

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MS. PAULINE OLIVEROS ON THE OCCASION OF HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the lifetime achievements of my friend and constituent, Pauline Oliveros on the occasion of her 80th birthday. Ms. Oliveros is an internationally recognized visionary composer, performer, professor and humanitarian. She is also the Founder and Executive Director of the Deep Listening Institute in the City of Kingston, NY. Her career spans more than five decades of revolutionary music-making and her lifetime contribution to the arts has influenced the way in which we understand music and the many facets of sound. I am proud to honor Ms. Oliveros for her 50 years of inspiring dedication to musical innovation.

Ms. Oliveros began her career in the 1950s where she was part of a circle of iconoclastic composers, artists and poets gathered together in San Francisco. She represented the United States at the 1970 World's Fair in Osaka Japan and was honored in 1985 with a retrospective at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. She is also a Distinguished Research Professor of Music at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a Darius Milhaud Composer-in-Residence at Mills College in Oakland, California. Ms. Oliveros relocated to Ulster County in the early 1980s in order to become an independent composer, performer and consultant. She has written several books, formulated new theories of music and investigated new ways to focus attention on music including her concepts of "Deep Listening" and "Sonic Awareness." Since the 1960s, Ms. Oliveros has deeply influenced American music through her work with improvisation, meditation, and electronic music.

Most notably, Ms. Oliveros is the founder of the Deep Listening Institute, aimed at fostering a unique approach to music, literature, art, and meditation. The Institute promotes innovation among artists and audiences in creating, performing, recording and educating with a global perspective. The Deep Listening Institute has received several grants to bring the innovative Adaptive Use Musical Instruments program to children with disabilities in Ulster County. The Adaptive Use Musical Instruments program is a software application allowing people with limited mobility to create music.

In addition to these notable endeavors, Ms. Oliveros was awarded the prestigious John Cage award from the Foundation of Contemporary Arts for her outstanding achievement in the arts. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I join the Foundation of Contemporary Arts in honoring and celebrating Pauline Oliveros on the occasion of her 80th birthday and formally recognizing her profound lifetime

contribution to American music and the power of sound.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE OF COLONEL NICHOLAS F. MARANO ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the military service of Colonel Nicholas F. Marano on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Marine Corps. I commend Colonel Marano's career and offer my sincerest thanks for his 32 years of dedicated service in protecting our nation.

Colonel Marano enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in March of 1980 and served as a rifleman in the 2nd Battalion, the 25th Marines prior to graduation from St. Joseph's University. In January 1985, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and designated an infantry officer assigned to 3d Battalion, 9th Marines on board Camp Pendleton, California. There he served as a Platoon Commander, Company Executive Officer, and Company Commander. In September 1988, he transferred to 1st Reconnaissance (Recon) Battalion where he served as a Reconnaissance Marine and graduated as an Officer Honor Graduate at the U.S. Army Ranger School (Class 10-89). Throughout his career he has been deployed to Germany, Republic of Georgia, Kosovo, Albania, Italy, and several times to Iraq in support of combat operations.

Colonel Marano retires from his post of Commanding Officer of Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Pendleton California. As Commanding Officer of MCB CampPen, Colonel Marano was in charge of overseeing the operational and logistical responsibility of supporting more than 72,067 scheduled training events in the mobilization and deployment of numerous Camp Pendleton based operating force units to include the 1st Marine Division, the 1st Marine Logistics Group, and the 3rd Marine Air Wing occupying over 125,000 acres of land. Colonel Marano's hard work and dedication aided the Corps in providing continuous, uninterrupted support, in a time of war, to Marines and Sailors of the First Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF).

The legacy that Colonel Marano has left behind is a true testament to his commitment to the United States Marine Corps and to our country and will have lasting impact on MCB CampPen.

I offer Colonel Marano my warmest congratulations and hope that he enjoys a rich and rewarding retirement knowing that his years of service will not be forgotten by those he led.

RECOGNIZING APRIL AS PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of April as Parkinson's Awareness Month. It is essential to take this time to promote awareness, share information on the disease, and continue to work towards a cure.

Parkinson's disease is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States. It is a chronic, progressive neurological disease for which there is no therapy or drug to halt its progression, let alone a cure.

According to the National Institutes of Health, the four primary symptoms of Parkinson's are tremor or trembling, rigidity the limbs and trunk, slowness of movement, and impaired balance and coordination. As these symptoms become more pronounced, it may become more difficult for one to walk, talk or perform other tasks. Parkinson's disease usually affects people over the age of 50 and symptoms may progress more rapidly in some cases than in others. Diagnosis is generally based on medical history and a neurological examination.

It is estimated that there are between 500,000–1,500,000 Americans living with Parkinson's. Furthermore, the aging baby boomer population will likely increase that number. Although significant research advancements have been made, additional research is required to understand the underlying causes and to discover improved treatments.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Parkinson's disease, it is my privilege to work with the tireless advocates in the Parkinson's community. I thank them for their hard work and dedication to understanding and eradicating this disease.

RECOGNIZING RUTH GURUSAMY ON BEING NAMED THE U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S WOMEN IN BUSINESS CHAMPION OF THE YEAR FOR 2012

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Ruth Gurusamy for receiving the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2012 Women in Business Champion of the Year award. Ruth is the owner of Gurusamy, Inc., or Health Services of the Pacific (HSP), and has many years of outstanding business leadership and community involvement on Guam.

With more than 20 years of experience working as a nurse, Ruth founded HSP in

• 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.

2004 to provide home healthcare services to patients on Guam. HSP quickly earned accreditation from the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. HSP also received Medicare's home healthcare certification and became a certified Hospice Agency in 2007. With her leadership, HSP has expanded the amount of critically-needed services it provides and has grown its staff to more than 80 employees. Further, as a former faculty member of the University of Guam School of Nursing, Ruth formed a partnership with the University to help train nursing students in various projects with HSP.

Ruth is also actively involved in a variety of community organizations on Guam. She has participated in numerous health conferences and workshops, and has sponsored events with the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services. Ruth has held leadership roles on various committees and boards, including the Guam Legal Counsel for the Elderly advisory board, the UOG Union Board, the Guam Community College Nursing Advisory Board for the Licensed Practical Nurse program, and the Guam Hospital Healthcare Development Foundation board. In addition, she was part of the transition team for Governor Calvo, serving a board member for his Taskforce on Healthcare.

I commend Ms. Ruth Gurusamy for her work in improving the delivery of healthcare services on Guam, and for being named the SBA's Women in Business Champion of the Year for 2012. I join the people of Guam in thanking her for her many contributions, and I wish her continued success.

FDIA AMENDMENTS REGARDING
DISCLOSURES TO THE BUREAU
OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 26, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4014 to clarify that privileged information that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau receives remains privileged throughout the supervision process.

I would like to commend my colleague from Michigan, Mr. HUIZENGA for bringing this bill forward. This issue has come up now in several congressional hearings, in the Oversight Committee, in the Senate Banking Committee and also in the Financial Institutions Subcommittee on which I sit.

Many institutions have expressed concern that there is no statutory protection of the attorney-client privilege for sensitive material that they turn over to the CFPB during the supervision process.

Director Cordray has testified that he would support a statutory extension of the attorney-client privilege to documents that the CFPB receives. This is standard for all of the banking regulators and it should be true for the CFPB as well.

It is critical that the process be an open exchange between the bureau and the entities it

regulates. And that can only happen if the entities can trust that they aren't inadvertently waiving the privilege simply by turning documents over.

I would note that the CFPB office of the General Counsel has indicated in a recent memo that it would ensure that the privilege was not waived, but I know that the entities involved in the CFPB's regulator process would prefer that to be codified, and I would agree.

As it is currently drafted, the bill is identical to a bill introduced on a bipartisan basis in the other body. Both bills ensure that privilege is not waived when the CFPB receives sensitive information and when it shares that information with other agencies.

I support this bill and urge my colleagues to support it as well.

HONORING JIM SCHUG OF STILLWATER, MINNESOTA FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great public servant on his retirement. Jim Schug of Stillwater, Minnesota, has served more than 25 years in Washington County Government and spent 17 years as the County Administrator.

Jim leaves a legacy of dedicated service to his employees and county residents. He faithfully worked as the Chief Administrator to the five member County Board to keep county services running in light of growing demands and dwindling resources. The same County Board, named January 26 as "Jim R. Schug Day" as a way to honor and remember his contributions. Of course, Jim would have never asked for this honor, but accepted it with grace and humility.

Jim's work with county employees was focused and dedicated. He earned a reputation as a kind man with a personal touch. Personally, I consider Jim a steadfast public servant who will remain a fixture in the community. Even though he hails from the western suburbs, he will always have a home in Washington County.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to recognize Jim Schug's 25 years of service to Washington County and congratulate him upon his retirement. Jim has set a new standard in county services and administration; we can all look forward to the bright future he has entrusted to the Board and staff of Washington County.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on March 26, 2012. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

H.R. 2779—To exempt inter-affiliate swaps from certain regulatory requirements put in place by Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, rollcall No. 127: "yea."

H.R. 2682—Business Risk mitigation and Price Stabilization Act of 2011, rollcall No. 128: "yea."

On Approving the Journal, rollcall No. 129: "aye."

RECOGNIZING RICHARD K. LAI ON RECEIVING THE U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION 2012 SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mr. Richard K. Lai for receiving the U.S. Small Business Administration 2012 Small Business Person of the Year Award. Richard is the Chief Executive Officer of Wing On Corporation, a family-owned company operating five restaurants in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Richard migrated to Guam from Hong Kong at the age of 16. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Washington, where he graduated with honors. In 1987, Richard returned to Guam to help his mother, Shirley Lai, run her coffee shop in Guam's capital of Hagatna. As the Chief Executive Officer of Wing On Corporation, Richard oversaw the expansion of Shirley's Coffee Shop from a single 28-seat coffee shop with four employees to a franchise with 212 employees operating four restaurants in Guam and one in the CNMI. He also opened Samurai Teppenyaki Japanese Restaurant in 2006 to expand Wing On Corporation's product offerings. Samurai offers Japanese-fusion cuisine to many residents and tourists in the heart of Guam's tourism center, and currently has a staff of 62 employees.

Richard is also an active member of our community, and he contributes to many charitable organizations. As an advocate of sports on Guam, Richard serves as the president of the Guam Football Association (GFA). Under his leadership, the organization has expanded significantly to become the largest sports development organization on Guam. Richard's leadership has substantially raised the bar for athletes, from amateurs to professionals, to harness their talents and love for sports. In the last 10 years, his tireless efforts have garnered international recognition of Guam athletes for competitive titles, and this momentum grows each year.

Richard is a proven business leader in our community, and he continues to set the example for the next generation of small business leaders on Guam. On behalf of the people of Guam, I congratulate Richard Lai and his family on receiving this national recognition as the 2012 Small Business Person of the Year. I wish him many years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission, which celebrates its 50th anniversary today.

More than two years before the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the city of Louisville asserted itself as a voice of compassion and reason in the face of hate, building on a recent history of social progress by passing an ordinance to formally condemn racial and religious discrimination.

The ordinance referred to elements that are "contrary to public policy and detrimental to the peace, progress, and welfare of the city," and in doing so created a city agency to monitor and adjudicate discrimination in public accommodations at a time when Louisville—and much of the country—was working to fully integrate schools, housing, neighborhoods, and public employment.

Over the past 50 years, the Commission has helped preserve and advance that history of progress, serving as a conscience for our community and protecting our citizens from discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, familial status, age, disability, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

It has been a primary force in building a safe and supportive community where diversity is not only accepted, but embraced.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission on 50 years of important work, and I look forward to another 50.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL AND THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the National Cherry Blossom Festival and the Centennial Celebration, commemorating the 100-year anniversary of the gift of trees and the enduring friendship between the United States and Japan.

Each year, the National Cherry Blossom Festival heralds the coming of spring and produces diverse and creative programming promoting traditional and contemporary arts and culture, natural beauty, and community spirit, showcasing the best of Washington, DC to the world.

More than one hundred years ago, the combined vision of unlikely partners led to the world-renowned majestic cherry trees that line the Tidal Basin in our nation's capital. Eliza Scidmore, the National Geographic Society's first female board member, Dr. David Fairchild of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, First Lady Helen Herron Taft, Mayor Yukio Ozaki of

Tokyo, and Dr. Jokichi Takamine, goodwill ambassador, world-famous chemist, and the founder of Sankyo Co., Ltd. (today known as Daiichi Sankyo), all worked together to bestow Washington, DC with more than 3,000 cherry trees in 1912. This gesture of goodwill was honored in a simple ceremony on March 27, 1912, when First Lady Taft and Viscountess Chinda, wife of the Japanese ambassador, planted the first two trees at the Tidal Basin. Today, the trees are a national treasure enjoyed by millions, and, as First Lady Taft envisioned, a wonderful backdrop for cultural and community events of all kinds.

Today, the National Cherry Blossom Festival unites the region for over one million visitors each spring, who look forward to signature events like the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade, world-class entertainment, cultural performances and more, primarily free and open to the public. Our Nation's greatest cultural institutions participate, including the National Gallery of Art, The Kennedy Center, and Smithsonian, with over 50 area organizations participating in total.

The National Cherry Blossom Festival greatly benefits the nation's capital. The Festival generates over \$126 million annually for Washington, DC, and has received many accolades and international recognition.

Among the many special commemorative initiatives to mark the historic Centennial Celebration, the Government of Japan has designated the Centennial Celebration an official anniversary event. The United States Postal Service has issued Cherry Blossom Centennial Forever stamps, and the American Bus Association has named the Centennial Celebration the top event for group travel in 2012. Millions of people have enjoyed the National Cherry Blossom Festival, and millions will continue to create cherished memories here in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the work of the National Cherry Blossom Festival and the message of peace, friendship, and international understanding it carries on each year during the Nation's greatest springtime celebration.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG AWARENESS MONTH

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the importance of National Prescription Drug Awareness Month.

Throughout California, March is recognized as National Prescription Drug Awareness Month. The purpose of this initiative is to increase community awareness about the dangers that many medications may pose if not used properly.

Recently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declared prescription drug abuse to be a national epidemic. In 2008, approximately 20,000 people died from prescription drug overdoses. In 2009, 1.2 million emergency department visits were related to misuse or abuse of pharmaceuticals. These num-

bers are tragic and unacceptable, and we must make every effort to address the issue.

Fortunately, the National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse, NCPDA, is leading the effort to combat this epidemic. NCPDA is hosting a variety of events in California this month to help raise awareness and public engagement in the battle against prescription drug abuse. Education plays a critical role helping children, young adults, and their parents to avoid prescription drug abuse, and education serves an important first step to combating this serious problem.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the important work of the NCPDA and the role National Prescription Drug Awareness Month can play in preventing the loss of loved ones across the country.

HONORING JEFFERY L. KLEIN CEO OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Jeffrey L. Klein, on the occasion of his 25th Anniversary as CEO of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County. His years of dedicated service have been instrumental in building a vibrant, diverse Jewish community in Palm Beach County and throughout South Florida. It is truly an honor to represent him in the United States Congress.

The Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County would not be what it is today without Mr. Klein's visionary leadership. During his tenure, the organization grew dramatically to include two state-of-the-art campuses in West Palm Beach and in Boynton Beach. In addition, the Federation was able to unveil many new programs to promote leadership, assist seniors, and educate teens about their Jewish heritage. Perhaps most importantly, Mr. Klein's efforts have led to the creation of programs that go beyond South Florida to strengthen ties to the global Jewish community in Israel, Ethiopia, and the former Soviet Union.

It is a privilege to represent an individual who has done so much to promote the welfare of the Jewish community across the world. I applaud his efforts, and I look forward to his and the Federation's good work for years to come.

Congratulations to Jeffrey Klein, together with his wife Carla, his children, and his grandchildren, as they celebrate this well-deserved honor.

RECOGNIZING ELVIN YU-LING DUNCAN CHIANG ON BEING NAMED THE 2012 U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S FINANCIAL SERVICES CHAMPION OF THE YEAR

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Elvin Yu-Ling Duncan Chiang

for his years of outstanding business leadership and community involvement on Guam. Mr. Chiang is the senior advisor and immediate past country managing partner of Ernst & Young LLP, Guam and Micronesia. He was recently named the Guam Financial Services Champion of the Year for 2012 by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Mr. Chiang graduated from Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and Business Administration. While attending college in Japan, he served as the controller and director of Shintoyo Enterprises, Ltd's Tokyo, Japan and Guam offices. In 1978, he enrolled at the University of Puget Sound in Puget Sound, Washington, and received his Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Account in 1980. He went on to receive a Masters of Business Administration with an emphasis in Business Administration in 1982.

Following graduation, Mr. Chiang relocated to Guam and joined KPMG as an auditor until 1984. From 1985 to 1987, he taught at the University of Guam as an assistant professor of accounting. He served as the chief financial officer of Sigallo Pac. Ltd., Guam from 1987 to 1989. He then went on to work for Ernst & Young, LLP where he currently serves as the Senior Advisor and immediate past Country Managing Partner for Guam and Micronesia.

In addition to his extensive business career, Mr. Chiang is actively involved in numerous community organizations on Guam. He has served as President of the Rotary Club of Guam, Vice President and Treasurer of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Guam, and Chairman and member of the Advisory Council of the University of Guam School of Business and Public Administration. Further, he has been a member of the Advisory Council of the Guam Community College, a member and former Treasurer of the Board of Trustees for St. John's School, and has been a board member of the Chinese School Foundation.

I congratulate Elvin Yu-Ling Duncan Chiang on being named the 2012 U.S. Small Business Administration's Financial Services Champion of the Year for Guam. I join the people of Guam in commending him on this award and his many contributions to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 127, 128 and 129, I was delayed and unable to vote. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on all three.

RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY POWERED REVITALIZATION

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize 6 Stones Mission Network and the cities of Hurst, Euless and

Bedford for their philanthropic project, Community Powered Revitalization (CPR).

In the midst of celebrating its 100th anniversary, First Baptist Church of Euless found itself on the brink of insolvency and without a leader. The massive debt and red ink on day-to-day expenses left little hope for repayment. Instead of closing its doors, the church began reverently praying for a miracle.

Within 27 months, six million dollars of debt was paid off and all other IOUs fulfilled—a miracle indeed. Overcoming this significant internal trial shifted the church's financial perspective towards helping others. Their newfound surplus of resources allowed the church to readily respond when the City of Euless needed assistance with a home revitalization project in 2008. After finishing their first home renovation, the church gained vision for a new non-profit, 6 Stones Mission Network. Launched in January 2009, 6 Stones is a coalition of cities, local churches and businesses collaborating to meet the needs of those throughout Tarrant County.

CPR actually began in 2008 when Gary McKamie, City Manager of Euless, presented two churches the opportunity to help two families that required substantial assistance in maintaining their homes. They both were in great need, but just did not have the resources, expertise or wherewithal to keep the homes up to code. The City of Euless had established a Leadership Team of employees representing every department of the city to not just lead, but to create and develop the program. This was done in partnership with area churches, businesses and other organizations that wanted to impact the community. That program was called Euless Revitalization. The First Baptist Church of Euless, realizing the many other growing needs in the community, launched a non-profit called 6 Stones Mission Network. Its purpose was to renovate homes, as well as try to help meet needs throughout Hurst, Euless and Bedford.

Then in the summer of 2010, the invitation was extended to Bedford and Hurst to partner with 6 Stones and the City of Euless, to help homeowners in their cities as well. That was the birth of CPR.

The CPR project uses effective partnerships with the cities of Euless, Bedford and Hurst to help struggling homeowners with costly, necessary improvements. In the spring of 2011, the project surpassed the benchmark of assisting 100 homeowners in despair. While their services are offered year-round, two CPR "Blitz" events take place annually, which involve a large volunteer base working together to impact several homes within two days. The product of one community's victory over financial woes is now breathing life into struggling communities across the 24th Congressional District of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in thanking 6 Stones Mission Network and the cities of Hurst, Euless, and Bedford for their selfless service to our communities. I am honored to represent these great cities and to share their story with my colleagues in Congress.

RECOGNIZING PETER R. SGRO ON RECEIVING THE 2012 U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S ENTREPRENEURIAL SUCCESS AWARD FOR GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mr. Peter R. Sgro on being awarded the 2012 U.S. Small Business Administration's Entrepreneurial Success Award for Guam. Mr. Sgro is the President and Chairman of the Board of International Group, Inc., the President and Chairman of the Board of Pacific Rim Brokers, Inc., and the Principal Broker of International Realty.

As the President and Chairman of the Board of International Group, Inc., a consulting firm that provides business development services for clients in the financial services, real estate, energy, and information technology industries, Mr. Sgro has built important relationships between Guam businesses and organizations throughout the United States and the Philippines. Under his leadership, International Group has assisted clients in securing more than \$20 million in business development loans.

Mr. Sgro also serves as the President and Chairman of the Board for Pacific Rim Brokers, Inc., a wholesale food distribution company that provides more than 200 product lines to local businesses on Guam. Since his election to this position in January of 2011, Pacific Rim Brokers has increased sales by 12 percent and hired 35 percent more employees, despite difficult economic environments.

In 2006, Peter Sgro established the Guam Hospital Development Forum, which was comprised of cross-section of local experts and stakeholders, to develop a business plan to construct a privately owned and managed hospital on Guam. One year later, in 2007, Mr. Sgro and his wife Kathy, founded the Guam Healthcare and Development Foundation to implement this business plan. As the Foundation's President and Chairman, Mr. Sgro has secured full funding from national and international investors, and a ground breaking ceremony on this private hospital was held in February of 2012. This new, state of the art facility will provide more than 300 hospital beds for local patients and is expected to open in 2014.

Mr. Sgro is also an active member in our community. He has served on the University of Guam Board of Regents, the Guam Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and the Guam Visitors Bureau Board of Directors. During his tenure as the Chairman of the Guam Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Mr. Sgro established the Guam Business Hall of Fame to recognize local business leaders who have made outstanding contributions to their profession and to Guam's community. This recognition ceremony continues to be an annual tradition of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Sgro is married to Katherine Calvo Sgro and they have four children: Christopher, Matthew, Katarina, and Maria. He is a 1981 graduate of the University of Portland, where he received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in management and marketing. In

1984, Mr. Sgro received his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Notre Dame. He is also a licensed real estate broker on Guam.

I congratulate Peter R. Sgro, Jr. on receiving the 2012 U.S. Small Business Administration's Entrepreneurial Success Award for Guam. I join the people of Guam in commending him for his award and thanking him for his contributions to our community.

13TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL
LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS
(CLEA)

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to law enforcement men and women who have provided distinctive service to the people of Florida's 13th Congressional District.

Law enforcement is a demanding profession that requires sacrifice, courage and a dedication to serve others. Every day, brave men and women put themselves in harm's way to enforce the laws of our society and protect public safety. They deserve our gratitude and respect.

This year, I established the 13th District Congressional Law Enforcement Awards, CLEA, to give special recognition to law enforcement officers, departments, or units for exceptional achievement.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 13th District, I congratulate the following winners chosen by an independent panel comprised of current and retired law enforcement personnel representing a cross-section of the district's law enforcement community.

Patrolman 1st Class Justin Wyatt of the Wauchula, Florida Police Department received the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty and the Congressional Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Awards.

Deputy Steve Aherns of the Hardee County Sheriff's Office received the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty and the Congressional Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Awards.

Detective Salvatore Levita of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office received the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award.

Trooper John B. McGrede of the Florida Highway Patrol received the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award.

Detective Michael A. Dumer of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office received the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

Detective Michael Page of the Bradenton Police Department received the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

Special Agent Steve Lieberman of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement received the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

Special Agent Jim Vogt of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement received the Career Service Award.

The Venice Florida Police Department received the Unit Citation Award.

Government Analyst Kelly Andriano of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement received the Associate Service Award.

I offer my sincere appreciation for the service and dedication of these outstanding law enforcement officers. I appreciate the law en-

forcement agencies that made such outstanding nominations and panel that judged them.

I believe these awards are a fitting tribute to our officers and a reminder of the important role they play in our communities.

HONORING THE POLICE UNITY
TOUR'S FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Police Unity Tour and its riders as they mark their Fifteenth Anniversary.

In May of 1997, the Police Unity Tour was organized to raise awareness of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty and to honor their sacrifices. The Tour, the inspiration of Florham Park, New Jersey Police Officer Patrick P. Montuore, currently Florham Park Police Chief, has grown significantly since its first year. New chapters have formed in many states, including New York, Florida, Delaware and California.

During National Police Week, participants in the Police Unity Tour travel 300 miles by bicycle from New Jersey to the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial in Washington DC. The tour culminates in a candlelight vigil held in Washington DC at the Memorial where the names of newly added officers are read aloud and officially dedicated on the monument. This ceremony reminds the participants that their important work is never done.

To honor fallen officers who have fallen in the line of duty, the ride helps raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Fund. Since 1997, the Police Unity Tour has raised \$10 million for the Fund, going towards the task of adding officers' names to the Memorial's Hall of Remembrance and providing for renovations to the facility.

From 18 participants raising \$18,000 for the Fund in its first year, the Police Unity Tour has grown to over 1,200 riders who raised \$1.325 million in 2011 alone. Inspired by its motto, "We Ride for Those Who Died", participants come from over 40 states as well as a number of countries such as Australia, Israel and India. However different the backgrounds of these officers may be, they all share in the common purpose of honoring and remembering their fellow fallen officers.

The National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial contains the names of 19,000 officers who have sacrificed their lives to keep our communities safe and the contributions of the Police Unity Tour have helped preserve their memory. In 2006, The Police Unity Tour pledged to raise \$5 million to restore the Memorial and in 2009 the restoration was completed, ensuring that the names and legacies of these officers will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Police Unity Tour and the law enforcement officers who participate in it, as they mark 15 years of devotion to the law enforcement community.

RECOGNIZING MARK ZHAO ON
BEING NAMED THE U.S. SMALL
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S
MINORITY SMALL BUSINESS
CHAMPION OF YEAR FOR 2012

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Mark M. Y. Zhao for receiving the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2012 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year Award. Mark is the Executive Director of the Westpac Institute of Management on Guam, and has a strong background in banking and finance.

Mark graduated from the University of Guam in 1986 and soon became a banking officer for the Bank of Hawaii. In this capacity, he worked hard to develop and grow Guam's access to the Chinese market. Mark worked to meet the needs of small business owners by eliminating language and cultural barriers that existed between the bank and its customers of Chinese descent. These efforts earned him the position of Vice President for Corporate Lending at the Bank of Hawaii, which he held until 2001.

Following his banking career, Mark used his financial and entrepreneurial expertise to establish the Westpac Institute on Guam. This institute has helped hundreds of entrepreneurs in the local community, especially the minority segments on Guam, by providing them with the education and resources needed to develop their skills.

Further, Mark is an active member of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce on Guam, where he serves as the Chairman of the Real Estate and Education Committees. He also uses his expertise to promote programs that support the education of our young people and the development of Guam's economy. Additionally, Mark is a member of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers and a Life Member of the Navy League of the United States.

I commend Mr. Mark M. Y. Zhao for his work in addressing the needs of Guam's small business community, and for being named the SBA's Minority Small Business Champion of the Year for 2012. I join our island in thanking him for his contributions to our community, and I wish him continued success with the Westpac Institute.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COMMAND
SERGEANT MAJOR RICKY YATES

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Command Sergeant Major Ricky Yates. His service to our Nation is the standard by which all U.S. Army Aviation Command Sergeant Major careers are measured. His ability to develop solutions to complex and inter-related problems coupled with his unequalled leadership, technical expertise and devotion to duty set him

apart from his peers. From his time as a helicopter repairman in an Aviation Battalion serving in peacetime and in combat, to his capstone assignment as the Command Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, Command Sergeant Major Yates was recognized with the same superlative by every Commander—the best maintenance Non-Commissioned Officer with whom they have ever served.

Command Sergeant Major Yates served our Nation for over 3 decades, at all levels of leadership which allowed him to capitalize on his talents and abilities to serve Soldiers, his unit, the Army and his country at every opportunity. He is truly a selfless servant, caring only about the welfare of others and never seeking accolades for himself. He demonstrated the capacity to be a transformative leader in an organization even when he was new to the unit and the mission. In the execution of his duties, he was recognized for his unequalled ability to diagnose maintenance problems and determine repair requirements.

Command Sergeant Major Yates first demonstrated his ability to lead an organization in combat while assigned as First Sergeant in Task Force 118, a ground-breaking special operations aviation unit, during Operation Prime Chance. Operation Prime Chance was a United States Special Operations Command operation intended to protect U.S. flagged oil tankers from Iranian attack during the Iran-Iraq War. This operation pioneered the first use of OH58D Helicopters in ship board based combat operations.

During his Divisional assignments, he was noted by all levels within his chain of command as the single best Aviation Maintenance NCO with whom they had ever worked and as the “epitome of commitment to maintenance excellence.” One outstanding feature of CSM Yates’ career is his constant service in the toughest units in the Army. During his career, CSM Yates served in the 1st Armored Division, 1st Cavalry Division, 24th Infantry Division, 25th Infantry Division, and the 82d Airborne Division. He served for 21 total years at Fort Bragg, earning Jumpmaster Wings and the Combat Action Badge while deploying in support of Operations Prime Chance, Desert Shield & Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom.

Because of his proven record in solving strategic level problems and his unparalleled expertise in Aviation Maintenance, Command Sergeant Major Yates was selected by the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM) to be the AMCOM Command Sergeant Major, the senior Aviation Maintenance NCO in the Army. He immediately became an invaluable member of the AMCOM team, and his leadership in Aviation Maintenance was crucial in the organization’s support to Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operations over the Horizon (OTH).

During his tenure as AMCOM CSM, he personally worked multiple initiatives that proved crucial to supporting Warfighters. When AMCOM was tasked to assume the supply and maintenance management mission at Fort Rucker, CSM Yates assisted in identifying the necessary green suit structure needed to properly supervise the large force of contractor personnel. Stated simply, if any portion of AMCOM required senior leadership attention, CSM Yates provided it, and always provided

sound, timely, and well researched advice to the three Commanding Generals he served.

In support to the Global War on Terrorism, Command Sergeant Major Yates made multiple visits to the CENTCOM Area of Operations to assist the Combat Aviation Brigades and the Aviation Logistics hubs. He spent months in Iraq and Afghanistan, operating independently and by his own initiative to provide direct support from AMCOM to the Aviation Brigades. He was the eyes and ears of the commander to the field, gathering information on how best AMCOM could support units in the fight. Likewise, he was the voice of the Commanding General, ensuring standardization to maintenance and logistics practices across the Army, focused on the areas that most significantly affected the Aviation Soldier.

From the individual Soldier to the highest echelons of Army Aviation, Command Sergeant Major Ricky Yates demonstrated a technical prowess, unyielding devotion to the Army’s mission, transformational leadership, and unwavering support to the Soldier. He reached the pinnacle of his profession, and was truly the best Command Sergeant Major to have ever done his job.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in honoring Command Sergeant Major Ricky Yates’ exceptional service, dedication and devotion to duty, leadership, and professional competency. He exemplifies the fine tradition of military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the Department of the Army, and the United States of America. May he know that his Nation is greatly appreciative of his dedication, and wishes him the best in all his future endeavors.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
MODESTO LIONS CLUB

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Modesto Lions Club on their 90th Anniversary. This dedicated service club should be commended for their leadership.

In the early 1920’s, there were few community service clubs; however, 43 prominent business owners in Modesto joined to establish the first Lions Club in Stanislaus County on March 29, 1922. This core of movers & shakers became the ‘Booster Club’ of their fair city, Modesto.

This hardy band supported the Salvation Army, the Red Cross, the Boy Scouts and the YMCA in a way never before accomplished. The club’s membership dwindled during WWII, but the Modesto Lions Club maintained its stature and continued its good deeds for the community.

The economic growth of the post-war period allowed the Modesto Lions Club to grow and facilitate bigger projects, such as the Modesto High School Swimming Pool and the Mancini Bowl Band Shell.

In 1987, the Modesto Lions Club broke social barriers by welcoming female members, and a new era dawned as many ladies joined the ranks.

Recently, the Modesto Lions Club completed the Modesto Lions Junction Park along

the Virginia Trail providing shade for all who use the trail.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in praising and congratulating the Modesto Lions for 90 years of community service and success.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH ROBERTO
ON BEING NAMED THE U.S.
SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION’S
JEFFREY BUTLAND FAMILY-OWNED
SMALL BUSINESS OF
YEAR FOR 2012

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Joseph Roberto for receiving the U.S. Small Business Administration’s 2012 Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Small Business of the Year award for Guam. Joe is a founder and manager of the family-owned East Island Tinting, and has many years of leadership in our island community.

In 1990, Joe and his brothers founded Island Tinting to provide the people of Guam with low-cost services for tinting vehicles as well as residential and commercial properties. This company served Guam for almost 20 years, and became the basis for the family’s new venture, East Island Tinting, which was established in 2008. Over the years, the company has increased their service to their customers by providing more staffing and a convenient location to serve them. East Island Tinting has expanded to two locations and its services have grown from one line of automotive tint film to an array of films that cater to a diverse customer base on Guam. The company also recently opened its newly renovated facility in East Agana, Guam, which includes custom detailing services. Further, in 2010, the company was recognized by the Guam Small Business Development Center for their continued success as a small business.

Joe is also an active member in our island’s community. He has served as a volunteer soccer coach for the Shipyard Wolverines soccer club, and has helped develop hundreds of players over the years. He also served as Chairman of the Small Business Committee in the Guam Contractors Association, and has volunteered in several parent-teacher organizations on Guam.

I commend Mr. Joseph Roberto for his efforts in growing and expanding his family’s business, and for receiving the SBA’s 2012 Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Business of the Year award. I join the people of Guam in thanking him for his many contributions to our community, and I wish him continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I was unexpectedly unable to make votes on March 26, 2012. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall Vote Numbers 127, 128, 129.

HONORING THE HEROES OF THE
FORT KENT FIRE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of Fort Kent, and the surrounding communities, who responded so admirably to the massive fire in downtown Fort Kent.

In the early morning of March 25, 2012, a massive fire erupted in Fort Kent, Maine destroying several downtown buildings and damaging local businesses. Although these buildings contained numerous apartments, there was mercifully no loss of life. That is because of the heroic efforts of eight local fire departments, the Fort Kent Police, and a town employee who first spotted the flames.

Tenants living on the second floor of the Nadeau's House of Furniture building were evacuated with only minutes to spare as the fire quickly spread. The heat was strong enough to damage businesses located across the street and melt nearby street signs. Moreover, it took thousands of gallons of water, pumped from the St. John River, to finally quell the flames.

The heroism of the Fort Kent Volunteer Fire Department and fire crews from St. Agatha, Frenchville, Madawaska, North Lakes, Eagle Lake, St. Francois, New Brunswick and Clair, New Brunswick cannot be overstated. Neither can the bravery of Matt Bard who first alerted authorities, Tony Enevera and Richard Martin of the Fort Kent Police Department who were among the first on the scene, the Fort Kent Ambulance Service, or the scores of others who helped avert an even greater tragedy.

I am grateful to the Pine Tree Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army for providing such immediate relief to the displaced families. I am also extremely heartened by the outpouring of support that has come from the Fort Kent community. Local business leaders have already launched a fundraising campaign to further assist those who lost their belongings in the fire. I know that their combined strength will bring the town through this difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring all the heroes who responded to the Fort Kent fire.

RECOGNIZING BENJAMIN C. PABLO
ON BEING NAMED THE U.S.
SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S
VETERAN SMALL BUSINESS
CHAMPION OF THE YEAR
FOR 2012

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Benjamin C. Pablo for receiving the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2012 Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year Award. Ben is a United States Army veteran who served for 22 years, and is currently the Vice President and Community Development Officer at the Bank of Guam, where

he is fondly referred to as its "veteran ambassador."

Ben has worked to create educational opportunities for veterans and servicemembers interested in simplifying their finances or opening up a small business. Most notably, in 2010, he helped establish the Guam Veterans Business Outreach Center, which provides resources and training workshops to veterans. Through the outreach center, Ben consults with local veterans on credit and lending criteria and also shares his expertise in creating and developing a successful business plan. Further, Ben helped secure the Bank of Guam's ability to administer SBA Patriot Express Loans to assist veteran clients and members of the military community in creating or expanding their small business.

Additionally, Ben devotes his time to participating in community service activities and civic organizations. He played an instrumental role in helping the Vietnam Veterans of Guam Chapter 668 in obtaining donations from the bank and other organizations to construct the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Walls, to memorialize the servicemembers from Guam killed during the Vietnam War. He also serves as the treasurer for Catholic Social Services (CSS) on Guam, and has been a board member for seven years. CSS is a nonprofit organization that provides numerous services to Guam's most vulnerable residents, including many veterans.

I commend Mr. Benjamin C. Pablo for working to improve veterans' business opportunities on Guam and for being SBA's Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year for 2012. I join our island in thanking him for his service to our country, and for his dedication to sharing his financial expertise with our veteran community on Guam.

RECOGNITION FOR THE PUBLIC
SERVICE OF WILLIAM F. BUNTING

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable individual, admired for his public service and expert contributions to meteorology and weather forecasting, Mr. William F. Bunting.

Mr. Bunting is an esteemed veteran of his field. His more than 25 years of experience has taken him across this land—from New York City to Lansing, MI to Norman, OK, to Kansas City, MO, and for the last decade to Fort Worth, TX. He has painstakingly forecast and monitored a number of major weather events during his time in the weather service, including the chain of 59 tornadoes in Oklahoma and Kansas in 1990, the Kansas City flash flood in the fall of 1998, and the urban tornado in downtown Fort Worth in 2000. Mr. Bunting's judgment and decision-making in weather forecasting and storm damage assessment has been of tremendous value in service to the public.

Mr. Bunting has made significant contributions to research and public understanding of severe storms. He has assembled an extensive website of data to upper air soundings, surface analyses, and weather prediction satellite imagery. He has authored many papers

on severe storms and climatic weather, lectured at more than a dozen weather warning workshops and conducted more than 500 presentations to spotter and emergency management groups, civic organizations, businesses and schools. There is no question that Bill Bunting has invested his knowledge and concerns to enhance the safety of hundreds of thousands of people.

As Meteorologist in Charge at the National Weather Service's forecast office in Fort Worth, Mr. Bunting has supervised a staff of more than 25 forecasters, technicians and support personnel and been responsible for all forecasts, weather advisories, watches and warnings for 46 North Texas counties. Now, after 10 years in Fort Worth, Mr. Bunting is called to serve as Operations Branch Chief at the Storm Prediction Center in Oklahoma beginning in early April. We wish him well in this new position.

It is my great privilege to recognize Mr. Bill Bunting, Meteorologist-in-Charge at the National Weather Service, for his commitment to people's safety, his dedication to the study and understanding of meteorology and for his service to the many citizens whose lives have been saved by being forewarned by his forecasts.

HONORING MS. PHILLIS OETERS

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Women's History month I rise today to honor Ms. Phillis Oeters, an outstanding individual who has continuously supported the South Florida community.

Ms. Oeters currently serves as the Corporate Vice President of Government and Community Relations for Baptist Health South Florida, the largest not-for-profit healthcare organization in the region. As Corporate Vice President, Ms. Oeters is responsible for strategic planning of government and community relations, developing a state and federal legislative agenda consisting of health-care funding, insurance regulation, and general health policy development.

Additionally, Ms. Oeters serves on many community boards including the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, where she will assume the position of Chairman in June 2012. She also serves on the boards of Beacon Council, United Way, Nat Moore Foundation, Orange Bowl, among many others. From 2003 to 2008, she was Chairman of the Board of the Neurologically Injured Compensation Fund for the State of Florida, a billion dollar fund responsible for caring for children injured at birth. Ms. Oeters is a founding member and former Chairman of the President's Council of 100 for Florida International University.

Ms. Oeters has been a long-time supporter of the American Red Cross and was Chairman of the Board for Greater Miami and the Keys Chapter for three years. Amongst her countless duties she has chaired the Spectrum Awards for Women since 1997. She was recently recognized for her community service by receiving "The Champion of Fundraising Award" and "Building our Community Humanitarian of the Year Award" from the March of

Dimes. The American Cancer Society awarded her the "Inner Circle of 12 Distinction," which honors 12 outstanding women for their leadership, volunteerism, community involvement and dedication to the ACS mission. In addition to her admirable accomplishments, Ms. Oeters finds the time to be an adventure traveler, avid sailor, and equestrian. In 1988, she was the first woman to win the J/30 North America Sail Championship presented by the American Yacht Club.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Ms. Phillis Oeters for her continued service to the South Florida community and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this extraordinary individual.

12TH ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL
CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today in honor of the Faith & Politics Institute's 12th Annual Congressional Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Birmingham, Selma and Montgomery, Alabama, which I had the great privilege of joining.

This pilgrimage was about coming together—not as Democrats and Republicans—but as Americans, as men and women who believe somehow and some way that we have a can find a way to create the American community. The non-violent and peaceful Americans who risked so much simply to have the government honor their rights under our Constitution reminds me of what it means to be a patriot. In the face of brutal beatings, fire hoses, cattle prods, trampling by horses and in some cases death, these heroes forced America to face its past and present, and change the way it treated its own citizens.

Our pilgrimage included visits to many historic places in Alabama that changed the course of history for all Americans. In Montgomery, we visited Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. began his ministry and the parsonage where he and his family lived through two bombings. Other visits in Montgomery included First Baptist Church where the Rev. Dr. Ralph Abernathy served as pastor, the Southern Poverty Law Center, the Rosa Parks Museum and the Capitol—the building from which Governor George Wallace declared he would uphold segregation laws and on whose steps the Voting Rights March culminated.

My father, Kenny Hahn, took an enormous risk early in his public career to welcome Martin Luther King Jr. to Los Angeles. He did it because it was the right thing to do. This trip reminded me how important it was to stand up for what you believe, like my father did in 1961, and throughout his career. We must live up to the example set for us by leaders of the Civil Rights era by continuing the fight for social justice and for the rights of all Americans. I would hope that every member of Congress would take this pilgrimage during their career and that each American learns more about a group of men and women who stood up for and changed our nation.

CONVOY OF HOPE: A REAL
"COMMUNITY ORGANIZER"

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, one of the great economic fallacies of our time is that if government doesn't do something, no one will. This disastrous fallacy underlies much of our national debate concerning health care, education, poverty, housing, and disaster relief, to name just a few issues.

But today I rise to applaud an organization that stands in stark refutation of that fallacy. Convoy of Hope, a private charity in Springfield, Missouri, does so much to help so many communities that the term "charity" doesn't begin to describe it. In fact, Convoy of Hope is equal parts grocer, clothier, health care provider, first responder, educator, and logistics expert. It works with communities in America and around the world bringing together local charities, businesses, churches, and government agencies to alleviate poverty and help people in the wake of disasters.

In other words, it is a real community organizer! The tremendous scope of its activities serves as a reminder that government is neither the sole nor the best provider of goods and services to people in need.

Mr. Speaker, I recently had the privilege of touring Convoy of Hope's headquarters and distribution center. It was a humbling but deeply encouraging experience, as I learned the full extent of its charitable outreach. Frankly I've never seen an organization so focused, efficient, and poised to do tremendous good for so many people.

First, some background: Convoy of Hope was founded by Hal and David Donaldson in 1994, who as young boys suffered the death of their father and subsequent poverty. But both men were struck by the outpouring of support their family received during that time; local churches and the community provided food and shelter. As a result, the two brothers both developed a deep sense of responsibility to help others in need.

In the years since, Convoy of Hope has helped more than 50 million individuals in more than 100 countries—giving away nearly \$300 million worth of food and supplies in the process.

Today, Convoy of Hope describes its mission as a global movement focused on four keys:

Children's feeding initiatives: the organization's overriding goal is to alleviate child hunger worldwide, providing food and clean water while also teaching agricultural techniques.

Community outreach: Convoy of Hope coordinates dozens of community events annually with thousands of volunteers and guests. These events involve free groceries; job and health fairs; and activities for children. As always, this outreach is available to all, without regard to age, race, physical appearance, or religion.

Disaster response: from an earthquake in Haiti to a tsunami in Indonesia to tornadoes in the American south, Convoy of Hope is a proven first responder. With its fleet of tractor trailers, 300,000 square foot warehouse, and high-tech mobile command center, it efficiently leverages relationships with private industry to help victims of worldwide disasters.

Partner resourcing: Convoy of Hope supports hundreds of like-minded organizations throughout the world, providing them with the food and supplies needed to help their communities. In this way Convoy of Hope consistently promotes local control, results, and accountability—while demonstrating humility and a willingness to let others shine and take credit in local communities.

Unlike government bureaucracies and many top-heavy private charities, Convoy of Hope applies a uniquely results-oriented approach to serving people. You won't find bloated salaries or patronage jobs at Convoy of Hope, nor will you find tony offices in New York or Los Angeles like so many nonprofits. In fact, the organization regularly spends only about 10 percent of its budget on overhead (a very low ratio in the nonprofit world), while employing a small staff of approximately 85. Watchdog group Charity Navigator consistently gives Convoy of Hope high marks for both its financial acumen and transparency.

Convoy of Hope also stretches its resources by developing strategic partnerships with private sector corporations, many of which provide in-kind donations of goods or services. This allows Convoy of Hope to offer a win-win proposition to prospective corporate donors: companies benefit from donating needed goods or services already in their inventory or area of expertise, while Convoy of Hope benefits from receiving the supplies and services it needs without paying retail prices. Its corporate donors—including Coca Cola; Nestle; Procter & Gamble; Nestle; Georgia Pacific; Cargill; Del Monte; and FedEx—donate everything from building supplies to bottled water to toiletries. These partnerships with successful private companies demonstrate an entrepreneurial mindset that enables Convoy of Hope to help more people with less overhead.

Its massive distribution center and headquarters are located strategically in Missouri, where its fleet of trucks can dispatch quickly anywhere in America. It also operates six international distribution centers for logistical efficiency. By contrast, many government agencies purposely locate offices and facilities in different states at the clear expense of efficiency, solely to curry funding support from as many members of Congress and Senators as possible.

The next step for Convoy of Hope is an audacious one: a 50 state tour beginning in May designed to address poverty across the United States. The "Convoy of Hope Tour" will provide an average of \$1 million in goods and services to a community in a single day. Convoy of Hope's fleet of 18 wheel trucks will roll through every state, providing a wide variety of goods and practical services to those in need, including: groceries, job counseling, clothing, dental care, breast cancer screenings, haircuts, family portraits, children's activities, prayer and connections with local churches.

Finally, while Convoy of Hope is a Christian-based organization, it is nondenominational and strongly non-political in its approach, helping those in need without imposing their faith. Convoy of Hope employees simply believe their faith compels them to help their fellow man. This commonsense dictum guides infuses everything that Convoy of Hope does.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion let me state unequivocally that Convoy of Hope is doing tremendous work on behalf of mankind. I wish

everyone at Convoy of Hope (and their donors) best wishes for great success with their upcoming Tour. It's hard to imagine a government agency operating as efficiently, as nimbly, or even as cheerfully as Convoy of Hope. I truly believe it should serve as a model for private, nongovernmental solutions to poverty and its attendant ills.

HONORING KALEB CANALES

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Kaleb Canales who was named the interim head coach for the Portland Trail Blazers of the National Basketball Association, NBA, on March 15, 2012. Mr. Canales is the youngest active head coach in the NBA and the first Mexican-American to hold this position in the league's history.

Mr. Canales was born on July 7, 1978, in Laredo, Texas, and graduated from Alexander High School in 1996. He then went on to earn his bachelor's degree in Kinesiology from the University of Texas at Arlington and his master's degree in Sports Leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University. Upon completing his education, Mr. Canales moved back to Laredo and coached at Martin High School from 2001 through 2002 and United High School from 2002 through 2003.

Mr. Canales moved on to join the men's basketball coaching staff at the University of Texas at Arlington. He worked on the UT-Arlington staff for a year before moving on to become an unpaid intern for the Portland Trail Blazers from 2004 through 2005. Mr. Canales' career with the Trail Blazers started in 2005 when he was designated as the team's video coordinator, a position he held until 2008. After serving as the video coordinator, Mr. Canales was promoted to assistant coach and held that title until the 15th of this month when he was named interim head coach.

His story is one of passion and persistence; one that is truly admirable that sets an example for our youth today. Mr. Canales has demonstrated that with hard work and goals, accomplishments will follow. This young Laredoan has made us all very proud and we look forward to his work in the NBA.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the opportunity to recognize Mr. Canales' great background and accomplishments. His hard work and determination has truly had a positive impact on the Laredo and Hispanic community.

HONORING MS. MARY FINLAN

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Women's History month, I rise today to honor Ms. Mary Finlan, an exceptional individual who has served South Florida for decades.

Ms. Finlan began her work at the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Com-

merce in 1998, and was promoted to Executive Director a year later. Throughout her career, she has worked tirelessly for the community, earning the respect and trust of many in South Florida. After Hurricane Andrew, she worked for four years with Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran Disaster Response, and ICARE to rebuild homes and clean up the disaster. During this time, she also worked to gather volunteers and raise funds nationwide.

From 1987 to 1992, Ms. Finlan served as Executive Director of the USO of Dade and Monroe Counties headquartered on Homestead Air Force Base before Hurricane Andrew. The agency provided services to the U.S. and allied military personnel and dependents from Opa-Locka to Key West. During that time she was a member of the Military Affairs Committees of the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce, the South Dade Chamber of Commerce (now Chamber South) and the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Finlan is a charter member of the Miami-Dade Defense Alliance, and works diligently on behalf of Homestead Air Reserve Base and the other military installations to protect them from closure. She currently serves as Chairman of the board of the Everglades Community Association for migrant housing. She also sits on numerous advisory councils including the Miami-Dade Farm Worker Jobs and Education Program, the board of Rural Neighborhoods, Inc., and the Industry Advisory Council of the Homestead Job Corps Center.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Ms. Mary Finlan for her continued service to the South Florida community and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a remarkable individual.

HONORING JAMES KIMO CAMPBELL

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend James Kimo Campbell, who passed away on February 16, 2012. Kimo, as he was known locally, has been recognized for decades as a principled leader on environmental issues, education, and social justice. I admired the values he stood for and appreciated the opportunity to work with him over the years. He was a man of conscience, and his work has benefitted not only Marin County, but the entire Pacific coast.

Campbell was born in 1947 in Los Angeles. He was raised in Ewa Beach, Oahu by his grandmother, Alice Kamokila Campbell, part of a prominent Irish-Hawaiian landowning family. After studying at the venerable Punahou School in Honolulu, Campbell came to northern California in 1966 for a journalism program at College of Marin.

It was at College of Marin that Campbell first earned recognition for his intelligence and insight, winning journalism awards and becoming editor of the college student newspaper by 1968. It was also at College of Marin that Campbell became involved in the earliest activities of the antiwar and environmental movements of the late 1960s. Campbell was an ac-

tive reporter and demonstrator in Vietnam war events across the San Francisco Bay area, and he served as a public voice for peace and civil liberties on the national stage.

As his work progressed, Campbell was especially effective in translating advocacy and protest into political power and substantive change. He ran four times for a seat on the College of Marin Board of Trustees before finally winning his first, narrow election at the age of 27. From then on, he worked tirelessly to defend the interests of the students, staff, and institution he represented, and to effectively manage College of Marin through a period of modernization.

Campbell brought the same focus to a range of environmental priorities. He served on the Boards of the California League of Conservation Voters, Earthjustice, the Trust for Public Land, and other organizations. He also had a particular interest in projects supporting Hawaiian culture, including the Pohaku Fund and his home-based publishing operation, Pueo Press.

Campbell is survived by his wife, Kerry Tepperman Campbell, and his two children, Mahealani and Kawika Campbell.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing a man whose leadership has set an example for all of us—a man whose tireless advocacy and positive spirit teach us all a lesson in the value of 'ohana.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT CAPS

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$15,586,074,570,040.79. We've added \$4,959,197,521,227.71 to our debt in 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MRS. CECILIA ARLEEN MCINTYRE HARBISON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a beloved educator, inspiring role model and gracious woman of faith, Mrs. Cecilia Arleen McIntyre Harbison. Sadly, Mrs. Harbison passed away on Wednesday, March 21, 2012. On Wednesday, March 28, 2012, Mrs. Harbison's funeral will be held in Columbus, Georgia, where her family, friends and colleagues will honor her life and legacy of good deeds.

Mrs. Harbison was born on February 21, 1950, to Jesse and Emma McIntyre in Thomsville, Georgia. Following her birth, the family moved to Montgomery, Alabama, where she attended Booker T. Washington High School and was voted "Miss Sweetheart" of her senior class. After she obtained her high school

diploma she enrolled in Alabama State University in the fall of 1968.

On December 20, 1970, she married Ed Harbison at the historic Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. served as a pastor from 1954 to 1960 and organized the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955.

In 1973, Mrs. Harbison and her husband moved to Columbus, Georgia, where she continued her college education and later graduated with a degree in early childhood education from Columbus State University. She would go on to also earn her master's degree in counseling from Troy University. In addition to her undergraduate and graduate degrees, Mrs. Harbison also earned leadership certifications from the Georgia School Counselors Association in Crisis Intervention, Cultural Diversity, Drug and Alcohol Intervention/Prevention, and Family Counseling.

Dr. Maya Angelou once said that: "I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back." Cecilia used her life and educational skills to throw something back to her community. She served as an educator/counselor in the Muscogee County School System; public relations official in the Gwinnett County School System; and as job developer for the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education. She was involved in many organizations that were dedicated to helping people to reach their full potential.

Cecilia loved her family and she loved her God. She knew that these were two loves that would put you on the path to greatness. Her special relationship with God began as a young teen at Bethany Seventh Day Adventist Church in Montgomery and continued when she moved to Columbus and became affiliated with the Sheppard Drive Seventh Day Adventist Church. In her later years, she continued her relationship with God as a member of Kingdom Metropolitan Worship Center. She was a special woman who supported her husband and children in all of their endeavors.

Cecilia was a fighter. Throughout her illness, she never gave up and kept on fighting the good fight. The Apostle Paul as he neared the end of this life penned the following words: "For I am ready to be offered and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, and I have kept the faith: Henceforth, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness." Cecilia fought the good fight, finished her course and always kept the faith. And by the grace of God she has now claimed her crown.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the almost 700,000 people in the Second Congressional District of Georgia, would like to extend our deepest sympathies to her husband, State Senator Ed Harbison, Cecilia's children, and other family members during this difficult time. May they be consoled and comforted by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

HONORING COMMISSIONER
REBECA SOSA

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Women's History month I rise today to honor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, an admirable individual who has served South Florida with distinction.

Commissioner Sosa was first elected to the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners in June 2001 to represent the residents of District 6. She has since been re-elected three times, most recently in 2010 without opposition. Prior to joining Miami-Dade County, Commissioner Sosa served as mayor of the City of West Miami for seven years. During her tenure, the city recovered from a 52 percent budget deficit, thus removing it from the State Governor's Emergency list. She was essential in securing more than \$5 million in grants for capital improvement projects for the city, as well as improving its drainage and parks system.

Commissioner Sosa currently serves as Chair of the Miami-Dade County Economic Development and Social Services Committee. As Chair, she is responsible for providing oversight and guidance to several departments and agencies responsible for the economic development and revitalization of the community, by creating an atmosphere that promotes public and private partnerships. She is also a member of the South Florida Regional Planning Council, whose mission is to identify the long-term challenges and opportunities facing Southeast Florida. She also assists the region's leaders in developing and implementing creative strategies that promote a more prosperous and equitable community, a healthier and cleaner environment, and a more vibrant economy.

She devotes her free time to civic activities, which include serving as the first Vice President of the Miami-Dade League of Cities, Chair of the West Miami Financial and Budget Committee, the West Miami Hurricane Preparedness Committee, among many others. Commissioner Sosa has been consistently recognized throughout her career and was recently awarded the "Government & Law" award during the 21st Annual "In the Company of Women" Award Ceremony. The award is a testament to her leadership, creativity, and vision in addressing community issues in Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Commissioner Rebeca Sosa for her continued service to the South Florida community. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dear friend and remarkable individual. I wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF UNIVERSITY LABORATORY HIGH SCHOOL AT THE TOSHIBA/NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION EXPLORA-VISION PROGRAM

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate four exceptional 10th grade students from University Laboratory High School in Urbana, Illinois.

Max Li, Gloria Ha, Roberto Chapa, and Ananth Nandakishore have exemplified amazing success with their project "MIRROR" (Minimally-Invasive Robotic Orofacial Repair Technology). This is a prenatal technology that would utilize an in-womb robotic technology to repair diagnosed cleft lip or palate defects in the third trimester, effectively eliminating the scarring defect and consequently and future needs for operations or rehabilitation.

These young men and woman were selected as Regional Winning Finalists in the 20th annual Toshiba/National Science Teachers Association ExploraVision Program, the world's largest K-12 student science and technology competition. They were selected from a group of 4,807 entries, representing 14,602 students from the U.S. and Canada.

I want to also thank their teacher, David Stone, for his dedication to encourage the pursuit of excellence in every student at University Laboratory High School. These outstanding students represent the best of this nation's youth and I wish them continued success in their high school careers and beyond.

RECOGNIZING THOM HAUBERT

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mr. Thom Haubert for his distinguished work and accomplishments as Battelle Memorial Institute's Inventor of the Year.

The American innovator has been a cornerstone of this country's culture and a key to our success. It is through these new ideas that our country has been able to prosper in the past, and how our country will work its way out of these challenging economic times. That is why I am happy to recognize Mr. Haubert for this great accomplishment. Thom joined Battelle, the world's largest independent research and development organization, in 1988, and has contributed to and led important research projects. Thom's significant impact on the world, its body of science and engineering, has resulted in numerous real world applications to help people. One of his recent and significant discoveries is in helping to detect and track cancer.

Thom is one of Battelle's "go-to" mechanical engineers for ideation aspects of many health and life sciences programs. Over the years, he has been able to quickly identify creative, inventive, practical, and unique solutions to difficult problems. As a result of the ingenuity of his thinking and tenacity of his work,

Thom has 20 issued patents, 21 patent applications pending, and is a Battelle Distinguished Inventor. Five of his patents are for an early screening cancer detection system where rare cancerous cells can be identified through simple blood tests. This simple blood test can also be used for tracking post cancer and remission. Thom's research in this area will hopefully lead to earlier cancer detection and eventually to tests for other diseases.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Thom Haubert for his work that has saved lives and made a difference to so many people. He stands as an example to young engineers across the country, and I am very pleased to thank him for all that he has done for Ohio and our country.

IN HONOR OF NEW JERSEY RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT DEBORAH DOWDELL

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great sadness to honor long-time president of the New Jersey Restaurant Association Deborah Dowdell. Deborah Dowdell died March 2nd following a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Deborah's passing is a tremendous loss for New Jersey's small business community and most especially, her family, who loved her dearly.

For those who knew Deborah, she was a strong and influential leader and mentor in Trenton. Deborah Dowdell was an influential policy-maker, an expert on issues important to New Jersey's restaurant and hospitality community. But most important Deborah Dowdell was a great friend and loving daughter and wife.

My wife Heidi and I send our thoughts and prayers to Deborah's entire family during these very trying and difficult times.

RECOGNIZING GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Greek Independence Day, the celebration of Greek freedom from the Ottoman Empire in May of 1832. March 25 is recognized as the official celebration day of this monumental occasion.

From early Greek architecture, theatre and art, to the great philosophers, scientists, and mathematicians of their time, it is impossible to overlook the influence and the impact of Greek history, culture and tradition on the entire world.

Here in the United States, we hold a special place of honor for Greek history. Serving as one of the oldest examples of a successful democratic government, our Nation's Founding Fathers looked to ancient Athenian democracy to lay the foundation for the Constitution of the United States, without which our great Nation would not be what it is today.

With a strong Greek-American community in the Chicago area, the people of the 2nd Congressional district continue to celebrate the historic and cultural heritage of Greek Americans in Chicagoland and across the Nation, in addition to the new, unique, and ever changing ways they contribute to America.

I am honored to recognize and congratulate Greece on 191 years of independence and thank the Greek people for the substantial impact they have made not only in America, but throughout the global community.

Happy Independence Day.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LOU POULOS

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and achievements of Mr. Lou Poulos, who recently passed away. As a husband and father, as a friend and businessman, as a community trade association and church leader, Lou was an extraordinary man who cared deeply for his country, state and city and the industry that he was instrumental in shaping for half a century.

The sixth of nine children to Greek immigrants, Lou contracted polio at the age of 2. Although he received treatment as a child, Lou never regained full use of his legs and walked with crutches or used a wheelchair for the remainder of his life. Lou's condition did not detract from his steadfast determination to live a life on his terms, not on the terms of the disease that damaged his legs. In 1929, his father and a partner started the wholesale Farmers Produce Company. Later at the end of Prohibition in 1933, the elder Poulos acquired one of the first wholesale liquor licenses in Arizona. Lou got his first taste of the business by helping his father in the Miami, Arizona office by taking orders for liquor over the phone.

Lou was widely recognized and respected in the liquor industry and the Arizona community as a whole from the time he was a young man. But he really came into his own when he developed a chain of drive-through liquor stores, which were launched from his father's business. Farmers Liquors was the first retail liquor chain in the state, with some 15 locations through the Valley of the Sun. Under Lou's management, Farmers Liquors prospered. While he was building his own business, he was mindful of the importance of all the tiers of the industry and the impact of political legislation and the people who made those decisions.

Early on, Lou became active in the Arizona Licensed Beverage Association (ALBA), founded in 1936 to protect liquor licenses against unfair legislation. He was largely responsible for putting teeth into ALBA and working to fulfill the mission of the organization. Serving on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee for decades, Lou was also the association's longest serving treasurer—45 years.

Lou Poulos was a very generous man, not only in financial terms, but also in lending his time, wisdom and expertise to individuals and worthy causes that sought his assistance. Lou

was not one to make his contributions known publicly. According to Georgia, his wife of 57 years, Lou was especially supportive of organizations that were involved in helping those afflicted with infantile paralysis (polio), the disease he contracted at age two. He was a lifetime contributor to his church in Phoenix, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral and its affiliated organizations, and an active volunteer during the annual Greek Festival, which observed its 51st year in 2011. Lou also donated financially to associations dedicated to cancer and heart disease research, as well as the Wounded Warrior Project, among other veteran's organizations. In every respect, Lou Poulos was a good man and a good citizen who, without seeking fanfare or plaudits, quietly enriched the fabric of our great and unique nation.

In considering all of these achievements, I ask that you join me in recognizing Mr. Lou Poulos for his courageous overcoming of adversity, his many contributions to the progress and growth of Arizona and his prominent and positive influence on the state's liquor industry.

HONORING MRS. JUANITA ADELE FRANKLIN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, the Hon. ED PASTOR, to honor the extraordinary life of my aunt, Mrs. Juanita Franklin. Those who knew her as wife, sister, aunt, great-aunt, great-great aunt, friend and neighbor affectionately called her "Auntie Nita" or "Sister." As a loving partner, a second mother to many generations of nieces and nephews, and as a dedicated community member, Mrs. Franklin was known for her strong personal values and her simple approach to life. With Juanita's passing on March 18, 2012, we are reminded of her life's journey over the last century, and the joyful legacy she inspired.

Mrs. Juanita Adele Franklin was born to Mr. William Calhoun Parish and Mrs. Willie Edith Parish, in El Paso, Texas on July 8, 1911. She was one of three daughters, and enjoyed growing up with her two sisters, Lois Murrell and Mildred Massey. Raised in El Paso, where she attended Douglass Elementary and High School, Mrs. Franklin went on to Huston Tillotson College in Austin, Texas, where she received a bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts.

It was there that Mrs. Franklin met the love of her life, the late Albert Franklin. The couple exchanged vows in 1935 in San Antonio, Texas, and were married for over 50 years. Although she never had children of her own, Juanita adored her nieces and nephews and served as a generous mentor and confidant. Throughout her long life, she took great joy in watching her great and great-great nieces and nephews grow and thrive.

Over their five decades of marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin resided in El Paso, TX, Portsmouth, VA, Los Angeles, Pacoima, and Oakland, CA, and Sun City, AZ. Upon the death of her husband, she went to live with her youngest sister, Mildred, and spent the last eight years of her life at The Right Choice Adult Care Home in Glendale, AZ. There she

received excellent care, established close friendships, and kept up on current events as an avid reader until her final days.

Mrs. Franklin will always be remembered for her pleasant disposition, her warm smile and her welcoming spirit. A great lover of good food and rich sweets—especially chocolate candy and donuts—Mrs. Franklin attributed her impressive longevity to following the Golden Rule, having personal integrity and eating right (without sacrificing dessert). She stressed the importance of treating everyone with respect, and some of her favorite pastimes included lively discussions with family and friends about the state of the world, as well as scenic car rides.

One of the great milestones of her life was her 100th birthday, which she celebrated last year surrounded by friends and family—along with special recognition and well wishes from President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama. Upon her homegoing, we continue the celebration of this incredible woman, who touched others' lives in countless ways.

Today, the 9th Congressional District of California and the 4th Congressional District of Arizona salute and honor an outstanding human being, Mrs. Juanita Adele Franklin. The contributions she made throughout her life are now part of an enduring legacy. She is survived by sisters Lois Murell and Mildred Massey; nieces BARBARA LEE, Mildred Whitfield (Calvin), and Beverly Hardy (Martin); a host of great nieces and nephews, great-great nieces and nephews, and friends. Her loved ones will continue to draw strength and comfort from the memory of her dignity, her decency, and her infinite kindness. May her soul rest in peace.

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ARE
NCAA DIVISION III NATIONAL
CHAMPIONS

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Coach Mia Smith and Illinois Wesleyan University's women's basketball team for winning the NCAA Division III national title. The Titans capped their 28–5 season by winning the school's sixth overall national championship and the first in women's basketball.

The Titans were led by tournament MVP Olivia Lett, and Melissa Gardner, who set an IWU single-season record with 94 3-pointers this year.

"There wasn't a moment in the ballgame where I felt we wouldn't be the national champion when the buzzer sounded," Titans coach Mia Smith said. "Even when we were down four, down five, there was not a drop of fear on the bench. That's been that way all season. It's reminiscent of every time we stepped on that floor."

I'd like to also note that Coach Smith was named the 2012 Schelde North America/Women's DIII News "Coach of the Year". She's compiled a 282–108 record at IWU, including a 145–51 record in the CCIW (College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin), six league

championships and seven NCAA Tournament appearances.

I would like to congratulate Mia Smith and the Illinois Wesleyan University Women's Basketball National Champs. Their accomplishments are celebrated by their families, fans, and the entire Titan community.

TRIBUTE TO LOUISE COLLINS
JOHNSON ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Louise Collins Johnson a former missionary and devoted servant of the Lord who turns 100 on March 30, 2012.

The year 1912 was a noteworthy one in history. It witnessed the first expeditions to discover the South Pole and the tragedy of the sinking of the HMS Titanic. It was also the year that Louise Collins entered the world to begin her long journey in the service of Christ.

Born in Chilton County, Alabama, Ms. Collins answered the calling of the Lord at the young age of 18 when she began teaching Sunday school. Nine years later she married Roy Johnson, and together they raised one daughter, Ann Johnson Tyrus, and shared 11 wonderful grandchildren.

Louise Johnson followed her faith to lead a life that would take her across Alabama and literally around the world. A devoted Baptist, her career included working for the Alabama Baptist Association before joining the staff of the State Assembly at Shocco Springs, Alabama, as well as working with the Southwide Assemblies at Ridgecrest, North Carolina, and Glorieta, New Mexico.

This was just the beginning, however, of her long journey in the service of the Lord. Soon after, she was called to serve needy Baptist churches in Oregon and Washington states. Her dedication to helping others also led her to serve two terms as a relief missionary in Hawaii. Her world travels then took her to mission points in Hong Kong, Tokyo, Japan, and Manila, Philippines.

In 1968, following the death of her husband, Louise Johnson moved to Gulf Shores, Alabama to live with her sister, Hazel Scruggs. For so many who have traveled to Baldwin County over the last 40 years, Hazel's restaurant in Gulf Shores is a well-known landmark.

During her time in Gulf Shores, Louise Johnson served as secretary of the First Baptist Church for eight years and Sunday school teacher of the Ladies IV Class at First Baptist for 36 years. She eventually moved to Prattville, Alabama where she now lives with her daughter, Ann. Even today, as she prepares to celebrate a century on this good earth, she continues to work and express her faith.

Louise Johnson has been and continues to be a dynamic, dedicated Christian spending her life teaching others about Jesus. On behalf of the people of Alabama, I wish to congratulate Ms. Johnson on her 100th birthday and wish for her many more years of happiness.

CONGRATULATING THE INDIANA
BLOOD CENTER ON ITS 60TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on its sixtieth anniversary, I am proud to honor an organization that has helped save hundreds of thousands of lives through volunteer blood donations and blood component distribution to more than 60 hospitals across the state.

Indiana Blood Center was founded in 1952 and is headquartered in my district in Indianapolis. This esteemed non-profit community service organization delivers more than 700 components of blood each day and provides other vital assistance to modern medicine through specialized blood typing for organ transplants, viral marker testing, transfusion recipients, and the National Marrow Donor Program. The Center also serves as a vital link in the state's life science and healthcare infrastructure in the areas of prostate cancer treatment, pharmaceutical research, stem cell and bone marrow donation. It is the largest independent blood center in the state and ranks among the top 20 nationally. Indiana Blood Center is a member of America's Blood Centers, North America's largest network of community-based, independent and non-profit blood centers—which, coincidentally, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

Every two seconds, someone, somewhere will need a transfusion and one out of every seven patients entering a hospital will need blood. Indiana Blood Center depends on the good people of Indiana and the nearly 4,000 organizations that host blood drives annually to meet the constant demand to serve the citizens of Indiana. I would like to recognize this valuable contribution to our community and congratulate Indiana Blood Center for its 60 years of faithful and dedicated stewardship of Indiana's blood supply.

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM H.
SCHNEIDER

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William H. Schneider, a World War II veteran and devoted family man.

Born on August 9, 1919 in St. Louis, Missouri, he lived in North St. Louis for his first 50 years until moving to Florissant, MO where he spent the next 30 years of his life.

The son of military parents, Mr. Schneider honorably served our country during World War II. While in the U.S. Army during WWII, Mr. Schneider was in the Philippines on a Navy ship that was present at the Japanese surrender. At the end of his service, he was honorably discharged.

He took his work ethic to Complete Auto Transit, which was later part of Ryder trucking, where he worked for almost 45 years. He worked a variety of jobs over the course of his career, oftentimes working overtime to provide for his family.

And it is his family that will be his greatest legacy. He is known as a devoted and loving husband to his widow, Helen, and his current wife, Nita. His five children, twelve grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren have each known him as a caring and dedicated family man.

It is with great pride that I get to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Schneider today.

A TRIBUTE TO WOODY SMECK, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Woody Smeck for his extraordinary service as Superintendent of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. After 21 years of service in the park, Mr. Smeck will depart from his position in order to become the Deputy Superintendent at Yosemite National Park.

The Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, the nation's largest urban national park, consists of 153,750 acres of mixed public open space and private lands surrounded by a metropolitan region of more than 19 million people. Annual visitation to local, state and federal parklands within the national recreation area exceeds 33 million visitors, making it one of the most visited recreation destinations in the country. More than 70 agencies and organizations are involved in partnership efforts to preserve open space resources and provide outdoor recreation opportunities. This level of partnership has served as a national model for other parklands and attracted the attention of key government and non-profit leaders looking to replicate the success of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

As Superintendent, Mr. Smeck serves on a variety of commissions and boards in Los Angeles and Ventura counties dealing with conservation of protected areas and connecting people to nature and places of historical significance. During his tenure as Superintendent, Mr. Smeck has overseen some of the largest and most significant parkland acquisitions, the development of an interagency visitor center, and the completion of the 65-mile Backbone Trail. His steadfast leadership and advocacy has increased the visibility of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Mr. Smeck has also hosted visits from Presidents, cabinet secretaries, Members of Congress, governors, international governments, blue ribbon commissions and environmental leaders.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Woody Smeck for his extraordinary service as Superintendent of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Under his leadership, the National Park Service has helped to promote conservation, protect thousands of acres of parkland, and enhance recreational opportunities for millions of people that visit the Santa Monica Mountains and its renowned beaches.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MRS. REBA ROGERS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Mrs. Reba Rogers who has been an Army spouse for over 26 years. She was an integral partner in her spouse's successful career which included commanding formations from the company level to Army Service Component. Throughout her spouse's service, she remained steadfastly dedicated to serving soldiers and their families in many capacities, particularly as a volunteer leading Family Readiness Groups (FRG), the Army Officer Wife's Clubs and at community thrift shops. During times of peace and conflict, she was a source of strength and inspiration to those whom she served.

Reba's caring spirit, genuine concern and constant willingness to assist soldiers and their families no matter how small or great the need, at all hours of the day and night contributed greatly to the combat readiness and mission focus of each unit she served with. Soldiers always knew the needs of their families would be met.

Reba has actively volunteered thousands of hours to the military community through her invaluable work at community gift and thrift shops. Of special note, she was the chairperson of the Redstone Arsenal thrift shop sponsored by the Redstone Arsenal's Women's Club where soldiers and their families benefit from a variety of needed items. Furthermore, she also held a special seat with Huntsville, Alabama's Crestwood Hospital helping to serve the local community as well as a key member of the Huntsville Botanical Gardens.

Over 26 years of devoted service to soldiers and families, Reba Rogers' substantial contributions greatly enhanced the preparedness and readiness of every unit she served. Reba's dedication and spirit of volunteerism are in keeping with the highest tradition of selfless service and reflect great credit upon herself, the Army Materiel Command, and the Department of the Army.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Reba Rogers for her dedicated service of 26 years. She serves as an inspiration to many and a guiding light to all. Mrs. Rogers' dedication and spirit of volunteerism are in keeping with the highest tradition of selfless service and reflect great credit upon herself, the Department of the Army and the United States of America. May she know that her nation is greatly appreciative of her dedication, and wishes her the best in all here future endeavors.

HONORING ANNETTE GUMM'S SERVICE TO THE SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Annette Gumm, who has dedi-

cated herself to improving the welfare of the people of south Florida. It is truly an honor to represent Annette in the United States Congress, and it is a privilege to call her my friend.

Annette has a rich history of extraordinary service to our community. After moving to south Florida with her husband Emmett, she began to search for projects where she could help those in need. As a mother of three, Annette was inspired to volunteer at Plumosa Elementary School, as well as the Delray Community Hospital. But she still wanted to do more to serve her community and become civically engaged. In the spring of 1992 she was given the opportunity to join the campaign of Burt Aaronson, and soon became the commissioner's administrative assistant, a position that she held for many years.

But Annette's involvement didn't stop there—she soon became a member of the Atlantic Democratic Club, where her energetic contributions to the community did not go unnoticed. She worked her way up the ranks, becoming treasurer, and then executive vice president of the United South County Democratic Club, an organization that strives to get south Floridians more involved with local, State, and national politics. Finally in 2006, Annette became the first woman to serve as president of the organization, and helped elect many individuals who shared her desire to help the south Florida community.

As Americans, one of our greatest responsibilities is to participate in civic life. Annette has dedicated the last 25 years to that very cause, and is truly an inspiration to all those who wish to become community leaders. I applaud her efforts, and I look forward to her continued good work.

HONORING FROZEN FOOD MONTH

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, today I stand in acknowledgement of Frozen Food Month, and to recognize an industry's significant efforts to ensure families and schoolchildren across America have access to healthy, affordable foods.

Few other foods offer consumers the benefits and flexibility of frozen foods. Frozen fruits, vegetables and entrees help busy moms and dads easily prepare quality meals at home, allowing for more family time spent around the dinner table. In school cafeterias, lunch planners rely on frozen foods to help stretch limited budgets and serve healthy meals kids enjoy eating. And frozen fruits and vegetables, with their year-round availability and outstanding nutritional value, make it easy for everyone to eat more fruits and vegetables at home, at school and on the go.

Consumer appreciation for the value frozen foods offer has catapulted sales in this rapidly-growing industry to over \$60 billion. With nearly 700 frozen food facilities employing nearly 100,000 Americans nationwide, its economic footprint is significant. Forty of those frozen food operations are located in my home state of Washington.

In recognition of Frozen Food Month, I take this opportunity to honor one of Washington

state's very own, National Frozen Foods Corporation, headquartered in Seattle. National Frozen Foods is celebrating an impressive 100 years as a leader in the frozen food industry this year.

National's history began in 1912 when William McCaffray, Sr. began a small strawberry-freezing operation on a \$5,000 loan from a friend. Recognizing the advantages of frozen food production and building on his early success, the company began freezing vegetables in the 1930s. Today, National Frozen Foods has grown to be one of the nation's premiere

private-label frozen vegetable producers, employing some 670 workers throughout the year. Their Chehalis, Washington, facility is in the heart of the district I represent.

National's commitment to continuing improvement through innovation—not only at a company level, but as an industry leader—is clear. National Frozen Foods President and CEO Richard H. Grader is a former chairman and longtime member of the board of directors of the American Frozen Food Institute. In his current role as chairman of the Frozen Food Foundation, Mr. Grader guides the founda-

tion's efforts to better educate consumers and the general public about the considerable nutritional and food safety attributes offered by frozen foods.

The impact that National Frozen Foods Corporation has had on the industry and on the economy of Southwest Washington, Washington state, and the positive impact that the industry continues to have on this nation are immeasurable. I applaud the frozen food industry and the management and employees of National Frozen Foods Corporation for your hard work and your contribution to America.