizes his work in establishing Monterey County's Critical Incident Training Academy, which trains police officers to deal with confrontations involving the mentally ill and people in crisis situations.

Chief Klein established Monterey County's Critical Incident Training Academy in 2000 to align mental health and police action. At the onset, the Academy only offered 24 hours of training a few times per year. The concept was not readily accepted in the law enforcement community and officers were reluctant to attend.

However, in 2008, Chief Klein began working with Devon Corpus, the behavioral health unit supervisor at Natividad Medical Center. Together, they increased the training to 40 hours to include lectures on mental illness and created scenarios that officers were likely to actually encounter on the job.

Today, the program is incredibly successful and continues to break new ground. The Monterey County Critical Incident Training Academy combines resources from several local groups. By incorporating resources from law enforcement, emergency service workers, mental health officials and civil rights groups, the Academy works to create more effective interactions between officers and mental health care providers, individuals with mental illness, their families, and also to reduce the stigma of mental illness. Using a similar process as hostage negotiators, the officers learn techniques to de-escalate hostile situations and are thoroughly trained in intervention with people suffering from mental illnesses, PTSD and rage.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chief Klein for his service to our community. His leadership in aligning mental health with police efforts is a model for our nation and I am grateful for his service in protecting the life and dignity of our most vulnerable citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House during rollcall vote 692. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING THE VETERANS WHO
RECEIVED THE SILVER STAR
BANNER AWARD ON AUGUST
12TH, 2011 IN MCCOOK, ILLINOIS

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the veterans who received the Silver Star Banner on August 12th at a ceremony in McCook, Illinois in recognition of illness or injury sustained while on active duty in the United States Armed Forces. It is a privilege to acknowledge the sacrifices made by these brave citizens in the defense of our country, and I applaud their courage and fortitude.

At the ceremony hosted by Cook County Commissioner Jeffrey R. Tobolski of the 16th District, the following servicemen were recognized: William Cochran, Kenneth Marinelle, Thomas Bezouska, Anthony Bezouska, Donald Beach, Robert Tinson Sr., James Piotrowski, Thomas Higgins, Ralph Simpson, John Charles Judge, Louis Anderson, Joe Romano, Russell Meredith, and James Tobolski.

The Silver Star Banner was created by the Silver Star Families of America, founded in 2005. The mission of this nonprofit organization is to provide care packages and show support to ill and wounded veterans and their families. The Silver Star Families of America also works to serve the men and women of the Armed Forces through education and advocacy campaigns that focus on the plight of servicemen and servicewomen wounded while on active duty. This organization is unique because candidates need not receive additional military decoration to be eligible for the Silver Star Banner. Silver Star Families of America seeks to ensure that all those wounded and ill members who have served in the Armed Forces receive the recognition and honor they deserve.

This ceremony exemplifies the 16th District's support for local veterans. Those who risk their lives to protect our country deserve our utmost respect, and Commissioner Tobolski and the residents of the 16th District are helping to make sure they receive their due.

Please join me in recognizing the recipients of the Silver Star Banner from Cook County's 16th District and surrounding areas. Their sacrifice and dedication to our country are an inspiration to us all and will not be forgotten.

REDUCING ENERGY COSTS AND
SUPPORTING JOB CREATION
WITH MECHANICAL INSULATION

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today, with my good friend and

Co-Chair of the House Manufacturing Caucus, TIM RYAN of Ohio, the Mechanical Insulation Incentive Act of 2011, MIA 2011. Mechanical insulation is the insulation placed around mechanical equipment, such as large boilers, heating and air conditioning units, duct work, and hot and cold water piping, to prevent energy loss, control condensation, regulate temperature, help reduce pollutants, and protect employees from hot or cold surfaces. Commercial buildings and industrial facilities consume 2.5 times more energy than homes, according to the Energy Information Administration. Energy efficiency in mechanical insulation is critical in reducing energy cost and consumption, and it is an essential industry for job creation.

MIA 2011 will help the commercial and industrial sectors invest in mechanical insulation and create much-needed jobs in one of the hardest-hit industries. The National Insulation Association, NIA, estimates that this bill alone could create or sustain more than 89,000 jobs annually. Specifically, this legislation would create up to a 30 percent tax deduction to encourage commercial and industrial entities, such as manufacturing facilities, office buildings, schools, hospitals, power plants, hotels, and universities, to go beyond minimum mechanical insulation requirements in new construction and retrofit projects and increase their maintenance activities. The NIA also estimates this bill could save up to \$35 billion in energy costs and reduce as much as 170 million metric tons of carbon emissions over the next five years.

Mechanical insulation systems are a vital component in creating and maintaining high-performance, energy-efficient buildings and increasing manufacturing efficiency. MIA 2011 cuts energy costs, reduces carbon emissions, and puts Americans back to work through a tax incentive encouraging the use of mechanical insulation.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR CHIEF
PETTY OFFICER SPECIAL WAR-
FARE OPERATOR DARRIK
CARLYLE BENSON

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Petty Officer Special Warfare Operator Darrik Carlyle Benson who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Chief Benson was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

Chief Benson was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards, including two Bronze Star Medals with Valor, Purple Heart Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Valor, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, two Navy and Marine

• 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.

Corps Achievement Medals, Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, two Afghanistan Campaign Medals, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and numerous other personal and unit decorations.

Chief Benson is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates.

His nation owes Chief Benson an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to Chief Benson's family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
MS. JANE SCOTT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Ms. Jane Scott, Cleveland's preeminent voice on all matters rock 'n' roll.

Ms. Scott was born on May 3, 1919 in Cleveland, Ohio. She graduated from Lakewood High School in 1937 and went on to pursue English and drama majors at the University of Michigan, from which she graduated in 1941. During World War II, she was a code breaker for the U.S. Navy, and afterwards she became the women's editor of the Chagrin Valley Herald. She also had brief bouts in advertising and public relations.

On March 24, 1952, Scott started working at The Plain Dealer as a society writer. However, after the Beatles performed at Public Hall in September 1964, Scott became The Plain Dealer's rock critic, a role which she would keep for four decades. She wrote music features, concert reviews, and was well known for her long standing "What's Happening" column in Friday! Magazine.

Scott, affectionately known as the "World's Oldest Teenager," became known for her undying passion for rock 'n' roll and rock musicians, her ability to gain access to areas where reporters were usually off-limits, and her ability to spot talent. In her review of a performance by Bruce Springsteen in 1975 at the Allen Theater, she predicted that "he will be the next superstar," months before he was featured on the front covers of Newsweek and Time.

Ms. Scott was admired by such rockers as Lou Reed, Peter Frampton, David Thomas of Pere Ubu, and Michael Stanley. She went on to become a celebrity herself, and was profiled in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, Rolling Stone, People Magazine, CNN and MTV, among others.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Ms. Jane Scott, a woman whose passion for rock 'n' roll made her a legendary figure in the Cleveland community.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF THE BAY CITY ARMORY BUILDING

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of the Bay City Armory Building.

The landmark Bay City Armory building, designed by local architects Pratt and Koepke, celebrates its 100th birthday this month.

Dedicated on September 18, 1911, the Bay City Armory was first used by the military to organize and train local soldiers to chase Mexican strongman Pancho Villa along the U.S. border. They later trained soldiers for the battlefields in France and Belgium during World War I. Their units were on hand to help with disasters, riots and the conflicts of World War II, Korea and Vietnam. The building became home for Company C of the Peninsulars militia. The armory also was home to what became the 128th Ambulance Company, later the 121st Ambulance Company and the 207th Engineering Battalion.

In 1912, the Armory was also the site of the Republican state convention, where infighting among the delegates, some supporting President William Howard Taft and others backing former President Theodore Roosevelt, was so fierce that fist fights broke out inside and in front of the building. The 1912 convention broke apart the party, with the splintered faction helping to form the Progressive Party, or Bull Moose, in the November elections.

The last National Guard units moved out of the building in 1986 and it was acquired by the Bay County Historical Society to be renovated as the new historical museum. It opened as a museum in 1988 and continues to highlight Bay County's history.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Bay County Historical Society for preserving the Bay City Armory Building, one of Bay City's architectural jewels, and keeping Bay County's rich history alive.

GUNS UP—FOOTBALL AND MIKE LEACH

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in coffee shops, barber shops and even in the beauty salons all across Texas, the talk is the same—how's the team gonna be this year? It's that time of year, a time that folks in Texas and across the South prepare for all year long, Football season. Football in Texas is its own religion, where even the preacher cuts the sermon short on Sundays to get you home in time to watch the game. Nowhere else on earth will you find a culture so linked with football like is in Texas.

Texas football is that of both legend and legacy. It has spawned countless books, movies and TV series; providing a look into a way of life that is so proudly unique. It's the Junction Boys, the Tyler Rose, the last minute touchdown run by Texas Longhorn Vince

Young in the Rose Bowl for the National Championship. I was there by the way with my son, Kurt. What a game, what a memory.

Most Texans, if you ask them, have at least one team for which their loyalty lies. One thing I can say without a doubt is that Texas Tech fans love their football. It is the rich heritage of tradition that sets Texas Tech apart from all the rest. It is Bangin' Bertha, the Saddle Tramps and the Masked Rider. It's Raider Alley, the Double T Saddle and Raider Red. Raider Red fires two 12-gauge shotguns after every touchdown and field goal—only in Texas.

The Mike Leach Era, at Texas Tech, began in 2000, when he arrived from Oklahoma (OU Sooners) to take the head coaching position. During his first season, Coach Leach's offense produced records in nearly every passing category. In his following nine seasons, the Red Raiders surpassed each of those passing records and doubled their yards per game. Everyone can agree that Leach has one of the greatest offensive minds in football history. Leach coaches outside-the-box; he trained Tech in the art of air assault operations.

During his subsequent football seasons with Texas Tech, he was awarded three national coach-of-the-year awards: the Woody Hayes, the George Munger and the Howie Long/Fieldturf. He never had a losing season in his nine seasons at Tech. His record speaks for itself.

Seventeen of Leach's Red Raiders were drafted into the National Football League, and another twenty-one signed free agent contracts under Leach's tenure. In addition, while coaching at Tech, Leach's graduation rates increased and remained over 70 percent.

Not only is Mike Leach a great coach but he is also a lawyer. He earned his law degree from Pepperdine, and credits his law school education to his successful coaching career. According to Leach, "a law degree is a degree in problem solving. My Juris Doctor has helped me solve a number of problems I have faced throughout my coaching career." A lawyer, who thinks outside-the-box, sounds familiar.

In 2009, he was fired from Tech over controversy for allegedly mistreating one of his players. Leach denied mistreating the player and is currently working for CBS College Sports as an announcer. As legendary Coach Bum Phillips is credited with saying: "there are two types of coaches—those that have been fired and those that will be". Leach recently wrote a book about his path into coaching and he looks forward to getting back on the sideline.

Among Red Raider fans and those who have met him, played for him and learned from him, Mike Leach is wholeheartedly considered a legend in his own time.

So this weekend, grab the family, put on your team colors and head to the game. Grab some hot dogs and a coke and take part in one of Texas' finest traditions. You will see some of those folks that you went to high school with some of the same old guys sitting in the same seats as they were in 20–30 years ago. I wish all the players, the coaches, the trainers, the cheerleaders, the drill team and all those people that volunteer their time to support our kids the very best luck. Know that you are all a part of something very special, a Texas religion—Texas Football.

And that's just the way it is.

DUQUESNE LAW SCHOOL'S 100TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Duquesne University School of Law, a widely respected institution of higher learning in Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District.

The Duquesne University School of Law was founded in 1911. It was the first professional school added to Duquesne University, a private Catholic university which was established in 1878 by members of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, often referred to as Spiritans.

The Duquesne University School of Law began as a night school with 12 students. Consistent with the Spiritan tradition, the school was a pioneer in providing legal education to the working-class, minorities, and women. It was designed to accommodate students' family and work obligations. Enrollment has increased dramatically over the last 100 years to the current total of 646 students, and the Duquesne University School of Law now offers several degrees in full-time and part-time programs offering clinics, practicums, and international study as well as the Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Law. It continues to offer flexible schedules to expand access for those who could otherwise not pursue a law degree.

The Duquesne University School of Law has embraced the globalization of law in the 21st century. It opened the first summer schools for American Law Students in Beijing, China in 1995 and the Vatican City State in 2001, as well as additional programs in Dublin, Ireland, and Cologne, Germany.

The law school encourages moral and ethical exploration through coursework offerings on the intersection between Law and Philosophy and between Law and different religions. The school's educational philosophy maintains that preparation for the legal profession requires the development of a special character, competency, and disposition.

Alumni of the Duquesne University School of Law make up over a third of membership of the Allegheny County Bar association, with over 7,200 alumni practicing in every field of law, in all 50 states, and in several foreign countries. Alumni serve at the local, state, and federal levels. Duquesne Law alumni have also served as judges of the United States Court of Appeals and the Federal District Courts.

As the Duquesne University School of Law celebrates its centennial anniversary, I want to congratulate its faculty, staff, students, alumnae, friends, and supporters and commend them on their many contributions to the community of Pittsburgh and to our nation.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR SENIOR
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SPECIAL
WARFARE OPERATOR THOMAS
ARTHUR RATZLAFF

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Senior Chief Petty Officer Special Warfare Operator Thomas Arthur Ratzlaff who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Senior Chief Ratzlaff was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

Senior Chief Ratzlaff was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards and decorations, including five Bronze Star Medals with Valor, Purple Heart Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Joint Service Commendation Medals, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, two Combat Action Ribbons, Presidential Unit Citation, and numerous other personal and unit decorations. Additionally, Senior Chief Ratzlaff was awarded the Star of Military Valor, for actions in Afghanistan while supporting Canadian Soldiers. He is only the second American since World War I to have this honor bestowed upon him.

Senior Chief Ratzlaff is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates.

His nation owes Senior Chief Ratzlaff an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to Senior Chief Ratzlaff's family, friends and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

CONGRATULATING ANNELISE
BERGERON

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Annelise Bergeron for being chosen as Queen Evangeline of the 43rd International Acadian Festival held annually in Iberville Parish. The International Acadian Festival is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council #970 of Plaquemine, La, which is the 3rd oldest K.C. council in the State of Louisiana.

It always brings about personal pride to see young students of the Bayou State achieving their goals while simultaneously working to give back and improve their communities. This talented young woman is currently a senior at St. Joseph Academy in Baton Rouge. I have the highest confidence that Annelise will succeed in whatever endeavors she pursues.

I ask my colleagues to join me in passing good wishes to Annelise Bergeron, her family, and the International Acadian Festival. Annelise is truly deserving of this recognition.

IN RECOGNITION OF LAKEWOOD
PARK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lakewood Park, which is being dedicated with an Ohio Historical Marker.

The rich history of Lakewood Park chronicles the history and continuing development of the City of Lakewood. The 31 acres were originally part of a larger piece of land owned by Mr. John Honam, an early settler to the area. Mr. Honam's 1834 house was moved to the grounds of Lakewood Park in 1959 and is now the Oldest Stone House Museum. In the 1860s, Robert R. Rhodes began purchasing land in Lakewood. In 1881, Mr. Rhodes built a mansion on the estate known as "The Hickories." The mansion was home to the Rhodes family until his passing in 1916.

After Mr. Rhodes' passing, "The Hickories" served as a home for wounded World War I soldiers and later, a hospital annex during the influenza epidemic of 1918. The City of Lakewood purchased "The Hickories" in 1919 and the mansion was the home of Lakewood City Hall from 1920 until it was demolished in 1959. A single stone wall of the mansion remains in Lakewood Park commemorating its role in Lakewood's history.

Today, Lakewood Park serves as a gathering place for the residents of Lakewood. Lakewood Park is home to Foster Pool, the Lakewood Skate Park, the Lakefront Promenade, the Lakewood Park Bandshell, Kids Cove Playground, the Woman's Club Pavilion, the Kiwanis Open Pavilion and numerous sand volleyball courts, softball fields and picnic areas.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the dedication of the new Lakewood Park Ohio Historical Marker.

JEAN MACCORMACK MOVES TO
THE NEXT PHASE OF A GREAT
CAREER

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, many of us in Southeastern Massachusetts—and indeed in Massachusetts as a whole—had very mixed emotions on learning of the decision by University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Chancellor Jean MacCormack to retire. She will be greatly missed, and we cannot help but express our deep regret that she will be moving on from the position from which she has shown such extraordinary leadership educationally, economically and culturally. But given how hard Jean MacCormack has worked, how dedicated she has been to her students, to the faculty, and to the region of which that institution is such an important part, no one can begrudge her the decision to take a pause and move to different work.

I say different work, Mr. Speaker, because no one who knows the energy, passion for helping others and improving the world around her, and great gift for friendship that Jean

MacCormack possesses doubts that she will soon be doing something else of great value. But this is an appropriate time to note the wide range of very important contributions she has made to our region.

As the Member of the House proud to represent what has been for many years the leading fishing community in the United States, New Bedford, and its surrounding towns, I have derived enormous strength from the work that has been done at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth to support the fishing industry with first-rate research, and Jean MacCormack has been an essential factor in that effort.

Under her leadership, UMass Dartmouth has become a very important source of research and leadership for economic development in dealing with our ocean resources in general and UMass Dartmouth has played a very essential role in promoting the economic development of our region both with regard to some specific industries, including textiles and cranberries, in addition to fishing, and in general.

Many people talk about the important synergies that come from making sure that first-rate academic work is coordinated with economic development. Jean MacCormack has done as much as anyone I know to make that a reality. And I was very proud to be one of those who worked under her leadership to create the first public law school in the history of Massachusetts, with the merger of Southern New England Law School into the University of Massachusetts system, headquartered at the Dartmouth branch.

Mr. Speaker, Jean MacCormack was to me not just a great educational leader, but a great friend. No one could be in her presence without being made to feel valuable and to be entertained and instructed at the same time. I join with the population of Southeastern Massachusetts in thanking her for a job very well done and in wishing her well as we watch her move on to her next work.

And Mr. Speaker, as an indication of the impact Jean MacCormack has had, I ask that the excellent article from the New Bedford Standard Times about her career be printed here.

UMASS DARTMOUTH CHANCELLOR STEPPING
DOWN AFTER THIS YEAR
(By Steve Urban)

DARTMOUTH.—Expressing deep concern for the future of public higher education in America, Jean F. MacCormack Tuesday announced she will retire at the end of this academic year as chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

MacCormack, 64, notified the campus at the annual faculty/staff convocation breakfast and in a campus-wide email.

Noting the shrinking financial support for state-run colleges and universities, MacCormack, both in her address and in an interview, lamented the dwindling public support and today's increasing hostility toward the public sector. "They're angry at the government and it spills over," she said.

But she did not say that was the reason for her retirement; rather, she cited the wish to pursue other interests after three decades of working "24/7" in college administration. And despite the fact she has come under criticism politically, she said politics had no bearing on her decision.

Citing the 1862 Morrill Act signed by President Lincoln establishing land-grant colleges, MacCormack said: "We simply cannot allow the debate to be dominated by nega-

tive voices and allow the spirit and intent of the Morrill Act to be hijacked. We cannot accept the new dogmas of the stormy present to prevail. Too much is at stake for our nation and our democracy."

She said in her address that she sees no obvious strategy. "I would love to tell you that I see a clear pathway for improvement on the national issues, but instead I think those possibilities are only slowly emerging from the name-calling and the rancor. What I am quite certain about is that we must find our voice in this national debate and become strong advocates for not abandoning our nation's longstanding commitment to the clear mission of public higher education."

New Bedford Mayor Scott Lang, who has conducted hardball negotiations with MacCormack and the university over land at Fort Taber to expand SMASIT, was effusive in his praise for the chancellor.

"She's left a very long-lasting, positive legacy for the university," Lang said. "She's left a tremendous amount of momentum in key areas that the next chancellor will need to build on."

"I regard her as a friend. We don't agree on every issue and we never, never will. But I enjoyed working with her. It's in the interest of everyone in this region that our university be extremely successful, innovative and a true partner," Lang said.

During her tenure, which began in 1999 when she arrived from UMass Boston, the campus expanded greatly, including a visual and performing arts campus in downtown New Bedford, the state's first public law school in Dartmouth, the Charlton College of Business, vastly increased on-campus housing, establishment of the School of Public Policy and Education, and the Advanced Technology Manufacturing Center, among others.

In her letter of resignation to UMass President Robert L. Caret, MacCormack listed several pieces of unfinished business that she hopes to complete. They include expansion of the School of Marine Science and Technology in New Bedford, the Bio-Manufacturing Center in Fall River, securing American Bar Association accreditation for the law school, finishing the renovation of the Claire T. Carney Library, and "re-engineering enrollment and retention strategies to address a changing marketplace."

MacCormack expressed frustration at the difficulty in getting enrollment up to 10,000 from 6,000. That's important, she said, because the campus had a 10-1 student-teacher ratio when it could support 16-1. With growth, she said, comes fiscal stability because students pay fees and tuition, which supports programs and development.

It also offsets steadily declining state support, down below 20 percent of the budget from as much as 78 percent two decades ago.

And yet, she said, public higher education accounts for 80 percent of enrollment and does—in theory, at least—offer as good an education as private schools, although perhaps without the connections a student can make at Harvard, for example.

MacCormack touted her efforts to connect UMass Dartmouth with the community, and said she will remain in SouthCoast to perhaps write a book and take up community-related interests. But she will retire, not return to teaching, to give herself a breather after 30 years in administrative jobs that required all of her time.

"UMass Dartmouth is already a model of a university whose teaching and discovery is fully engaged in the life of its community. I am sure that this campus will be attractive to higher education leaders who strive to be entrepreneurial and bold," she said in her address.

Margaret "MarDee" Xifaras, a local attorney and former chairman of the Southern

New England School of Law, which was absorbed by UMass, said she doubts MacCormack will slow down all that much.

"Neither one of us is constitutionally capable of doing that," she said.

MacCormack's pending retirement did not strike her as much of a surprise, she said. "She always had a sort of a long-term plan that obviously would include retiring, but she was anxious to get things done, and she'll make sure certain things are well under way."

For merging the law school, Xifaras said, she will be "eternally grateful" to the chancellor. "She was a critical moving force," she said.

"Now its time for her to step back from a lifetime of commitment to education. She will be missed."

Fall River developer James Karam, chairman of the UMass Board of Trustees, said, "Jean has always understood that educational opportunity was vital to our area and has worked tirelessly to make sure that education of the highest quality was available to all of our citizens."

He added that MacCormack "has worked to transform our lives and in the process has transformed our region. She has championed the SouthCoast and has our undying gratitude."

HONORING OFFICER GARY
CONKLIN

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a brave public servant Officer Gary Conklin of the Linden Police Department.

Recently, tragedy struck the town of Fenton when two contractors fell twenty feet into a sewer filled with methane gas. One of the contractors was killed in the accident and the other severely injured. If it were not for the bravery of Officer Conklin there would be two families grieving the loss of a loved one.

Upon arriving at the scene Officer Conklin saw the two men laying face down in two feet of water. Knowing the risk the gas posed Officer Conklin obtained a respiratory device from his vehicle. The device was not made for these types of toxic situations but he knew it was better than nothing. Putting himself in harm's way he entered the sewer and began working to stabilize the men.

He was able to prop the survivor Joseph Flipansick up on the side of the sewer. A civilian entered the sewer to assist and the two of them were able to roll the other victim over so he did not drown. After moving the men Officer Conklin felt his time running out and exited the sewer ordering the civilian out as well.

When Linden Police Chief, Scott Sutter asked Officer Conklin why he entered the sewer Officer Conklin responded simply "that's what I signed up for." Because of Officer Conklin's selfless act of courage and bravery Joseph Flipansick is alive.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my sympathies to the family that lost their loved one that day. I would also like to thank Officer Conklin for acting with such brazen courage. He embodies what it means to be a public servant and his commitment to "protect and serve" is inspiring to all.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHNNIE DOSS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, one hundred and two years ago a tenacious man of God was born in Camp Hill, Alabama on August 14, 1909; and

Whereas, Mr. Johnnie Doss was born to Mr. Jack and Mrs. Minnie Doss, he grew up in Camp Hill, Alabama attending school in the local school system; he worked as an experimental farmer for the government. He owned cattle and sold milk to the local dairy; and

Whereas, Mr. Doss has shared his time and talents as a husband, father and motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all who want to advance the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mr. Doss has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the will of God; he is a father of fifteen (15), a grandfather of fifty (50), a great-grandfather of forty-two (42) and a great-great grandfather of thirty-two (32); and

Whereas, Mr. Doss along with his family and friends are celebrating this day a remarkable milestone, his 102nd birthday, we pause to acknowledge a man who is a cornerstone in our community; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mr. Doss on his birthday and to wish him well and recognize him for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim August 14, 2011 as Mr. Johnnie Doss Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 14th day of August, 2011.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JONAS BENTON KELSALL

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Commander Jonas Benton Kelsall who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. LCDR Kelsall was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

LCDR Kelsall was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards, including the Legion of Merit, three Bronze Star Medals with Valor, Purple Heart Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Valor, three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, two Joint Service Achievement Medals, two Combat Action Ribbons, two Presidential Unit Citations, three Afghanistan Campaign Medals, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and numerous other personal and unit decorations.

LCDR Kelsall is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates. His nation owes LCDR Kelsall an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to LCDR Kelsall's family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

IN HONOR OF MR. WILHELM G. SPEIGELBERG, II

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Wilhelm G. Spiegelberg, II, who is retiring after 31 years of government service.

After graduating cum laude from Case Western Reserve University with a degree in political science in 1978, Mr. Spiegelberg attended the Cleveland Marshall School of Law. He earned his J.D. in 1982.

Mr. Spiegelberg began his career in public service with the Ohio State Lottery in 1976 as a public information officer. He later worked with the Ohio Department of Administrative Services as a grant coordinator. Once Mr. Spiegelberg had earned his law degree, in 1983, the City of Garfield Heights appointed him as the city's assistant law director. After several years, Mr. Spiegelberg began working with Judge Deborah J. Nicastro. He would serve as her personal bailiff and law clerk and was later appointed Magistrate and Acting Judge to assist Judge Nicastro.

In addition to his distinguished career, Mr. Spiegelberg is an active member of the community. He has been involved in numerous campaigns throughout the State of Ohio and is well known for his political campaign management skills. He is a licensed referee who officiates local basketball, football, baseball and lacrosse games.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Wilhelm G. Spiegelberg II and thanking him for 31 years of dedicated service to the City of Garfield Heights and State of Ohio.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE HONORING MS. SYLVIA S. SCHWAB, HOUSE CONGRESSIONAL LIAISON OFFICER, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS (RETIRED)

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to rise to honor Ms. Sylvia S. Schwab, House Congressional Liaison Officer, Office of Legislative Affairs, United States Marine Corps, for her decades of service on Capitol Hill and twelve years as an invaluable Civilian Marine.

Ms. Schwab is an alumna of Mary Washington College, and has undertaken graduate

studies in social work at the Catholic University of America. Ms. Schwab's personal decorations include twenty-five years of outstanding performance and monetary awards as well as numerous letters of appreciation and training completion certificates. Ms. Schwab was a valued staffer to Representative Tom Bevill (D-4-AL), who served in this body for 30 years. Representative Tom Bevill (D-4-AL) and my father, Representative Walter B. Jones, Sr. (D-1-NC), both served together in Congress for many years and were close and personal friends.

Ms. Schwab brought her unique experience and perspective to numerous roles, including Senior Legislative Assistant/Director of Case-work and Deputy Chief of Staff/Constituent Relations Director. Since that time, Ms. Schwab has served with distinction as Special Assistant to the Chief of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Secretary of the Navy, as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and as Special Legislative Liaison, Office of Legislative Affairs, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.

As House Congressional Liaison Officer, Ms. Schwab has served four Commandants and five Legislative Assistants, providing her mastery skills and knowledge to the Marine Corps environment. She brought with her a keen insight into the inner workings of the House of Representatives. Ms. Schwab's two decades of experience on Capitol Hill and at Marine Corps Headquarters have provided her with the ability to capitalize on long-standing relationships with congressional staff members to ensure that the Marine Corps message was being delivered and received in a manner that ensured open and effective communication between Congressional Staff and the Marine Corps. Ms. Schwab represented the Marine Corps on all Marine-related matters and guided the Marine Corps' most difficult and challenging legislative initiatives with great success. Through direct interaction with Members of Congress, and their staffs, she ensured that the Marine Corps requirements were widely known and understood, thereby guaranteeing the best possible support. Examples of her success include the procurement of the MV-22 Osprey, the acquisition of Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles and wide-ranging Congressional support for the establishment of the Wounded Warrior regiment.

Ms. Schwab's uncompromising professionalism, astute judgment and strong interpersonal skills contributed substantially to the development of many Marine Corps plans, programs, policies, and activities. She consistently worked to reinforce the Marine Corps policies and ensured that the guidance was widely disseminated to influential, keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

I had a long professional relationship with Ms. Schwab and always found her to be the consummate professional. It was a pleasure to serve with her.

It is for these outstanding personal qualities, dedication to service, and exceptional performance both on Capitol Hill and with the United States Marine Corps that we express to her our heartfelt pride and best wishes in her surely successful future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE BROWN CITY
FIRE DEPARTMENT IN HONOR OF
THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for this opportunity to recognize and acknowledge a special event occurring in the 10th Congressional District this upcoming Sunday, September 11, 2011. For many, this is a solemn time because our Nation is preparing to remember the 10th Anniversary of 9/11 and pay tribute to the brave men and women who lost their lives on that tragic day. I think it's important to note Americans across this land share in the grief felt by all who lived through and witnessed that horrendous attack on the United States of America.

I too share in that sorrow and want to commend and applaud the Brown City Fire Department for standing up to honor the innocent lives lost 10 years ago—just as they have done each of the past 9 years. Located in rural Sanilac County, Brown City started on this journey almost three years ago to obtain a piece of the World Trade Center by submitting an application to the New York Port Authority. To the delight of the fire department and the entire community, the application was approved and a piece of the I-Beam from the World Trade Center would become the foundation of a memorial in memory of the 343 firefighters lost that horrific day.

Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct privilege to represent Brown City and coincidentally I have visited to New York City as well. Despite ending in the word "city", one could easily state this is where the similarities end. However, I would argue the few things they do share in common build a unique and solid bond which far exceeds the differences. I remind you no matter where we call home; we are all Americans first.

Like the NYFD, the Brown City Fire Department is comprised of men and women who have answered the call of duty to serve and protect. Firefighters are cut from the same cloth which is sewn with courage, bravery and fortitude always putting other citizens ahead of their own safety and well-being. Their love of country, honor and service diminishes any geographical disparities.

Although America was shocked by the events of 9/11, it ultimately re-affirmed and proved once again that the American spirit, resolve and character are full-proof and can withstand any damage a terrorist attack tries to inflict. Just as Brown City has done, and continues to do, we will always stand shoulder to shoulder with our fellow Americans no matter what our differences may be. Liberty and freedom will always prevail.

Lastly Mr. Speaker, I ask every American to take a moment to reflect upon and remember those who lost their lives in this senseless act. We all should also say a prayer of thanksgiving for those who gave their lives on that day and for those who since then have fought and sacrificed on battlefields across the globe.

Our great Nation was born in a revolution against tyranny. It has stood since that time as a beacon of hope for countless individuals who have come with a yearning to be free. We have sent our sons and daughters to de-

feat fascism, communism and to protect our freedom and spread it to hundreds of millions across the world. Today we continue that fight against yet another enemy of freedom, and once again freedom will triumph. The world should know that America will never surrender in the fight for liberty and will remain eternally vigilant to the simple statement in our Pledge—"One nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all."

I want to commend the Brown City Fire Department for their hard work and commitment to honor their brothers and sisters from New York City by constructing this 9/11 monument. This is a testament to the community's leadership to ensure future generations always remember and never forget. I thank them for their service and I appreciate this opportunity to acknowledge their exceptional work to see this project come to fruition.

RECOMMENDING A THOUGHTFUL
ARTICLE BY FORMER SENATOR
GEORGE MCGOVERN

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring the attention of my colleagues to a recent article by my friend, former Senator George McGovern, in the September, 2011 issue of Harper's magazine.

In the article, Senator McGovern offers a series of recommendations to improve our Nation, including bringing our troops home from Afghanistan, investing in the jobs of the future, and reducing defense spending.

Senator McGovern continues to bring an important, thoughtful perspective to the issues of the day. I urge my colleagues to read his article and to give serious consideration to the proposals he outlines.

EASY CHAIR—A LETTER TO BARACK OBAMA
(By George McGovern)

When President Franklin Roosevelt came into office in the depth of the Great Depression, he sought to stabilize and empower American society by introducing bold new initiatives: Social Security, the Public Works Administration, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Rural Electrification Administration, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Civilian Conservation Corps, and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, among many others. These measures were sufficiently successful, as was his leadership during World War II, that he secured four terms in the White House. There was some congressional resistance but not enough to block the support of both political parties.

Like Roosevelt, President Barack Obama has inherited a serious economic crisis, but in his first two years in office he has been met with an even worse problem: the rigid opposition of the rival party leaders to national health care and nearly every other proposal he has made. The Republican House Appropriations Committee has even voted to terminate public funding for NPR and PBS. Neither during my four years in the House of Representatives, when Dwight D. Eisenhower was in the White House, nor through eighteen years in the U.S. Senate, under John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, and Richard Nixon, have I witnessed any president thwarted by the kind of narrow partisanship

that has beset Obama. He has tried to avoid such divisions by publicly explaining his willingness to compromise, but these gestures have been spurned. Some of his political critics have gone so far as to express the hope that the Obama Administration will fail, even avowing their determination to hasten that failure. What has happened, one is compelled to ask, to the love of nation?

I have learned that it is not easy to succeed either as a senator or as a president if you are pushing for fundamental change. We tend, as lawmakers and as citizens, to drift along with the familiar ways of thinking: If it is good enough for Grandma and Grandpa, it is good enough for us. If it is good enough for the flag-wavers and the boosters, it is good enough for us. Such resistance to change often is strengthened by powerful interests—nowhere more forcefully than in the National Defense bill that Congress considers and passes each year.

When I entered the U.S. Senate in 1963, the defense budget was \$51 billion. This was at a time when our military experts felt it necessary to have the means to win a war against the combined powers of Russia and China. Today we have a military budget of over \$700 billion, and yet neither Russia nor China threatens us, if indeed they ever did. Nor does any other nation. Furthermore, the terrorist threat we face is not a military matter. The World Trade Center was brought down not by artillery or bombers or battleships but by nineteen young Arabs equipped only with box cutters. The Department of Homeland Security created by the Bush Administration after this attack is a better instrument against terrorism than our military, even though our armed forces are the best in the world.

In my career both in the House and in the Senate, inspired by the words of Eisenhower, my supreme commander in Europe during World War II, I tried hard to curb the powers of what Eisenhower, in his farewell address as president, referred to as the "military-industrial complex." Needless to say, all my efforts to reduce military spending were defeated. With the renaming of the War Department as the Defense Department in 1947, the military part of the government became sacred, virtually untouchable. How could anyone vote to cut defense unless he or she is willing to face political defeat?

We need a new definition of "defense" that takes into account the quality of our education, the health of our people, the preservation of the environment, the strength of our transportation, the development of alternative fuels, the vigor of our democracy. These were the concerns expressed by the people who stood in Cairo's Tahrir Square holding up their signs for more than two weeks this winter. Without guns, knives, or the use of their fists, they brought down the dictator who had exploited them for nearly thirty years.

All Americans want their country to have an adequate military defense. But under pressure from corporate lobbyists and legislators seeking military contracts or bases for their states, we are spending to excess while other sources of national defense, such as health care and education, are short-changed and the national debt grows ever larger.

Many patriotic Americans have opposed the two wars our gallant young troops have been asked to fight in Iraq and Afghanistan. Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz has estimated that the direct and indirect costs of the Iraq war will amount to \$3 trillion. This represents nearly a quarter of our national debt. I suspect that the war in Afghanistan will eventually cost another \$3 trillion and we still will not have achieved our aim. General David Petraeus, the commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan, advises

that we cannot think of withdrawing our troops before 2014. If we stay on that schedule, our soldiers will have been fighting, bleeding, and dying there for thirteen years—more than three times the length of U.S. involvement in World War II.

I recently conferred with President Obama in his White House office, urging him to withdraw from Afghanistan. I'm pleased that he has since announced the withdrawal of 10,000 troops in 2011 and 23,000 in 2012. I would have been even more pleased if all our 100,000 troops now in Afghanistan, as well as those in Iraq, were on the way home.

The president may be reluctant to follow the advice of a presidential candidate who in 1972 lost forty-nine states to Richard Nixon. I can appreciate that concern. On the other hand, shortly after the 1972 election, two bipartisan investigations—one by the House and one by the Senate—forced the incumbent who beat me to resign his office in disgrace. A question from the New Testament comes to mind: What doth it profit a man if he gains the whole world or wins a big election and loses his own soul? The late Sargent Shriver, my running mate in 1972, came to me the day after the election and said, "George, we may have lost forty-nine states but we never lost our souls."

With this sentiment in mind, I would like to suggest a few bold steps President Obama might consider for the good of his soul and that of the nation.

1. We should bring our troops home from Afghanistan this year. No previous foreign power that has tried to work its will in Afghanistan has succeeded—not Alexander the Great, not the Mongols, not the British, and not the Russians, who, after nine years of fighting, had sent some 25,000 of their soldiers home in coffins. The Soviet treasury was emptied and the Soviet Union collapsed. Even if it were desirable for us to stay a decade more, we simply cannot afford to do so.

2. We should close all U.S. military bases in the Arab world. American troops in the Middle East incite rather than prevent terrorist attacks against us. We would do well to remember that when Osama bin Laden returned to Saudi Arabia after fighting the Soviets in Afghanistan, he found a large American army in his home country, positioned there to halt a possible Iraqi invasion—a presence that so offended him he denounced the king and his own family for quartering the American "infidels" within the shadow of the holy cities of Mecca and Medina. He then returned to Afghanistan to organize Al Qaeda and, later, launch the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks.

3. We should evaluate whether it is necessary to continue other American troop consignments to Europe, South Korea, and elsewhere. When the U.S. Army was sent to Korea in 1950 the deployment was described as a brief police action, but sixty years later our troops are still there. South Korea is now a wealthier, more populous, and more industrialized nation than North Korea, and is fully capable of defending itself. Similarly, U.S. troops in Europe, now numbering 80,000, have been there for half a century. They should be withdrawn, as were the Soviet forces from Eastern Europe under Mikhail Gorbachev.

4. President Obama should call on the Pentagon to reduce the current military budget of \$700 billion—a figure that accounts for almost half of the world's military expenditures—to \$500 billion next year, and then, over the next five years, to \$200 billion. In a careful and persuasive study, Lawrence Korb, a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress and an assistant secretary of defense under Ronald Reagan, identifies unneeded and costly programs that could be cut from the Pentagon budget without weak-

ening our security, including the elimination of sophisticated warplanes—all of which, added up, could save a trillion dollars over the next ten years.

5. The Bush tax cuts for those with higher incomes should be not only repealed but reversed; with an increase in taxes for this bracket, the increased revenues could be used to reduce the national debt. There would, of course, be strong resistance to ending the tax favoritism now enjoyed by the rich, but this bonanza for the few at the top must end.

6. Savings in military spending could be used to launch valuable public investments, thereby creating jobs and stimulating the entire economy. The administration has expressed support for creating a European-style high-speed rail system in the United States, and indeed we ought to build the fastest, cleanest, and safest passenger- and freight-train system in the world.

The president should also revive the full provisions of the World War II—era G.I. bill, which enabled 7.8 million soldiers to secure a college education at government expense while also receiving a cost-of-living stipend. Having been a bomber pilot during World War II, flying missions over Nazi Germany, I was one of the beneficiaries of the bill, eventually earning a Ph.D. in history at Northwestern University. This program was costly, but the government certainly made its money back, because educated citizens earn more and so pay increased taxes. Now, as we experience a crisis in higher education caused by soaring tuition costs that exclude many working- and middle-class young people, why not offer government-paid higher education and vocational training for all qualified students—both civilian and military?

Another wise public investment would be the expansion of Medicare to all Americans. Some of the recently proposed health-care legislation has been so lengthy and complicated that I am not sure what is contained in it, but we all know what Medicare is. We could reduce the impenetrable legislation to a simple sentence: "Congress hereby extends Medicare to all Americans." I am at a loss as to why an old codger like me benefits from Medicare while my children and grandchildren do not. To soften the impact of this expansion on the budget, I propose that the program be implemented in steps every two years: the first step including children up to the age of eight; the second, those from nine to eighteen; the third, those from nineteen through thirty; and finally, those from thirty-one through sixty-five. Programs such as Medicare have been in place for years in many advanced countries. My Canadian relatives tell me that any government that tried to do away with their comprehensive medical and hospital care would be promptly expelled from office.

None of this is intended as a criticism of Barack Obama, who had my support when he was a candidate for the United States presidency and who has my support today. I hope that some of the ideas here might help him on the road to greatness. I wish him well on the journey ahead.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR MASTER
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SPECIAL
WARFARE OPERATOR LOUIS
JAMES LANGLAIS

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Master Chief Petty Officer Special War-

fare Operator Louis James Langlais who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Master Chief Langlais was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

Master Chief Langlais was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards, including six Bronze Star Medals with Valor, Purple Heart Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Valor, Joint Service Commendation Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, three Combat Action Ribbons, three Presidential Unit Citations, Iraq Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and numerous other personal and unit decorations.

Master Chief Langlais is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates.

His nation owes Master Chief Langlais an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to Master Chief Langlais' family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

COMMENDING MICHAEL HOWARD
MADISON UPON THE OCCASION
OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Mr. Michael Howard Madison's retirement from Cleco Corporation. After 40 years of service in the electric power industry, in April of 2011, Mr. Madison announced his plan to retire from Cleco Corporation.

With his professional endeavors spanning an impressive four decades, his career began working as an electrician to put himself through college, graduating from the University of Oklahoma in 1971.

Various career choices, with one highlight being his position as state president for American Electric Power, led to his eventual position as president and CEO of Cleco Corporation in 2005. Of his many contributions, of special note are that he strengthened the utility company, proposed a new solid-fuel generating unit near Boyce, and grew the stock price by 71 percent.

Not only should Mr. Madison be celebrated for his ambitious career, but for his public service. Some of the active boards he has served on include the Better Business Bureau, Capital One Bank, Christus St. Frances Cabrini Hospital, Council for a Better Louisiana, the Governor's Advisory Commission on Coastal Protection, the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce, along with many others.

Mr. Madison's career has brought honor and pride to his family, friends, community, and the state of Louisiana. I congratulate Mr. Michael Howard Madison upon the occasion of his retirement.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JEROME P.
STANO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mr. Jerome P. Stano, a former Parma Councilman, Ohio State Representative and Ohio State Senator.

Mr. Stano was born in Cleveland on September 30, 1932. He graduated from Cleveland's Benedictine High School and later attended Benedictine Illinois College. During the Korean War, Mr. Stano bravely served our country as a member of the U.S. Air Force.

Mr. Stano began his career in politics as a councilman for Parma's Ward 2. He was elected to the Ohio General Assembly as a State Representative and on January 3, 1974, Mr. Stano began his tenure as an Ohio State Senator. He served the citizens of the 24th District faithfully, working on issues such as medical care for the elderly, until December 31, 1980.

Mr. Stano worked tirelessly on behalf of the residents of Parma, Ohio and was an active member of the community following his career in politics. He is credited with founding Parma's Pee Wee Football program. Mr. Stano was also an active member of the Parma Elks Lodge, the American Legion and the Knights of Columbus. Due to his commitment to the citizens of Parma, one of the city's parks on Gerald Avenue, has been named in his honor.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembrance of Mr. Jerome P. Stano. I offer my condolences to his wife of 57 years, Klara; his children, Paul, Elaine, Diane and Kathy; and his grandchildren Christian, Bretton, Douglas, David and Grant.

“TEN YEARS AGO THIS DAY” IN HONOR OF THE RISING AND THE OPENING OF THE 9/11 MEMORIAL ON THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and in remembrance of all of the Heroes and lost loved ones of all of the families of 9/11. On this the 10th anniversary, I ask that this tribute in honor of them, and the new visitor center and the rising of The Two New Towers and their strength penned by Albert Caswell, be placed in the RECORD.

TEN YEARS AGO THIS DAY

Ten . . .
Ten years ago this very day . . .
Upon, this most hallowed ground . . . these most scared graves . . .
As here and now we all so kneel and pray . . .
As they tried to so take America's very heart away!
As so many magnificent men and women died on that day!
As so many fine lives were so lost, and so left all in such pain and dismay!
As all of their loved ones were so left with that kind of pain, that only Heaven can so take away . . .

And all of those innocent children aboard all of those planes who now so they . . .
Will never grow up to be happy, old, and so gray . . .
Who were once but all the apples of their parents eyes, night and day!
As all hearts are so warmed, whenever we so think of how in the face of evil they so stayed!
As all across our Nation, America so wept on that day!
From The Towers, to The Pentagon . . . and Flight 93, as upon us all such evil so weighted!
As America so saw, “Let's Roll” and what of most heroic hearts are so made!
And to what new heights, they could so reach . . . so soar, as did they!
As all of our tears flowed and poured, as out across our Nation we so mourned and prayed!
As all of The Towers fell down on that day . . .
Leaving us all with that kind of pain, that even time can not so take away . . .
As ten years later to this very day, still all of our hearts feel like it was only yesterday!
And yet, America's heart has grown even greater they say!
All because of what they so taught us, and to what our Nation they so gave!
For from this most hallowed ground, and from their strength and courage we have so found!
The strength to stand and to rebuild, as over these sacred footprints the water washes down!
Upon, this spot where all of their most sacred ashes were once so found . . .
All so scattered all across this ground!
All in this high place of reverence and of such faith so now, where all of their most magnificent souls can so be felt all around!
Has Come A Rising, of remembrance to all of them so now!
To last forever and a day, this most sacred ground!
A Rising . . . to so honor each and every man, woman and child so how!
All in our Lord's plan, so that in 100 years from now we will all stand here so very proud!
And then 100 more, we will stand here all in such honor at this shrine so now!
As we will feel all of their courage and strength, and what their fine faith has so meant!
To us all so now!
So that whenever someone looks upon this hallowed place, that they will leave with but tears on their face!
As a Tribute to Them and The American Way, and to this The Human Race!
As A Triumph of Good Over Evil, that the entire world will say!
That we have all so walked with our Lord and his Angels this day!
With all of their blessings of Hope, Courage and Faith . . . which within our hearts will stay!
You, may bring down our buildings!
You may murder our women, men, and our most precious children!
Crash planes into fields, or at The Pentagon, and yet still you will not victory so wield!
For, as long as we have such strong fine women and men, who into such graves do so tragically descend!
Who so believe in America and what our Freedom so brings, upon which our Nation depends!
Then, Will Come A Rising . . . over such evil that which all of us despise then . . .

Standing here on this sacred ground, one feel's all of their souls so beseeching us so now!
To teach our children well, all about what their fine lives have so meant . . .
So that they too may teach their children's children time and again!
To remember what it so means to be an American, as up from the ashes anew so came!
A Rising, With Faith In Hearts We Will Forever So Honor Their Names!
Goodness . . . Evil . . . Darkness . . . Light . . . Those Brave Hearts Who Bring The Light!
As Against The Darkest of All Evil's, As Onward We Fight!
Together enjoined, as we battle on into the darkest of all nights!
As why With This Rising, we so honor these Heroes and their Families, with such homage we pay!
All because they made America's heart stronger that day!
Ten Years Ago This Day! Never Forget!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, due to weather related travel delays I was unable to be present for rollcall vote 692 on September 7, 2011. This vote was on H. Con. Res. 67, a resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H. Con. Res. 67.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN
HOWARD WELLS, JR.

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of John Howard Wells, Jr. Mr. Wells was a patriot, veteran, and had a love of country. Mr. Wells fought in the Korean War aboard the *USS Hollister*, DD-788. He was a Cold Warrior in the 60's and 70's and at one point in his career his security clearance was so high that the level of clearance was classified.

Mr. Wells also spent part of his career working for NASA. During the 80's and 90's he was a Ground Controller for the Space Shuttle Project and worked in the original Mission Control at the Johnson Space Center. He also took a major role in the design, engineering, construction, and start-up of the New Mission Control Room which recently closed in July following the last flight mission of *Atlantis*.

His family will tell you that even these accomplishments are not what made him great. The titles of husband, father, and grandfather are what defined him in life. He taught his children how to have confidence in their talents. He wrote love letters to his wife. He loved and doted on his daughters and was joyous in the grandchildren they brought to him. He helped his son through the toughest years of his life

with loving honesty and helped him never lose sight of the realities and obligations of being a man and father. He also taught his children about politics, but would never let the discussions get hotter than what was necessary to properly forge and hone their positions.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise and remember the veteran, and above all a husband, father and grandfather.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOHN
THOMAS WEEMES

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of John Thomas Weemes, a man who was an active member of the Los Angeles community. Mr. Weemes was born April 2, 1925 in Los Angeles, California to Annie Wardell Brown and Albert Thomas Weemes. Affectionately known as "Johnny," he was the fifth of six children. John was educated in the Los Angeles Unified School District and attended 20th Street Elementary School, Lafayette Junior High School, and graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1943. That same year, John was drafted into the United States Army and served our country proudly from 1943–1946 during World War II. After his tour of duty, John enrolled in California State College and earned his Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees. Throughout his career, John worked as an elementary school teacher, pupil service and attendance counselor, and administrator. He was also a member of the Associated Administrators of Los Angeles. After retiring in 1987, John continued to work part-time for the District.

John was baptized and engaged in fellowship at Ward A.M.E. church in Los Angeles, California. On July 8, 1951, John was united in holy matrimony with Lenicia Boggs, who preceded him in death. To this union, Stephen John Weemes was born. On July 31, 1981, John united in holy matrimony to Toni Anthony Brown, thanks to the late Clayton Moore for playing Cupid.

John was a kind, generous, loving, warm-hearted, and cordial gentleman. With his outgoing and infectious personality, John knew no strangers. He enjoyed spending time with family, friends, and colleagues. Some of his favorite leisure activities were golfing, reading, and watching all sports on television. John also loved to travel, and cruising was his and Toni's favorite mode of transportation. John took pleasure in walking and playing with his beloved dogs; first "Princess Lui," and currently "Lexie," a.k.a. "Pooh."

John Thomas Weemes passed away on August 31, 2011. He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings Emma Bess, Annie, Albert, and Carrie. He leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife, Toni A. Weemes (Ruby), son Stephen John Weemes, daughter-in-law Sheyrl Nickles-Weemes, sister Evelyne Brown, Lexie, and a host of relatives and friends.

I ask all members to join me in a moment of silence to honor the memory of the late John Thomas Weemes.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR SENIOR
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SPECIAL
WARFARE OPERATOR HEATH MI-
CHAEL ROBINSON

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Senior Chief Petty Officer Special Warfare Operator Heath Michael Robinson who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Senior Chief Robinson was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

Senior Chief Robinson was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards, including four Bronze Star Medals with Valor, including one for extraordinary heroism, Purple Heart Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals with Valor, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, two Combat Action Ribbons, two Presidential Unit Citations, three Afghanistan Campaign Medals, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and numerous other personal and unit decorations.

Senior Chief Robinson is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates.

His nation owes Senior Chief Robinson an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to Senior Chief Robinson's family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

IN HONOR OF MR. LE NGUYEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Le Nguyen, who is celebrating 30 years of service to the City of Cleveland.

After graduating high school in 1974, Mr. Nguyen joined the South Vietnam Air Force. Following North Vietnam's invasion on April 30, 1975, he left South Vietnam and came to the United States. Just several years later, Mr. Nguyen became the Asian Liaison for the Community Relations Board/City of Cleveland.

Throughout his long career as the Asian Liaison, Mr. Nguyen has worked to promote understanding and cooperation amongst racially and culturally diverse groups within the Cleveland community. He played a vital role in some of the Community Relations Board's most successful projects, including a fundraiser for the Vietnamese Buddhist Association of Cleveland's Vien Quang Temple and the coordination of Cleveland's first Asian American Resource Directory. Mr. Nguyen has also served as the event chair for the Asian Pacific American Heritage Day Celebration since 2008.

Because of his dedication and hard work, Mr. Nguyen has received many awards over the past 30 years. In 1994 he was selected as the Community Relations Board's employee of the month and received a key to the City of Cleveland. He is also the recipient of a Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Leadership in the Asian American Community from the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, and has been recognized by the American Nationalities Movement and the Korean American Association of Greater Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Le Nguyen as he celebrates 30 years of service as the Asian Liaison for the Community Relations Board/City of Cleveland.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the special occasion of the centennial celebration of St. John's Hospital. For 100 years, this community hospital has provided quality health care to residents in the Saint Paul—Minneapolis Metropolitan Area.

In 1911, when it first opened its doors in Saint Paul's Dayton's Bluff neighborhood, St. John's German Lutheran Hospital was a 25-bed facility. A new 65-bed fireproof hospital was built in 1914 on the site of the current Metropolitan State University in Saint Paul. During the influenza epidemic of 1918, St. John's Hospital was turned over to the City of Saint Paul to care for charity patients. In just one month, St. John's Hospital treated nearly 400 flu patients. In a turn of events, in 1933, due to a low patient load, the hospital was forced to close some floors and hospital staff took vacations without pay and a 10 percent salary reduction.

After weathering difficult times, in the 1950s St. John's Hospital underwent an expansion to 165 beds, becoming one of the first hospitals in the nation to create an Intensive Care Unit (ICU), and was recognized for its "Progressive Patient Care." St. John's Hospital constructed a second facility in 1985 in Maplewood at its current location. St. John's Hospital joined the newly-created HealthEast Care System in 1986, along with Bethesda and St. Joseph's Hospitals. After 75 years, in 1987, St. John's Hospital closed its hospital on Saint Paul's East Side.

St. John's Hospital has implemented many innovations during the past decade. In 2005, St. John's Hospital was the first community hospital in the Twin Cities to offer the daVinci Surgical System—a robotic surgical system used to treat prostate cancer. In addition, St. John's Hospital was the first hospital in Minnesota to utilize digital mammography and one of the first hospitals in the state to provide cutting-edge artificial disc surgery for patients experiencing lower back pain.

Today St. John's is an award-winning hospital and with more than 1500 employees, one of the largest job providers in the East Metro Area. On an annual basis, it treats more than 41,000 patients in the emergency department, delivers more than 3,000 babies and performs

more than 6,000 surgeries. U.S. News & World Report named St. John's Hospital one of 2011–2012 "Top Metro Best Hospitals in the Twin Cities" and identified St. John's as one of the top hospitals in the country for Urology. This year, the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal named HealthEast Hospitals, including St. John's, one of the "Best Places to Work" in Minnesota for the sixth time.

Mr. Speaker, the comprehensive and state-of-the-art health care services provided by St. John's Hospital are commendable and deserve to be celebrated.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS WITH
COMMUNICATING FOR AGRICULTURE

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, in 1972, Communicating for Agriculture (CA) started as a small group of dairy farmers in Minnesota's 7th Congressional District. Today CA has tens of thousands of agriculture and small business members across the United States, and 4 decades of legislative accomplishments on behalf of their members. From helping to form the first state high-risk pool for the medically uninsurable in Minnesota in 1976, to the first beginning farmer loan program in Iowa in 1980, to forming its own international agriculture exchange program in 1985, to receiving the first Agriculture Apprenticeship designation granted by the U.S. Department of Labor in 2007. CA was founded to promote the general health, welfare and advancement of people in agriculture or small business, and after 40 years of service to rural America, that mission continues to drive CA today.

In 1986, the CA Foundation applied for and received authority from the United States Department of State to sponsor a J-1 training and intern program, allowing the exchange of young people to have a learning experience in agriculture. That year 6 trainees arrived as part of CA Education and Exchange Program (CAEP). Within 10 years, the program grew to become the largest of its kind in the United States. Today, CAEP works with more than 1,000 young people from more than 50 countries in the areas of agriculture, horticulture, enology, equine and turf management, with CAEP international offices in Denmark, Mexico, Columbia, Chile, Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina, South Africa, Hungary, Moldova, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines and China.

Today, the U.S. State Department requires the J-1 Visa program to include a training plan that is agreed to by the CA Member Host, as well as the trainee or intern. Upon satisfactory completion of the program, CAEP awards a certificate of completion, which is taken by the trainee back to their home country where they will begin their career in their chosen field. The CA Foundation also provides opportunities and grants to Americans between the ages of 18 and 28 to have a similar 3 to 12 month placement in agriculture with one of our country partners around the world.

Congratulations to CAEP on 25 years of international agriculture education and ex-

change leadership and to CA on 40 years of serving rural America.

HONORING HAL STRICKLAND FOR
HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO
COMMUNITY RECREATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Hal Strickland for receiving the National Voluntary Service Award from the National Recreation and Park Association.

This prestigious award is given to volunteers who work to improve recreation, parks and conservation programs in our communities. With more than three decades of volunteer service with local youth and parks organizations, Mr. Strickland has left a profound and lasting imprint on my community of Fairfax County, Va.

In addition to his career as a civil engineer for the U.S. Forest Service, Mr. Strickland served 14 years on the Fairfax County Athletic Council, including two as chairman. He founded the Chantilly Youth Association, and spent 25 years as president of the community sports league. He served as president of the Greenbriar Civic Association, and for the past 20 years, he has served on the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, where he has served as chairman six times.

He has said that he is most proud of his work on Fairfax County's successful synthetic turf field program. I was proud to partner with Mr. Strickland to launch that effort during my tenure as Chairman of the Fairfax Board of Supervisors. It played a vital component of our anti-gang initiative by providing young people with more year-round outdoor activities. This community collaboration also has expanded field opportunities for Fairfax's many sports leagues. The program now has more than two dozen synthetic fields across the county.

He is also known for his work of preserving green spaces in Centreville and Chantilly, despite the areas' rapid growth. This green space resembles the historic beginnings of the area, when it was a collection of gentlemen horse farms. He has truly influenced the quality of life in Fairfax through his accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Hal Strickland for receiving the National Voluntary Service Award and thanking him for his years of service in our community. Through his dedicated service, we are preserving our history through green spaces and making recreational activities more accessible to all for generations to come.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR SENIOR
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SPECIAL
WARFARE OPERATOR ROBERT
JAMES REEVES

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Senior Chief Petty Officer Special War-

fare Operator Robert James Reeves who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Senior Chief Reeves was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

Senior Chief Reeves was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards including five Bronze Star Medals with Valor, Purple Heart Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Valor, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Valor, Combat Action Ribbon, three Presidential Unit Citations, two Afghanistan Campaign Medals, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and other personal and unit decorations.

Senior Chief Reeves is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates.

His nation owes Senior Chief Reeves an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to Senior Chief Reeves' family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

IN HONOR OF EL GRAN COMBO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of El Gran Combo, and welcome the legendary salsa group to Cleveland.

Founded in May, 1962 by Raphael Ithier, El Gran Combo is Puerto Rico's most successful musical group and one of the most popular salsa orchestras across Latin America. The 13-piece salsa group captivates its fans with their Latin rhythms and vocal harmonies. The group has released over 50 albums throughout the years and continues to produce new music and perform live shows throughout the world.

The Puerto Rican Senate has hailed El Gran Combo as the "Ambassadors of Our Music" and in Colombia they are known as La Universidad de la Salsa due to their unique role in launching the career of countless musicians and performers. El Gran Combo has received many awards over the past several decades, including golden albums, a Grammy for Best Tropical Album in 2003, a "Calendario de Plata" in Mexico, a "Golden Combo" in Colombia, a "Paoli Award" in their native Puerto Rico, and an honorable distinction in Spain.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of El Gran Combo as they celebrate almost 50 years of outstanding contributions to the music industry.

HONORING THE SONOMA COUNTY
INDIAN HEALTH PROJECT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleague Rep. MIKE THOMPSON to honor the

Sonoma County Indian Health Project on its 40th anniversary, celebrated August 19, 2011.

Sonoma County Indian Health Project was founded in 1971 to provide healthcare to the Native American population residing in Sonoma County. Since its establishment, the Indian Health Project has grown considerably, serving evident unmet needs in our community, and leading to its move into the large, modern healthcare facility it occupies today.

Through its relationship with the California Area Indian Health Service, the Sonoma County Indian Health Project assists in serving not only a large Native American population, but also a non-Indian population lacking sufficient access to care. Hundreds of families and individuals from communities across our region seek care at the facility each year, from traditional medical or dental treatment to nutritional consultation or transportation services for those in isolated areas.

Supported by the Cloverdale, Dry Creek, Lytton, Graton, Manchester-Point Area, and Stewarts Point Rancherias, the Indian Health Project also puts an emphasis on providing its services in a manner that respects and contributes to Indian culture. It is a symbol of the strength and determination of our Native American community and a proud part of what makes our region unique.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join us in thanking the Sonoma County Indian Health Project for its longstanding contributions to the health and welfare of Sonoma County, and in wishing the organization many more years of success.

SALUTING THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS OF AMERICA: CHAPTER 270—RICHARDSON, TEXAS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize before the United States House of Representatives today a group of over 100 American heroes, the members of the Korean War Veterans of America (KWVA) Chapter 270, on the occasion of the chapter's 10th anniversary.

In June of 1950, North Korea invaded the Republic of Korea, sparking the start of the Korean War. Just days later, President Harry Truman ordered American troops deployed to the Korean peninsula to fight alongside our ally. Nearly 2 million valiant Americans served during the conflict. Yet, because of the war's end in 1953 through an armistice and its historical slot between World War II and Vietnam, many refer to Korea as the Forgotten War.

In September of 2001, a number of Korean War veterans from the Dallas, Texas area joined forces to create a local organization which would "provide a means by which the 'Forgotten War' will never be forgotten." They have fulfilled that mission for a decade now, also working "to respect and honor brothers-in-arms who served during the Korean Conflict and/or afterwards in Korea; to further friendship and respect between South Korea and the United States of America; and to serve fellow veterans in need of aid and assistance."

The chapter's generous members conduct donation drives, repair veterans' wheelchairs and, by the end of this month, will have do-

nated 5,000 hours of their time volunteering at the Dallas Veterans Administration Hospital this year alone.

To my fellow members of KWVA Chapter 270, I consider it a high honor and true privilege to be a part of this first-rate organization. The fact that this group bears my name makes me proud—proud to be a veteran of Korea, proud to be a Texan, and proud to be an American.

God bless you, God bless America, and I salute you!

HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEWSCHANNEL 8

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th Anniversary of NewsChannel 8. This highly regarded news organization has been serving local viewers continuously for 175,320 hours, consistently providing critical local news, community information, local political coverage and emergency updates in its 20 years of existence.

Established on October 7, 1991, NewsChannel 8 was the first independent local news channel in the country. Its innovative zoned delivery of news provides hyperlocal and distinct coverage to Washington, DC, Virginia, and Maryland.

NewsChannel 8 programming is wired into over 15,000 Federal offices in the House of Representatives, Senate, Supreme Court, and the White House, and has become an invaluable resource to all decision makers on Capitol Hill, many of whom are regular guests or contributors to NewsChannel 8's tireless political coverage.

NewsChannel 8 has been dedicated to serving its surrounding communities, providing immeasurable service to the people of the Washington DC metro area. Serving as a critical outlet for local government officials including Congressional Representatives, Senators, Mayors, County Supervisors, Council Representatives, School Board Officials and Emergency/Public Safety Administrators, NewsChannel 8 is the leader in making sure constituents are well-informed. Additionally, NewsChannel 8 provides a unique forum for state and local political candidates to inform and educate voters.

NewsChannel 8's parent company, Allbritton Communications Company, and its cable partners, including Comcast, Cox and Verizon, are to be commended for forging a local programming and distribution partnership that is the envy of the nation. In honor of their achievements, the House of Representatives shall designate October 7, 2011 as "NewsChannel 8 Day" in recognition of their outstanding public service.

I congratulate NewsChannel 8 on their success in the delivery of informative, first-rate local news.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SPECIAL WARFARE OPERATOR BRIAN ROBERT BILL

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Petty Officer Special Warfare Operator Brian Robert Bill who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Chief Bill was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

Chief Bill was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards, including four Bronze Star Medals with Valor, including one for extraordinary heroism, Purple Heart Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Valor, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, two Combat Action Ribbons, two Presidential Unit Citations, Navy Unit Commendation, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and numerous other personal and unit decorations.

Chief Bill is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates.

His nation owes Chief Bill an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to Chief Bill's family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. AND MRS. ED AND IRENE MORROW'S 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. and Mrs. Ed and Irene Morrow as they celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on September 1, 2011.

Both Ed and Irene were born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. Ed worked as a Quality Control Analyst for the Defense Department. Ed continues to be active in the community and is a member of the Irish Heritage Club. He also sits on the St. Patrick's Day Parade's parade committee. Irene served as Secretary of the Civil Service Commission for the City of Cleveland under former Mayor George Voinovich and was recently honored by the American Nationalities Movement, which she served as Executive Secretary and Treasurer for more than 30 years. As an inductee of the International Hall of Fame of Greater Cleveland, Irene remains dedicated to the Cleveland community as a board member of Fairview Park and Lutheran Hospitals.

Ed and Irene were married on September 1, 1951. They have six children; Jeffery, Patrick, Martin, Roberta, Lorraine and Christine. Today they also enjoy spending time with their grandchildren; Matthew, Ryan, Nathan, Michaela, Aaron and Justin.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of Mr. and Mrs. Ed and Irene Morrow. May their 60 year union be an inspiration for future generations.

RECOGNIZING MONICA FOSKETT

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Monica Foskett, a vital member of my staff for over the past two years.

Friday, August 12th was Monica's last day serving the people of the Illinois Fifth Congressional District. She has served with distinction since 2009, and has spent the past two years working for her hometown, Chicago, with aplomb and determination.

Monica began her career in public service as a staffer on Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign. Quickly moving up in the campaign's field program, the long hours and experience helped her to develop a strong work ethic and a political acumen that carried over to her role as a Congressional staffer. As a volunteer assisting in my office transition, Monica helped lead the effort to gather and submit the appropriation requests an exceptionally difficult task when reduced to a couple of weeks. Many late nights were spent and caffeine products consumed ensuring the requests were submitted in time.

In addition to helping with appropriations, Monica took the lead in setting up scheduling procedures for the office, handling arts and culture issues, organizing the Hockey Caucus, and assisting with housing issues. She proved to be passionate about her work and making a difference in people's lives. I am confident she will continue to find success in public service.

Mr. Speaker, not only will we miss her hard work, but we will also miss her presence in the office. With her quick-to-laugh personality, I know my office will, sadly, be a quieter place. I wish Monica the best of luck not only on her future endeavors serving the public, but with her new life and fiancé, Mike Guerra, in New York. I thank her for her service to the Illinois 5th Congressional District.

HONORING J VINEYARDS AND WINERY OF HEALDSBURG

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague, Representative MIKE THOMPSON, to recognize and honor J Vineyards and Winery of Healdsburg, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

J was conceived and developed by Judy Jordan, an exuberant, fiercely independent 25-year-old who saw an opening in Sonoma County's wine landscape for a high quality, all-American sparkling wine brand. It was a lofty goal for a product that was first made in an old, ramshackle prune processing barn that routinely flooded when the nearby Russian River overflowed.

From those humble beginnings, J sparkling wines have become some of the finest in the world. The winery's J Vintage Brut is a fixture on high profile wine lists and top hotels around the world. Queen Elizabeth sipped J at the White House. Mikhail Gorbachev spoke of world peace with a glass of J in his hand and J sparkling wines were the official celebratory bubbles of the Academy Awards Governors Ball for four consecutive years.

To produce this remarkable wine, Ms. Jordan and her team rely on ten distinctive vineyard estate properties located throughout the Russian River Valley Appellation. These vineyards have at least twenty different soil profiles, with each vineyard displaying a different soil type and distinctive microclimate. This diversity allows J winemakers to coax the best flavor characteristics from each vineyard.

Ms. Jordan also came to the realization that her vineyards would also be ideal for producing site-specific, cool-climate Russian River Valley varietal wines like Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Pinot Gris in addition to her sparkling wines. These wines were added to the portfolio and have become immensely popular products.

The ten estate wines will be "Certified Sustainable" in 2012 by the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance. After a number of energy savings initiatives were implemented throughout the winery, J was named a "Green Winery" in 2010.

One of the first wineries to offer food and wine pairings to visitors in the "Bubble Room," J was named "Best Winery Tasting Room" by Sunset Magazine in 2009.

Mr. Speaker, from its humble beginnings, J Vineyards and Winery has become an international success story and one of the linchpins of the Sonoma County wine industry. It is therefore appropriate that we honor them today on their Silver Anniversary.

REMEMBERING A TRUE PUBLIC SERVANT AND FATHER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart and deep sympathy to commemorate the life of a tremendous public servant, Mr. Bryan Coleman

After graduating from Flint Northern High School in 1988 Bryan attended Mott Community College and then Eastern Michigan University. In 1994 he was hired as a Flint Police Officer protecting the community he so dearly loved. He served on the force admirably for 17 years rising to the rank of sergeant and later becoming a detective.

Detective Coleman was not just known for his work on the Flint Police force. He was known by many as a gregarious and outgoing gentleman. People who knew Bryan called him a "people person," and it did not take long after meeting Bryan to know him. His natural love for life drew many people into his life and for that they are thankful.

Bryan loved life; one of his many loves was the University of Michigan football team. Each fall he spent most Saturdays watching his beloved maize and blue often at the stadium cheering them on. What Bryan loved the most

was spending time with his family and his son Brandon. Bryan's love for his son was deep and meaningful. The firm foundation that Bryan created for Brandon will have a lasting impact on Brandon's journey through life. Bryan's commitment to family, friends and loving life will be carried on by all of those who were fortunate enough to know him.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my deepest sympathies to his family and host of friends.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SPECIAL WARFARE OPERATOR CHRISTOPHER GEORGE CAMPBELL

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Petty Officer Special Warfare Operator Christopher George Campbell who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Chief Campbell was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

Chief Campbell was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards, including three Bronze Star Medals with Valor, Purple Heart Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Valor, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, two Combat Action Ribbons, two Presidential Unit Citations, Navy Unit Commendation, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and numerous other personal and unit decorations.

Chief Campbell is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates.

His nation owes Chief Campbell an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to Chief Campbell's family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

IN HONOR OF 50 YEARS OF SERVICE BY THE LOUIS STOKES CLEVELAND DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Louis Stokes Cleveland Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center's Brecksville Campus, as they celebrate 50 years of service to the community's most deserving patients.

For the past 50 years, the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center's Brecksville Campus has provided extended care rehabilitation, general nursing home, center for psycho-geriatric care and a domiciliary for the

homeless. This campus has also served as a training facility for the VA's Employee Education System and National Training Center. As part of the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center Transformation, the Brecksville Campus is being consolidated at the Cleveland VA's Wade Park location.

The Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center is dedicated to the quality care of all veterans. It is the fifth largest VA in the country and serves close to 95,000 veterans annually. The Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center was the first VA to receive disease specific accreditation for Inpatient Diabetes Care in 2007 and has also received a special commendation by the American College of Surgeons as a Certified Comprehensive Cancer Program.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring all those who have been instrumental in providing care to the veterans of the Brecksville Campus of the Cleveland Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center for the past 50 years.

TRIBUTE TO ROSA ELIA
MARTINEZ LINEWEAVER

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Elia Martinez Lineweaver, a loving wife, a caring mother, a longtime medical assistant and translator and, along with her husband, John, the co-founder of the Danny Foundation for Crib and Child Product Safety. Sadly, Rose passed away suddenly on September 3, 2011, after a life dedicated to her family and the causes she championed.

Born in Mexico in 1942, Rose came here with her mother and siblings at the age of 5, and in 1961 became a naturalized citizen of the United States. While she was proud of her career as a health care provider, her true passion stemmed from her role as mother to thirteen children.

In 1984, a tragic crib accident left Rose and John's 23-month-old son Danny severely disabled. After this tragedy the Lineweavers formed The Danny Foundation for Crib and Child Product Safety. During its 20 years of international activity, The Danny Foundation created and advocated for safety regulations which defined for the very first time how U.S. crib makers should safely manufacture cribs. Additionally, they pursued legal remedies and sought changes from industry and government in the design, advertising, inspection, use, and sale of infant cribs. Their tireless work over the years has saved untold thousands of infants from injury and even death.

In 2006, Rose received the Jefferson Award for public service for her life-saving efforts, and over the years was honored by notices in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the receipt of personal letters of thanks from the White House and many of my colleagues here in Congress, as well as from state legislators from seven states in which infant crib safety legislation was passed thanks to the Danny Foundation's efforts.

Those who knew Rose Lineweaver will attest to the fact that her true legacy is in her

exceptional family: 12 children, 27 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. For those of us who had the privilege of working with Rose and John through the Danny Foundation, we can be thankful for her resilience and determination that created a safer environment for our youngest children. This was truly her gift to all families.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE USE OF LIBYA'S FROZEN ASSETS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Libya's frozen assets be used to pay for humanitarian relief and military operations associated with the current conflict in that country.

Since Libyan dictator Muammar Qaddafi responded to peaceful demonstrations by attacking Libya's own citizens, the United States has been actively engaged with our international allies in thwarting the ability of the Qaddafi regime to visit violence, murder, and destruction on the people of Libya. This past February, the United States imposed economic sanctions on Libya and froze the assets of its leadership, promising to hold Qaddafi, his family, and the government of Libya accountable for its human rights abuses. It is estimated that the value of these assets exceed thirty billion dollars.

On March 19, with the authority of the United Nations, the United States Armed Forces and our coalition partners launched Operation Odyssey Dawn in an effort to enforce Security Council Resolution 1973. That mission has since come under NATO command and is now called Operation Unified Protector. Our Armed Forces have assisted in combat operations including providing intelligence, aerial refueling, targeting, and other aspects of NATO's daily bombardment of Libyan forces loyal to Qaddafi. We have already spent over one billion taxpayer dollars on this effort, with operations costing millions more every day.

When the United States recognized the Transitional National Council as the legitimate governing authority of Libya on July 15, it paved the way for the Council to access some of the frozen assets to use for humanitarian relief and reconstruction efforts. With the Qaddafi regime at an end and the dictator himself on the run and in hiding, the United States will be moving into a posture that puts less emphasis on military operations and more focus on supporting the Transitional National Council's efforts to establish a working government.

The United States should pursue with the Council the viability of using some of those assets to reimburse NATO members for the cost of their military operations in support of the Libyan people. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 20th Anniversary of the Republic of Macedonia's independence. On September 8, 1991, the Republic of Macedonia declared its independence—becoming the only nation to peacefully secede from the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In the twenty years since its independence, the Republic of Macedonia has transformed itself into a modern democratic nation that shares the core values of freedom, democracy, and the rule of law with the United States of America. These great strides have put the Republic of Macedonia on the road to full membership in the European Union and NATO. As Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said last year, "The United States is committed to promoting Macedonia's membership in NATO and the European Union, and we will continue to help strengthen Macedonia's democratic institutions in cooperation with your leaders and civil society."

The United States of America and the Republic of Macedonia enjoy a cooperative relationship across a range of economic, cultural, military, and social issues. As the fourth largest contributor per capita in the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan Macedonia has become one of the United States' strongest allies against transnational terrorism. This partnership is lasting and important.

Macedonians have made an impact in the United States, as there are over half a million people of Macedonian heritage in this country. They dedicate their knowledge and skills to public service industries, science, and the arts. I am proud to represent many Macedonians in New Jersey's Eighth Congressional District.

I congratulate the people of the Republic of Macedonia on the 20th anniversary of their country's independence and join the Macedonian-American community in my district and across the United States in celebrating this important occasion.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SPECIAL WARFARE OFFICER JOHN WESTON FAAS

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Petty Officer Special Warfare Officer John Weston Faas who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Chief Faas was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

Chief Faas was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards, including four Bronze Star Medals with Valor, including one for extraordinary heroism, Purple Heart Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Joint Service Commendation Medals with Valor, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation

Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, two Combat Action Ribbons, two Presidential Unit Citations, Navy Unit Commendation, three Afghanistan Campaign Medals, two Iraq Campaign Medals, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and numerous other personal and unit decorations.

Chief Faas is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates.

His nation owes Chief Faas an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to Chief Faas' family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

CONGRATULATING DR. NICK J.
BRUNO

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate Dr. Nick J. Bruno for becoming the eighth president of the University of Louisiana-Monroe (ULM). Dr. Bruno began his new position in November of 2010 after 30 years of distinguished service in Louisiana higher education.

A Bayou State native, his career has been dedicated to strengthening the state's education system. Dr. Bruno worked in business affairs for the University of Louisiana system, holding a variety of titles, formerly served as vice president of business affairs at ULM at a critical juncture in the school's history, and also assisted in several capacities at Southeastern Louisiana University.

In addition to a praiseworthy higher education career, Dr. Bruno is regionally and nationally recognized for his consulting expertise in areas relating to financial, organizational, and business affairs.

Dr. Bruno's educational background began at Southeastern Louisiana University where he earned a bachelor's degree in accounting and a master's degree in Business Administration from Southeastern Louisiana University. He later received his doctorate degree in Higher Education Leadership from the University of Mississippi.

Dr. Bruno and wife, Linda, have three children together: one son, Steven, and two daughters, Victoria and Christina. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Bruno, and his family, for his new role as University of Louisiana-Monroe's eighth president.

IN HONOR OF THE WESTSIDE VET
CENTER'S FREEDOM CELEBRATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Westside Vet Center's Freedom Celebration, taking place on September 8, 2011.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Westside Vet Center, located in Parma, Ohio,

offers a wide range of programs and services to veterans and their families in an effort to ease the transition between military and civilian life. The Vet Center Program began following the Vietnam War when veterans were experiencing difficulties readjusting to civilian life. The goal of the Vet Center program is "to provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to eligible veterans in order to help them make a satisfying post-war readjustment to civilian life."

In addition to providing care and counseling to Greater Cleveland area veterans, the Westside Vet Center also hosts a wide array of gatherings and celebrations to honor the service of these brave Americans. Today, the Westside Vet Center is hosting a Freedom Celebration, an event designed to celebrate the veteran's role in maintaining our freedoms.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Westside Vet Center's Freedom Celebration, as they commemorate the service of the Greater Cleveland area's U.S. veterans.

TRIBUTE TO BILL MATTOS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Bill Mattos on being awarded the "Golden Rooster Award" from the California Poultry Federation, and to thank him for his dedication to the agriculture community. This award is a tribute to Bill's professional accomplishments in the poultry industry, as well as his dedicated service and leadership.

Bill Mattos was born and raised on a farm in Stanislaus County. He is an honors graduate of Cal Poly State University in San Luis Obispo where he was named outstanding graduate in journalism (Betty Belle Kemp) and holds a Master's Degree in Agricultural Journalism from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

A former Stanislaus County Supervisor, he worked for the USDA under Secretary Earl Butz and served as a White House intern in the Nixon administration.

Bill is the president of the California Poultry Federation where he manages the affairs of the meat poultry industry with emphasis in governmental relations, public affairs, public relations, animal welfare and marketing. He also works with agricultural and business groups to promote business and industry in California. He travels extensively throughout the West Coast and to Washington, DC to promote California issues.

He hosts a cable television program, "Westside Stories," which features monthly interviews with elected officials, executives with charitable organizations and leaders throughout various Stanislaus County and Merced County communities.

He was the founder and former president of Mattos Newspapers, Inc., where he operated a newspaper and printing company for 30 years.

He is past chairman of the Doctors Medical Center Board of Governors; President of the Stanislaus County Fair Board; past president of the Stanislaus State University Foundation

Board, member of the dean's advisory board of the School of Agriculture at the University of California in Davis; former president of the Newman Rotary and the Newman Chamber of Commerce; and former California chairman of the National Newspaper Association.

As a member of the Stanislaus County Fair board for 17 years (appointed by the governor every four years), he has worked extensively on livestock and fair issues over the years.

He lives in Newman and is the father of two daughters, Toni and Natalie.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Bill Mattos for his hard work in the California poultry industry, and congratulating him upon receiving the California Poultry Federation "Golden Rooster Award."

A TRIBUTE TO NANCY WILSON

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to my dear friend Nancy Wilson, an American treasure. After nearly sixty years of performing, Nancy will officially retire September 10th in Columbus, Ohio where she began her career. I am deeply honored to call Nancy a friend and when I think of her, I am reminded of her sophistication, refinement, poise and grace.

For years Nancy has been a trail-blazing artist whose work incorporated genres like jazz, R&B, and pop music. With a career that ranges from blues to Broadway musicals, she has proven herself to be an inspiration to many and has continually reinvented and refined her sound. Coupled with her engaging and charming stage presence, she has appealed—and continues to appeal—to generations of Americans and world audiences.

Born in Chillicothe, Ohio in 1937, Nancy Wilson discovered her voice while singing in church choirs. When she was 15, she won a vocal contest and consequently starred in her own television show, Skyline Melodies. Later, Nancy was a regular guest on the TV variety shows of Johnny Carson, Andy Williams, Flip Wilson, Arsenio Hall, and others. Also well known as an actress, she has appeared in such television programs as I Spy, Room 222, Hawaii Five-0, The Cosby Show, New York Undercover, and the films The Big Score and Meteor Man. She once commented on her versatility as an artist, "Each song is a little play, a little vignette." Nancy used her voice to address those who deal with the joys and heartaches of love through such songs as Guess Who I Saw Today, Save Your Love For Me, and Like in Love. She was also the host of the noted NPR series Jazz Profiles.

Her extraordinary talents and brilliant career earned her Grammy Awards in 1964, 2005, and 2007; a National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters fellowship, the Oprah Winfrey Legends Award, an NAACP Image Award, and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Earlier this year, the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History accepted two of her gowns into its National Collections. I was honored to have Nancy perform at the 1990 Congressional Black Caucus Foundation jazz Concert, entitled Salute to Women in Jazz.

Nancy Wilson has championed many causes, including the Martin Luther King Center for Social Change and the National Heart

Association. Nancy has also co-founded the Nancy Wilson Foundation, which takes inner city children on trips to rural America. She has received numerous awards, like the Essence Award and the Paul Robeson Humanitarian Award. She has been awarded honorary degrees from the Berklee College of Music and Columbus Central State College.

Music lovers will truly miss her. There will only be one Nancy Wilson.

RECOGNIZING ARLETTE MERRITT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Arlette Merritt, Executive Director of West Contra Costa County's Early Childhood Mental Health Program, and congratulate her as she approaches her well-earned retirement.

Arlette Merritt's outstanding career in public service was born out of her lifelong commitment to mental health services for the very youngest and most vulnerable children. In focusing on treatment for children ages 0–6, Arlette has made a priceless contribution to her client families and to our community as a whole.

Since becoming Executive Director 28 years ago, Arlette has been instrumental in keeping the Early Childhood Mental Health Program accessible to our region's population. Under her leadership, the Early Childhood Mental Health Program has pioneered early-intervention by developing infant/parent home visiting, preschool mental health consultation, and intensive day treatment for preschool children. Further, this agency provides specialized parenting support groups and critical wrap-around services, in both English and Spanish. During her admirable career, Arlette has molded an outstanding team of professionals who in turn bring these services to 400–500 families a year.

Arlette's rare and exceptional skills have earned her tremendous respect and the gratitude of her colleagues as well as the public at large. She has been a tireless advocate for the expansion of children's mental health services and is nationally recognized as an expert in her field.

I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Arlette Merritt as a true hero in our community and to thank her for her dedicated service to the families and especially the children of West Contra Costa County. While I will truly miss our interaction on issues related to supporting children's mental health, I am pleased to join with her family, friends and colleagues in congratulating Arlette Merritt on a long and highly successful career and wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EUGENE RUTLEDGE FOR YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating

Eugene Rutledge on his retirement from Flint Community Schools.

Eugene moved to Flint from Gary, Indiana and was educated in the same schools to which he devoted his life. After attending Flint Junior College he graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. His passion for education can be found in his body of work as well as his thirst for knowledge. While teaching, Eugene obtained a Master's Degree in Reading Instruction from Michigan State University and has done post graduate work at Oakland University.

Mr. Rutledge has been a fixture in the Flint school system for over 66 years as a student, instructor and administrator. He began his career as a social studies teacher, remaining in the classroom for twenty-four years. He left the classroom and took his passion for education to a broader perspective, working as an administrator, focusing on curriculum and instruction for 19 years. While there he mentored new teachers and prospective administrators and served on the Superintendent's Executive Cabinet.

As a man of God, Eugene gathered strength from one of his favorite scriptures. Proverbs 3:5 and 6: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." Everyone in Flint can say thank you for taking the path he has taken and his continued dedication to the City of Flint, Flint Community Schools, and most importantly the children.

Mr. Speaker I would like to congratulate Eugene Rutledge on his retirement. Eugene's dedication to the community and the children is second to none.

HONORING SANDY COVALL-ALVES

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, together with my colleague, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, to recognize Sandy Covall-Alves who is retiring after 30 years in the emergency management field, the last 16 of which was as Emergency Manager for Sonoma County's Fire & Emergency Services Department and the Sonoma County Operational Area. For those 30 years, she dedicated herself to making sure that people in her charge were safe and received the resources they need in the wake of natural disasters.

During her tenure in Sonoma County, Ms. Covall-Alves coordinated the response, recovery and mitigation efforts for the 1995–1999 and 2006 winter storms and floods, the 1996 Cavedale fire, and the 1998 Rio Nido debris flow. In total, she oversaw the implementation of 14 local emergency proclamations, 12 Emergency Operations Center activations, 8 gubernatorial proclamations and 6 events that were designated by the President as national disasters. Our offices appreciated working with her, knowing that she knew how to pull all her connections together for a coordinated response.

Ms. Covall-Alves was also the guiding force in establishing, implementing and coordinating

emergency programs for the county, its cities and special districts. Her commitment to improving emergency management did not stop at the county line. She is a founding member and current Chair of the California Operational Area Coalition (COAC), a forum for information exchange and advocacy on emergency management issues. The COAC's mission is to enhance closer cooperation and collaboration with members of the organization and with the State Emergency Management Agency.

Ms. Covall-Alves began her career in emergency management as a 9–1–1 dispatcher for the Tuolumne County Sheriffs Department. After developing disaster recovery plans for private businesses, she returned to public service with the San Mateo County OES and from there was deployed to the 1994 Northridge earthquake in Southern California as part of the state's mutual aid program. She joined Sonoma County OES in 1995 and quickly became an integral part of the county's response and recovery team.

Mr. Speaker, Sandy Covall-Alves has had a long and distinguished career in serving and protecting the people of the State of California. We wish her well in her retirement as she enjoys time with her husband, Ron Alves, and their three special pets, Beelsey, Mowese and Wilson.

RECOGNIZING ARIANNA
McQUILLEN, RECIPIENT OF A
BUICK AND GENERAL MOTORS
FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Arianna McQuillen, of Fairfax Station, on her selection as a Buick and General Motors Foundation Scholarship Recipient. She has been identified as one of 100 outstanding students from across the United States to receive up to \$25,000 in a renewable scholarship. She plans to attend Massachusetts Institute of Technology and specialize in robotics.

Arianna is very involved in our community, working on projects such as cleaning the Occoquan watershed, planting trees, preparing care packages for soldiers abroad and tutoring young students.

Her academic record is proof that she is a high-achieving student. She studied at Lake Braddock Secondary School, where her interests varied from math and science to art and the environment. She has won many awards in areas ranging from debate to art. She is a National Merit Scholar, a 2010 Beat the Odds Scholarship Recipient, an Advanced Placement Scholar, and a National Achievement Semi-Finalist.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Arianna McQuillen's remarkable achievements and wishing her continued success as she pursues her degree at MIT.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR SENIOR
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER EXPLOSIVE
ORDNANCE DISPOSAL
KRAIG MICHAEL KALEOLANI
VICKERS

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Senior Chief Petty Officer Explosive Ordnance Disposal Kraig Michael Kaleolani Vickers who died August 6th in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Senior Chief Vickers was a patriot and a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice ensuring the security of our nation. He will be greatly missed.

Senior Chief Vickers was a highly decorated combat veteran with numerous awards, including four Bronze Star Medals with Valor, two Purple Heart Medals, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Valor, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, two Combat Action Ribbons, Presidential Unit Citation, two Afghanistan Campaign Medals, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and numerous other personal and unit decorations.

Senior Chief Vickers is survived by his loving family, friends, and teammates.

His nation owes Senior Chief Vickers an enormous debt of gratitude. We are honored to have had such an exemplary American fighting for his country.

I wish to extend my condolences to Senior Chief Vickers' family, friends, and teammates and hope they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on his grateful nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

IN HONOR OF MR. RANDOLPH
BAXTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in honor of Randolph Baxter as he retires from

26 years as a Federal Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, and as Chief Judge for the last seven years. In 1996, Judge Baxter was appointed by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals to serve as a charter member of its Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Primarily appointed to sit in Cleveland, Judge Baxter also heard cases in Akron, Canton, Toledo and Youngstown and has served as a visiting judge in Delaware, New York, Tennessee, Michigan and Florida.

A native of Columbia, Tennessee, Judge Baxter is an honors graduate of Tuskegee University and the University of Akron School of Law. Prior to becoming a judge, Judge Baxter was engaged in the private practice of law before serving as a federal prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Justice. He also served as the Deputy Director, Department of Public Service for the City of Akron, Ohio, and earlier served as a salary administration analyst with the B.F. Goodrich Company.

Judge Baxter served as an officer in the U.S. Army, receiving the Bronze Star for Valor, among other unit citations, while serving as a tank platoon leader in Vietnam and Cambodia with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. He later achieved the rank of captain and commanded a tank company before resigning his commission and returning to civilian life in 1971.

As a student, Judge Baxter worked summers in the steel mills, earning his way through college. It was perhaps this experience that prepared him for presiding over a motion for a Temporary Restraining Order, TRO, in the LTV Steel bankruptcy case. While the case itself was assigned to another judge in the Northern District of Ohio, the motion for the TRO came when the other judge was not available. Judge Baxter quickly learned the issues behind the motion and heard arguments from all sides. The motion was submitted after workers at the LTV facility in Cleveland realized that there was not enough coke being shipped to keep the blast furnace hot until the sitting judge could hear the merits of the case for shutting down or keeping open the Cleveland steelmaking facilities. If the furnace did not stay hot, it would have been irreparably damaged and Cleveland would have lost the capability to produce primary steel. As the LTV lawyers observed Judge Baxter's reactions to both sides of the argument and came to grips with the tough questions Judge

Baxter asked, they asked the judge to adjourn while they negotiated an Agreed Order with my attorneys and the attorneys for the steel workers and the various creditors in the bankruptcy case. The parties negotiated an Agreed Order, LTV complied with the order to keep the furnace hot, and the steelmaking assets were saved. Nearly 10 years later, the blast furnace is now part of Arcelor Mittal and continues to produce steel.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Chief Judge Randolph Baxter, soldier, scholar, lawyer and judge, as he retires from the federal bankruptcy bench and embarks on the next set of journeys in his life.

HONORING DEBRA BROWN
STEINBERG

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge and pay tribute to the tremendous efforts of Debra Brown Steinberg on behalf of the families of 9/11 victims.

For ten years now, Ms. Steinberg has worked tirelessly as an advocate for these families and to ensure they are treated the same, regardless of their respective citizenship or immigration status. She has played a major role in writing various bills that benefit 9/11 families including New York State's September 11th Victims and Families Relief Act, the September 11th Family Humanitarian Relief and Patriotism Act, and the September 11th Victims Compensation Fund. On a personal note, I have enjoyed working closely with Ms. Steinberg and the Department of Homeland Security to permit eligible spouses and children of 9/11 victims to remain in the United States and ultimately become permanent residents.

In addition, all of Ms. Steinberg's work for these families has been pro-bono and her perseverance in seeing that they are taken care of is extraordinary. On behalf of the 9/11 families, many of which are constituents of mine, I would like to once again honor Debra Steinberg for her commitment to their lives.