

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN MEMORY OF DEPUTY ROBERT LEE PARIS, JR.

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the late Deputy Robert Paris who was killed in the line of duty on April 12, 2012. Deputy Paris paid the ultimate price, sacrificing his life, while protecting and serving the citizens of Stanislaus County.

Deputy Paris was born in Tracy, California on January 23, 1959 to parents Robert Paris, Sr. and Elizabeth Paris. He graduated from Tracy Joint Union High School in 1977. He attended Delta Community College before entering paramedic school in 1979. He was certified as a Mobile Intensive Care Paramedic in 1980 and worked for Tracy Ambulance and American Medical Response serving the Tracy community. Deputy Paris graduated from Ray Simon Regional Criminal Justice Training Center in 1993.

Deputy Paris began his career with the Stanislaus Sheriff's Department in 1996 as a Level 1 Reserve Officer. He was sworn in full time in 1999. He served in Patrol Operations, Court Services, Contact Cities, the Special Vehicle Off Road Unit/Water Enforcement Team and the Civil Division. Deputy Paris served his community with pride and admiration.

Deputy Paris was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed spending spring and summer days camping and fishing in the Sierras with his friends and family. In the fall, he would travel to the Rockies to go hunting with his father and friends in Colorado before heading to Montana to serve as a hunting guide. He also enjoyed cycling and golfing in his spare time. He became a successful taxidermist for his own enjoyment as well as for others.

Deputy Paris is survived by his parents, Bob and Jane Paris; daughter, Jami Paris and her mother, Janelle Corso; son, Bobby Paris; brother, Eric Paris and his wife Kari; sister, Krista Torpey and her husband Richard; nephews Ryan and Colin Torpey and niece, Lauren Torpey.

Mr. Speaker, the recognition that I am offering today before the House of Representatives for Deputy Robert Paris is small compared to the contributions and impact he had on the lives of so many. He was truly an invaluable member of our community and an outstanding human being. My thoughts are with Deputy Paris' family, the community and the Stanislaus Sheriff's Department as they grieve the loss of this wonderful man.

HONORING ROBERT LEE SMITH

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, we are saddened by the death of Mr. Robert Lee Smith because our lives have been touched by the life of this one man; and Whereas, Mr. Robert Lee Smith's work is present in our community and his church, Hillcrest Church of Christ; being a deacon, Bible School instructor, bus driver and singer; and

Whereas, this highly effective motivator utilized his skills to aid in the growth and development of his church; and

Whereas, he gave of himself, his time and talent as he served his family, friends and community; and

Whereas, Mr. Robert Lee Smith was a husband, a son, a father, a friend and a man of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of our community; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a special recognition on Mr. Robert Lee Smith for his leadership, friendship and service to all as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby attest to the 112th Congress of the United States that Mr. Robert Lee Smith of Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition" by declaring Mr. Robert Lee Smith U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 15th day of April, 2012.

HONORING SERGEANT STEPHEN M. STEWART

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Veterans of Foreign Wars Chowchilla Post 9896 Life Member Sergeant Stephen M. Stewart. Sergeant Stewart served the United States of America honorably with the U.S. Army 10th Mountain Division in Somalia.

Sergeant Stewart was born in Vancouver, British Columbia on May 28, 1954. He later relocated to the United States and enlisted in the U.S. Army. During his service, he served a 12-month tour in Korea and was part of the advance forces in Operation Desert Storm, which culminated in the repelling of the Iraqi forces and the liberation of Kuwait.

In 1992, while serving with the 10th Mountain Division, the division was deployed to Somalia as part of Operation Restore Hope for the famished populace of Somalia. The divi-

sion's mission was to secure major cities and roads in order to provide safe passage of relief supplies to Somali citizens suffering the effects of the Somali Civil War. When Task Force Ranger and the SAR team were pinned down during a raid in what would later become known as the Battle of Mogadishu, Sergeant Stewart and elements of the 10th Mountain Division provided infantry to the United Nations force sent to rescue them. The ensuing firefight was the longest sustained by the U.S. Army since the Vietnam War.

In September 1994, Stephen and 8,600 troopers of the 10th Mountain Division formed the nucleus of the Multinational Force Haiti and Joint Task Force 190 in Haiti during Operation Uphold Democracy. The division's mission was to create a secure and stable environment in which the government could reestablish and hold democratic elections.

During his service in the U.S. Army, Sergeant Stewart served in various roles. He was a troop leader in billets as a platoon sergeant, a drill sergeant, and held several administrative positions. He retired as a Sergeant First Class. For his service, Sergeant Stewart received the National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Armed Forces Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Korean Defense Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, United Nations Medal for Somalia, and the Army Sharpshooter Badge for the M-16 Rifle.

After his retirement from the U.S. Army, Sergeant Stewart earned a bachelor's degree and teaching credentials. He taught at Sierra Vista Elementary School and the former Mountain Vista Continuation School in Madera Unified School District. His hobbies included running and hiking, and he dreamt of someday climbing Pobeda Peak located near the border of China. He was an influential force in the Chowchilla area to honor WWII veterans through the "Honor Flight" program. He was also commemorated for his service to the California Troops to Teachers program.

Sergeant Stewart passed away in 2012. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Gwendolyn Stewart, daughters Stephanie Stewart, M.D., Sharon Stewart, and grandson Ernest "Jewell" Hall. Sergeant Stewart is a Life Member of Chowchilla VFW Post 9896, American Legion Post 148, Association of the U.S. Army, Young Men's Institute, and St. Columbia Catholic Church of Chowchilla.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Sergeant Stephen M. Stewart for his honorable service to our great country.

IN RECOGNITION OF EARTH DAY

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Earth Day, which has

• 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.

been celebrated on this day, April 22, for the past 42 years. Since the first Earth Day in 1970, Americans have worked to make cleaner the air we breathe and the water we drink. Four decades later, I am proud to be working with like-minded colleagues in the Congress and the Administration to continue this honored tradition of environmental leadership.

Earth Day was first organized in 1970 by one of the greatest environmentalists in the history of the Congress, Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin. Despite his tireless work to raise awareness of environmental conservation, for years the Congress and the administration consistently failed to enact his environmental legislation. Senator Nelson called upon student activists of the day who led a nationwide "teach-in." It is estimated that 20 million individuals participated, demonstrating to Congress the extent of the public's interest in, and concerns over threats to, the environment. The resulting change was dramatic and profound. With bipartisan support and majorities, Congress took the following actions: Created the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (1970); Passed the Clean Air Act (1970); Passed the Clean Water Act (1972); Passed the Endangered Species Act (1973).

Added to this impressive list of accomplishments are the actions taken by the Democratic-controlled 110th and 111th Congresses to preserve and protect the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat, and the lands we inhabit, and the green spaces where we recreate. Let me briefly mention some of the highlights of this impressive record of environmental stewardship.

In the 110th Congress, the House passed, and I supported the following major legislative initiatives:

Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, which will increase vehicle fuel efficiency standards for the first time in more than 3 decades, to 35 miles per gallon in 2020, projected to save \$1,000 per vehicle each year. The act will also expand the use of American-grown biofuels and combat oil market manipulation.

Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, also known as the Farm Bill, which made an historic commitment to American biofuels—which are keeping gas prices 15 percent lower than they otherwise would be due to fuel blending—and increased Commodity Futures Trading Commission oversight authority to detect and prevent manipulation of energy prices.

Energy Improvement and Extension Act of 2008, which extended and expanded tax incentives for renewable electricity, energy and fuel from America's heartland, as well as for plug-in hybrid cars, and energy efficient homes, buildings, and appliances. This legislation is critical to creating and preserving more than 500,000 good-paying clean energy American jobs in the wind and solar industries alone.

Green the Capitol—Under the leadership of newly-elected Speaker NANCY PELOSI in 2007, the House started this program to make its operations a model of sustainability. The House set aggressive targets, including reducing energy use by 50 percent over 10 years. Since the program's inception, the House has reduced its carbon footprint by 73 percent, it purchases wind energy to meet all electricity needs and burns only natural gas at the Capitol Power Plant, with total energy consump-

tion down by 23 percent and water consumption down 32 percent. The project has already saved taxpayers at least \$3.3 million a year.

In the 111th Congress, the House passed, and I supported, the following major bills:

American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, historic legislation that launches a new clean energy economy—to create 1.7 million American jobs (with the Recovery Act); helps reduce our dangerous dependence on foreign oil by 5 million barrels per day; keeps energy costs low for Americans; protects consumers from price increases with lower income families seeing no cost and with no increase to the deficit. The legislation requires a reduction in the carbon pollution causing climate change from major U.S. sources of 17 percent by 2020 and 80 percent by 2050, compared to 2005 levels.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which made historic investments of \$90 billion in tax cuts and investments in clean energy. These investments leveraged another \$100 billion in private investments in energy efficiency, renewable generation, research, and other areas and helped speed the transformation to a clean energy future. The included tax incentives spurred energy savings and created clean energy jobs, as will lead to breakthroughs in clean energy research. The Recovery Act also included incentives to produce new electric cars, develop advanced battery technology, and modernize the electricity grid to make it more efficient and reliable. It is estimated that this legislation created more than 2,700,000 jobs, nearly doubled renewable electricity over four years, and saved consumers up to \$98 a year in energy costs.

Today, it is no less urgent that we take great pains to keep environmental issues from receding into the background. Four out of five Americans live in areas hit by recent weather disasters, and emerging scientific data suggests that such disasters will continue occurring at higher and higher frequencies if we do not take steps to address our changing climate.

My home state of California has made great strides in developing a "green economy" and investing in renewable sources of energy. In 2011, California added more wind power than any other state. The state's wind industry now employs 4,000–5,000 people and is responsible for 3 percent of the California's electricity. Additionally, the solar energy industry in California alone is comprised of over 3,500 solar companies, which employ more than 25,000 people. These industries should be recognized for their contributions to job creation as well as their growing success in securing our energy independence.

Partisan politics threatens to turn back this progress, particularly through the recently proposed Republican budget plans. These plans protect billions of dollars in tax breaks for big oil companies while slashing investments in clean solar and wind energy. We cannot afford to lavish subsidies on oil companies earning record profits, furthering our dependence on increasingly expensive, dirty and dangerous fossil fuel sources.

Since Senator Nelson sparked a widespread interest in our environment four decades ago, environmental legislation has enjoyed support from both sides of the aisle. I am committed to working with my colleagues in Congress and the Obama Administration to continue the bipartisan tradition of environmental protection.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Earth Day this year, let it serve as a timely reminder of the immense opportunities the planet holds, both in terms of current economic growth and future prosperity. It is my hope that we may recapture the energy and enthusiasm behind Senator Nelson's original celebration in order to restore environmental stewardship as a core American value.

IN MEMORY OF JANE MARGARET  
JOHNSTON

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the late Jane Johnston who passed away unexpectedly on April 13, 2012.

Jane and her identical twin sister, Jean, were born on September 2, 1951 to parents Dennis and Maryellen Tally. The "Tally twins" along with their brothers Larry and Chris, were raised in Tracy, California.

Jane and her husband Tom grew up on the same street together in Tracy. They were married on September 10, 1972. Together for nearly 40 years, they raised two daughters, Jill and Laurie. Jane enjoyed being a stay-at-home mother when her daughters were young, and it was during this time that she finished her college education. Jane earned a degree in Communications from California State University, Stanislaus.

The biggest joy in Jane's life was her family, and she loved spending time with her husband, children and four grandchildren. She adored her young grandchildren—all born in the past three years—and eagerly shared pictures and stories about them with her many friends. She loved family traditions, and always made holidays special for her family. Jane loved being busy, and in addition to spending time with her family and working, she enjoyed golfing at Spring Creek Country Club, traveling, reading and writing.

For nearly 20 years, Jane worked at the Stanislaus County Office of Education, most recently as Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services. Jane was an astute judge of character and was quick to recognize potential in others. She was a member of the Association of California School Administrators, the Modesto Rotary, the California and National School Public Relations Organizations, served on the Moccasin Supervisory Committee and co-chaired the Stanislaus Teacher of the Year Program.

Jane was an active member at Modesto Covenant Church in Modesto. She reached out to help homeless families through programs including Family Promise and the Salvation Army. Jane was a mentor to many colleagues and young children, who she enjoyed tutoring through the Stanislaus Mentoring Program. She was also instrumental in promoting and implementing the Stanislaus County "Choose Civility" initiative.

Jane is survived by her husband Tom; children Jill and her husband Peter Krimmel and Laurie and her husband Jonathan Hansen; grandchildren Cole Krimmel, Logan Hansen, Stella Jane Krimmel and Lucas Hansen; sister Jean Benner; brothers Larry Tally and Chris Tally; and many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, the recognition that I am offering today before the House of Representatives for Jane Margaret Johnston is small compared to the contributions and impact she had on the lives of so many. She was truly an invaluable member of our community and an outstanding human being.

RECOGNIZING ANTHONY H. "TONY" GRIFFIN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS FAIRFAX COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and commend Anthony H. "Tony" Griffin on the occasion of his retirement after a decorated career in public service, which culminated with his 12-year tenure as the County Executive in Fairfax County, Va., the largest local jurisdiction here in the National Capital Region.

Tony began his public service with the U.S. Marine Corps, where he served as an officer during the Vietnam War. He brought the collaborative, can-do spirit from his military experience to local government, where he served in managerial positions with Arlington County and the City of Falls Church before joining Fairfax County in 1989. I had the great pleasure of working with Tony throughout my 14 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, particularly during my 5 years as Chairman.

His accomplishments are many, but let me cite just a few to convey the magnitude of the profound benefit he has brought to our community and our region. One of the earlier initiatives on which we worked closely was a strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. Thanks to Tony's support and the efforts of staff, we held a community summit and created a partnership consisting of the faith, non-profit, business and civic communities. The Board created a standalone position to coordinate prevention efforts and adopted a 10-year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. Today, Fairfax is one of the few jurisdictions in the nation that has seen its homeless population decline in the midst of the worst economic recession since the Great Depression.

Tony also has been instrumental in transforming our one-time bedroom community into the economic engine of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the National Capital Region. Fairfax is now home to more than 1 million people and nearly 600,000 jobs. Under Tony's leadership, Fairfax County was named the "best managed jurisdiction in America" by Governing Magazine, and the county has consistently retained its AAA bond rating. Throughout his tenure in Fairfax, Tony has steadily worked to advance the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, which will finally link the Washington, DC, Metro system with the region's premier international gateway, Dulles International Airport. It is one of the largest public works projects in the nation, and Tony has collaborated with local, state and federal stakeholders to ensure its success. As an extension of that effort, Tony also oversaw the replanning of Tysons Corner, the region's premier retail and commercial center. After a multi-year, commu-

nity-centered effort, the County Board adopted a new vision plan that will transform the collection of disparate office parks into a walkable, transit-oriented, mixed-use community. That effort won national recognition from the American Planning Association.

Perhaps Tony's most lasting achievement will be his effort to establish a model of regional cooperation for emergency management. As Chair of the Chief Administrative Officers Committee of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Tony coordinated local government decisions and responses to a myriad of incidents. His leadership was invaluable during the events of 9/11, in which his calm leadership helped assure the delivery of essential government services throughout that tragedy. Under his leadership, the CAO Committee established a new framework to foster better collaboration and cooperation among the 17 local governments, two states and the District of Columbia that comprise the National Capital Region. Those efforts proved particularly vital during the 2001 anthrax incidents, the 2002 regional sniper attacks, the 2009 presidential inauguration, and 2010's historic snowstorms.

Tony's leadership has been recognized nationally by his peers. The American Society of Public Administration honored him with its Stone Practitioner Award for his commitment to improve intergovernmental cooperation. He also was appointed by Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano to the local, state, tribal and federal Preparedness Task Force, which is assessing the state of preparedness and recommending actions to build resiliency for communities across America.

Beyond those accomplishments, I want to recognize Tony's efforts to inspire the county's workforce and to recruit and train the next generation of public servants. During his tenure in Fairfax, he initiated partnerships with the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia, the George Mason University Fellows Program, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Regional Program of Excellence with George Washington University, and the Council's Project Manager Certification Program and Supervisory Development Training. So while we will surely miss having him here day-to-day in Fairfax County, his presence will continue to be felt here and in communities throughout our region and our nation.

Mr. Speaker, Tony Griffin's commitment to our community, the county workforce, our residents, and the mission of local government are unparalleled, and he leaves behind a legacy that will enrich our community for generations to come. His career in public service, beginning with his service in the Marine Corps, is truly commendable and deserving of our heartfelt gratitude. When I was Chairman of the County Board, I often used to joke with Tony at retirement announcements that we should not allow retirement for such talented and dedicated staff. I certainly wish that was the case here. I wish Tony, his wife and family the best of luck in his retirement, and I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in expressing our appreciation for his commitment and service to this community and our nation.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF DR. AND MRS. ARLIN HORTON

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Arlin Horton and his wonderful wife Beka, who have selflessly served the Pensacola, Florida community for more than 60 years. Dr. Horton, the current President of Pensacola Christian College, and Mrs. Horton, who spearheaded and guided the Christian school's curriculum, are the co-founders of Pensacola Christian. The Northwest Florida community owes a great deal of gratitude to this dynamic duo for their leadership and vision.

Dr. and Mrs. Horton's lives have been dedicated to bestowing upon students a "truly Christian foundation, character training, and excellence in academics." Pensacola Christian provides a first-class education to all levels from elementary school through college. Pensacola Christian Academy has grown from 35 enrolled students to over 2,000 annually, and Pensacola Christian College has graduated over 16,600 students. Additionally, Pensacola Christian has mentored over 37,000 children through the Camp o' Pines and since 1953, has hosted educational clinics for over 93,000 Christian school principals and teachers.

While located in Pensacola, the institution's impact is felt by those all around the world today, through their textbooks and modern-day technology. Dr. and Mrs. Horton's textbooks A Beka Book, named to commemorate Beka for her role in creating the school's curriculum, will reach the hands of approximately 730,000 students just in this year alone. An additional 40,000 students will be reached through the virtual A Beka Academy, and today, 10,288 Christian schools and daycares and more than 105,000 homeschoolers study from the books published under the Pensacola Christian name.

Outside of academia, Pensacola Christian runs a radio and television network that helps bring others to God's glory. In 1971, WPCS Christian radio began, and in 1996, the name changed to Rejoice Broadcasting Network. The station includes 39 satellite stations and through the Internet their message reaches a worldwide audience. Likewise, their television program, Rejoice in the Lord, is shown on 11 stations and viewed across the nation and around the world.

Teaching the Christian way of life through love and faith in the Lord became its inspiration, and Dr. and Mrs. Horton brought this ministry to life. Through their selflessness and unwavering dedication, they built a strong foundation that has grown into a worldwide educational institution. Despite its vast success, Dr. and Mrs. Horton have always remained humble and attributed their successes to the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize the life-long career of Pensacola's Arlin and Beka Horton. Their dedication to bettering the lives of others and bringing faith to the communities of Northwest Florida is commendable. Through their vision, a small school has been transformed into a beacon for Christian education. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing them all of the best in their retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL W.  
HUNKAPILLAR

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael W. Hunkapillar who today is receiving BayBio's prestigious Lifetime Achievement DiNA Award in San Francisco.

Mike is one of the brilliant minds in biotechnology. He has been instrumental in expanding the frontiers of genomics and proteomics. His extraordinary accomplishments include the invention of the first DNA sequencer and the realization of the Human Genome Mapping Project.

I had the great honor and pleasure to work with him while I was in the California Senate. I introduced legislation that established a missing person DNA database. Mike happened to hear me talk about it on the radio, called me and donated DNA testing equipment to make the program a reality. This important program helps solve thousands of rapes, homicides and missing person cases.

Mike has had a hugely successful and expansive career as a scientist, entrepreneur and life science industry executive. He is currently a general partner at AlloyVentures, a venture capital firm that invests in the next generation of information technology, life sciences and clean tech.

Before joining Alloy, he spent 21 years at Applied Biosystems which he co-founded. He turned it from a start-up into a \$2 billion a year company that supplies instruments and reagent systems to life science research. Mike also founded ABI's sister company Celera Genomics, now owned by Quest Diagnostics. Prior to ABI, Mike was a senior research fellow in the Division of Biology at the California Institute of Technology. While at Caltech he authored over 100 scientific publications, served on the editorial boards of several scientific journals and received patents for more than two dozen inventions.

Among his most influential inventions was the automated Gene and Protein Sequencer that was used to sequence the human genome in 2003. The project identified all 20,000–25,000 genes in the human DNA, determined the sequences of 3 billion chemical base pairs that make up human DNA, stored the information in a database, improved tools for data analysis and—for the first time in a large scientific project—addressed ethical, legal and social issues.

The National Academy of Engineering recently elected Mike for his life-long dedication to the human genome mapping project and the field of comparative genetics.

Mike was born in Paris, Texas in 1948. He received his B.S. in Chemistry from Oklahoma Baptist University in 1970 and his Ph.D. in Chemical Biology at Caltech in 1974.

Just last week he was appointed Executive Chairman of the board of directors of Pacific Biosciences, and he also serves on the boards of NuGEN, Verinata Health and RainDance Technologies.

Mike and his wife Beth have two children, Kathryn Keho and Nathan Hunkapillar, and two grandchildren, Christopher and Patrick Keho. In his spare time, Mike is an avid soccer player.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor Mike Hunkapillar, for his historic contributions to science and humanity.

HONORING MUSIC CITY HONOR  
FLIGHT WORLD WAR II VETERANS

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II veterans who are flying to Washington, DC today from Nashville, TN, with Music City Honor Flight. This Honor Flight is part of a nationwide effort to bring as many World War II veterans as possible to the memorial created here in honor of their service and in memorial of their fallen peers.

Through their selflessness, the brave men and women who served in World War II protected our country and changed the course of history. We can never adequately thank them for their great sacrifice. Whether Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, or Coast Guardsman, they heroically stood up for their Nation during a turbulent time of great need. It is my great privilege to welcome them the Nation's Capital and to honor them here today.

I am proud to present the names of these distinguished veterans so that they can be recognized for their brave service and so my colleagues and I can express our gratitude.

Orville Jerome Aasen; Lytleton C. Anderson, Jr.; Clarence Arand; James L. Bass, James B. Batey, Jr.; Douglas Beard; Dempsie G. Binkley; Winston Bowling; Eugene W. Brock; Charles J. Brown; Edward L. Buquo; Roger L. Burgess; Hugh Lafayette Callens; Russell M. Campbell; Frank A. Cantwell; James W. Carroll; Francis A. Centimole; Robert E. Chadwell; James Robert Clower; Alfred Damon Corley;

James D. Craig; Fred M. Creasy; Rayford H. Danley; James L. Davis; Gerald Alvin Davis; Lloyd F. Driver; James W. Duke; Edward Eugene Durham; Lloyd C. Fisher; David Ray Fussell; Murray O. Fussell; Charles H. Gannon; Gerald Allen Gilman; Harry R. Guttridge; Herald D. Hackett; Thomas Hall, Jr.; Jones B. Hamlett; Wesley W. Harmon; Jackson Harris; Samuel A. Harris;

William J. Harvey; Eldon H. Hatcher, Jr.; Harley Walter Heilman; Irvan Hardeman Hendon; Wayne Hill; Vernard E. Hixson; Leonard Hollender; Edward L. Holton; Lawrence H. Horn; Edward W. Hudson; Robert W. Hull; Nathaniel B. Johnson, Jr.; Robert C. Jones; Clinton D. Keel; John W. King; James Fowler Lancaster; Earl Eugene Lerch; George Lukon; Nelson Lyne; Dock H. Lyons;

Joseph O. Maddux; Harry Eugene Margrave; Carl M. Martin; Henry C. McCall, Jr.; Carl E. Meeks; Ledlie J. Miller, Jr.; Charles A. Mitchell; Dr. John Myers; Robert M. Nabors, Jr.; James J. Panipinto; Andrew S. Parker; Baxter Lewis Perry; David M. Pettus; Carlos F. Plott; W.H. Reeves; Samuel Ralph Rehorn; Eugene R. Rhue; Clarence Richards; Robert McCulloch Rock; Elmer Julius Sager;

David Y. Sharpe; Milton Shearer; Robert Love Simpson; William Paul Sitton; Fred L. Stacey; John E. Stephens; Robert Merrill Stoops; Harry Richard Sturm; Glenn Swanson; James F. Tacker, Jr.; Denison Taylor; W. Glenn Tinsley; Jess Titus; Glenn Tompkins;

Eddie G. Wall; James E. Waugaman; Robert Conway Wilhite; Ross Williams; William E. Wingo; Henry C. Winstead; Talmadge R. Woodall; Charles Richard Zartman.

HONORING SERGEANT LAFAYETTE  
SPRADLEY

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Veterans of Foreign Wars Chowchilla Post 9896 Life Member Sergeant Lafayette Spradley. Sergeant Spradley served the United States of America honorably with the U.S. Army 4th Infantry Division in the Vietnam War.

Sergeant Spradley was born in Madera, California on November 24, 1943. Sergeant Spradley attended local Madera schools and enlisted in the U.S. Army in August of 1961. He completed basic training at Fort Ord, and was selected for communications training. Upon completion of communications training, he was assigned to work as a wireman. After additional stateside duty, he served with the 3rd Infantry Division before joining the 76th Artillery of the 3rd Infantry Division in Kitzingen, Germany.

In 1965, he returned to the U.S. for duty with the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Washington. In July 1966, Mr. Spradley deployed to Pleiku, Vietnam. His unit was responsible for laying communication wire to fixed installations and forwarding operating bases in the Central Highlands region. He later served with Company "C" of the 1st Battalion of the 12th Regiment as a Communications Sergeant.

Throughout his service in Vietnam, Sergeant Spradley served with the 4th Division in combat operations in the western Central Highlands along the border between Cambodia and Vietnam. His unit was frequently assigned to missions to repair communications equipment damaged by enemy artillery and mortar fire.

In May 1967, Sergeant Spradley completed his tour in Vietnam and returned to the United States. He was discharged at the Oakland Army Base. For his service, Sergeant Spradley received the National Defense Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with a Bronze Star, the Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, two awards of the Army Occupation Medal, and the Sharpshooter Badge for the M-14 Rifle.

Sergeant Spradley returned to the Chowchilla area where he attended Merced College. He was employed as a line operator by Certainteed Corporation for 27 years until his retirement. He and his wife, Marion, have three children, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. He is a Life Member of Chowchilla VFW Post 9896, and he enjoys traveling with his wife.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Sergeant Lafayette Spradley for his honorable service to our great country, and wishing him the best of luck and health in his future endeavors.

HONORING JAMES E. "JIM" YOUNG

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one man . . . who has given of himself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, James E. "Jim" Young's work as President and C.E.O. of Citizen's Trust Bank is present not only in DeKalb County, Georgia, but across this great Nation; and

Whereas, this giant of a man was a husband, father, businessman and financial educator; and

Whereas, this remarkable man gave of himself, his time and his talent; never asking for fame or fortune, yet inspiring anybody to be involved in community activities, encouraging the everyday entrepreneur to build businesses which strengthen our communities and our Nation;

Whereas, James Young inspired citizens to be financially responsible, government officials to be just and small business persons to think and grow "Big"; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow special recognition on James E. "Jim" Young for his leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens of Georgia and throughout the Nation; and

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that James E. "Jim" Young of Stone Mountain, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition"—James E. "Jim" Young, U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 3rd day of March, 2012.

IN RECOGNITION OF LINDA KOELLING

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Foster City Councilmember Linda Koelling who is retiring after eight years of service on the council, including two terms as mayor. Linda's upbeat personality and limitless energy will be deeply missed by her colleagues.

Linda's accomplishments on the council were many and long-lasting. She created an Ad Hoc Transportation Committee to complete a transportation study plan for Foster City. She helped determine the fate of a property that will become the town center. She was a major advocate in the completion of the teen center at Leo Ryan Park. She was instrumental in building the partnership with the Chamber of Commerce. When she was chair of a League of the California Cities campaign committee to pass a local proposition, she re-wrote the words to the song "Waterloo" that, with the help of council members from other communities, became a YouTube sensation.

On the council Linda represented Foster City on several San Mateo County boards

such as CCAG, CMEQ, Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance, Airport Round Table and the Airport Land Use Committee. She served on the Transportation, Public Works Policy Committee for two years and was the president of the Peninsula division of the League of California Cities.

Linda was born and raised in San Francisco. She graduated from Presentation High School in 1967, and she attended City College of San Francisco as a physical education major from 1967–69. She earned her BS in Parks and Recreation Management from California State University, Hayward, in 1971.

From 1972–77, Linda worked as a recreational supervisor for the city of Burlingame and was a member of the California Parks and Recreation Society. Among her responsibilities was the supervision of the recreational centers. One of the teachers who taught an upholstery class happened to be my mother, Nancy Speier, who later became a staunch supporter when Linda first ran for city council in 2003. I had the great pleasure of working with Linda when she was on the council and I was in the California State Senate.

Linda is passionate about education and sports. She founded the original Kids Connection private preschool and elementary school in Foster City. She was the president of pony/colt baseball for two years, created and co-ordinated a girls softball league, coached AYSO soccer teams and her children's softball team. Personally, she loves to play golf.

Linda and her husband Fred Koelling have been married for 40 years. They are the proud parents of Karen Koelling Gleason, Tommy Koelling and Bryan Koelling and have four grandchildren.

Though Linda is retiring from the city council, I have no doubt that she will continue to serve our community and pursue an active role in public life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor the work of Linda Koelling, my friend, extraordinary human being and an outstanding public servant.

REMEMBERING DAVID WALTZ

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to consider the life of David L. Waltz, who died of brain cancer last month in Princeton, NJ, at age 68. David Waltz was one of the world's leading experts and creative forces in computer science, and a fine example of a researcher, a teacher and mentor, and a life well lived. He was what we talk about when we talk about America's creative spirit and educational excellence and path-breaking industry.

A pioneer in artificial intelligence, David produced early research that led to Internet search engines that we all use. He also invented techniques that allow designers to look at two dimensional data from three dimensional perspectives, and he showed how to extend those constraint-propagation techniques beyond visualization to optimization of scheduling, routing, or building. His ideas and computer techniques of neural networks and machine learning are eagerly applied by com-

puter companies, power companies, medical researchers, and healthcare providers. David's advances made it possible for computers to move beyond laborious bit-by-bit checking and referencing to a fixed checklist and to begin to recognize patterns, whether applied to images or speech or music.

Taught by the renowned Marvin Minsky at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where David received his Bachelor's and Ph.D. degrees, he went on to teach at the University of Illinois and Brandeis University. As head of the software division of the iconic company Thinking Machines he produced software innovations that have long outlasted that computer company. A decade ago David founded the Columbia University Center for Computational Learning Systems, where he worked until his death.

Surely more important than all the computer ideas, big and small, that he spawned are the many creative people he inspired, taught, and mentored. People who worked with him said everyone can remember a meeting, a conversation, or a simple thoughtful word when David changed one's research direction, career, or entire course of life for the better. In recent weeks his colleagues and students recorded their admiration for David and their sorrow at his death. Phrases like "amazing mentor", "mentor with unreserved support and encouragement", "amazing colleague and boss", and "wise and understanding" appear over and over in their remembrances.

David's colleagues called him a listener who inspired attention, someone who was as eager a listener as a talker, and someone who carried his great stature in the field gently and with genuine humility. He imbued his research teams with optimism by always drawing out merit of the work of others. And he built teamwork by sharing his interests in art, literature, music, and culture well beyond the immediate concerns of the research team. He encouraged his students and colleagues not to narrow their thinking; as a result the group could contribute as much to the treatment of epilepsy as to power grid blackouts. Everything was food for thought and an opportunity for an amusing or inventive insight.

Probably the greatest praise for David's leadership came from women who have worked with him. Some credited him with providing the greatest opportunities for career advancement for women of anyone in the field. David recruited and promoted women not as a crusader for equal rights but because it was for him obviously the right and wise thing to do.

The lessons that teachers, researchers, supervisors—in fact any of us here in this House or elsewhere—can draw from David Waltz are not primarily about computer science and artificial intelligence. They are that the greatest creativity comes from inspiring others; the greatest technique of team-building is listening; the greatest innovation comes from devoting time to others' ideas; and the greatest wisdom is kindness.

I know all this to be true about David Waltz because he was a good friend of mine, and I personally also know he brought all of his wonderful qualities of uplifting and inspiring and nurturing others to his wonderful wife Bonnie and his two children, Jeremy and Vanessa.

HONORING ROBBIE DAVIS GUNN

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman who has given of herself to her family, church, community, and Nation; and

Whereas, Mrs. Robbie Davis Gunn's good works are present in Nashville, Tennessee as an exemplary mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, aunt, neighbor, community worker and friend; and

Whereas, this giant of a woman, who was raised up in the Providence Community, was born on August 20, 1928, to Rev. Robert Mitchell Davis and Mrs. Ada Edmondson Davis; and

Whereas, Robbie Davis Gunn was a virtuous woman, a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of her community and family which in turn uplifted others; and

Whereas, she was an exemplary mother and mother-in-law, serving as compass and wise counselor and bringing great joy to her own children and their spouses and friends; and

Whereas, Mrs. Robbie Davis Gunn loved her family, encouraging all of those around her to make a difference, be it her children, her elected officials, her neighbors and her church members at Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church where she was a faithful member for 72 years; and

Whereas, this remarkable woman gave of herself, never asking for fame or fortune as she became a quiet storm, a spark that starts a flame; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional Recognition on Mrs. Robbie Davis Gunn for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens of Nashville and the Nation;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Mrs. Robbie Davis Gunn of Nashville, Tennessee is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition"—Mrs. Robbie Davis Gunn, U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Proclaimed, this 25th day of March, 2012.

IN RECOGNITION OF JONI D. LEE

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sergeant Joni D. Lee for her 31 years of service with the South San Francisco Police Department. Long before community policing was a popular concept, Sergeant Lee personified a law enforcement officer fully integrated into the community. She has worked closely with local businesses, educated our youth and supported our senior citizens.

Sergeant Lee was hired as the first female officer by the San Francisco Police Depart-

ment in June 1980. In November 2000 she was promoted to sergeant, another first for a woman at the department. She was instrumental in developing county wide programs and protocols for the investigation of sexual assaults, exploitation of children on the internet and curbing school truancy.

During her three decades in law enforcement, Sergeant Lee has demonstrated her professionalism, outstanding skills in negotiations and handling of dangerous situations while keeping her humanity and an open mind.

She solved her very first murder case in 1988 within 48 hours, a benchmark in law enforcement. A man who lived with his divorced wife had taken in a transient man and his young girlfriend. Tragically, the transient shot the man. After the murder, Sergeant Lee befriended the girlfriend of the transient and feels that she made a difference in the young woman's life.

Sergeant Lee has worked on the Hostage Negotiation Team since 2000. In a high-profile hostage-suicide incident at the Travelodge in 2003, she was one of two primary negotiators and deserves credit for saving the life of the suspect's girlfriend. The suspect had barricaded himself and his girlfriend in a room at the motel after allegedly killing a prominent kick boxer. After about 14 hours of negotiations over the phone, Sergeant Lee convinced the girlfriend to leave the motel room.

Mr. Speaker, I have been at events with Sergeant Lee and have witnessed the air of safety and calm she radiates.

Sergeant Lee also worked as a Peer Support Advisor and Police Explorer Advisor. She was honored as the South San Francisco Police Association Officer of the Year in 1996 and 2003 and was awarded the Avoid the 23 Pin in 2002 and 2003.

Enthusiasm, optimism and generosity are in Sergeant Lee's DNA. Outside her work with the police department, she volunteers her time and expertise to Special Olympics and the Boy Scouts of America. She has also coached varsity softball at Menlo Atherton High School.

She was born in San Francisco in 1956 and attended South San Francisco High School. She earned her Associate in Arts, Administration of Justice from the College of San Mateo and her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration from San Jose State University.

In her spare time—of which she now will have much more upon her well deserved retirement—Sergeant Lee enjoys reading, softball, racquetball, bicycling, traveling, outlet shopping and cooking.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor Sergeant Joni Lee for her dedication to public service and safety. She will be deeply missed by her fellow officers and the law abiding residents of South San Francisco.

**SMALL BUSINESS TAX CUT ACT**

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2012*

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak out against the fallacy that is H.R. 9.

I am always happy to support policy initiatives to stimulate economic growth and job creation and believe a private-public partnership during this time of economic recovery is essential.

Unfortunately, H.R. 9, the so-called Small Business Tax Cut Act, is a broad measure affecting 99.6 percent of all businesses that is not targeted at job creation.

The benefits it provides will be meted out unevenly and in an arbitrary manner, accruing in large measure to the wealthiest taxpayers.

While these facts alone argue for its rejection, this temporary and expensive provision is also the very antithesis of tax reform. It couldn't be further from the truth.

Yet again the Republican tax plan in the form of H.R. 9 would along with the Ryan Republican Budget Plan, serve to dismantle Medicare and instead hand older and disabled people a voucher toward the cost of private insurance. It's not a new or creative idea, and it will actually add more costs to families and to our Nation's bottom line. You cannot have a tax giveaway to a select few businesses while Medicare continues to suffer, ultimately hurting our most vulnerable.

While claiming to "preserve" Medicare, the plan would actually imperil the community program and shift much of the costs to the very people it is supposed to help. As private plans aggressively court the healthiest and least costly beneficiaries, the traditional Medicare program would be left with an ever dwindling pool of beneficiaries—those who are too sick and poor to purchase private insurance with the help of Mr. RYAN's coupon.

In time, Medicare will "wither on the vine," as those who oppose the program have long intended. Like last year's proposal from Mr. RYAN and last week's proposal from Senate Republicans, this plan does nothing to really preserve Medicare or to solve our Nation's skyrocketing healthcare costs.

It only slams those costs onto individuals who can least afford them: older and disabled Americans, while jeopardizing their health coverage, adding profits to corporations, and letting millionaires off the hook.

Similarly, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program is our most important anti-hunger program, with over 46 million Americans in more than 21 million households relying on it to help feed themselves and their families. Yet, by advancing H.R. 9 this Majority takes away money that could be used to shore up this program which serves the truly destitute.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, is the cornerstone of the Nation's nutrition assistance safety net. SNAP touches the lives of over one in seven Americans. Indeed you could say that SNAP saves lives. Everyone's life is not as simple as some on the other side would have us believe—every person who is homeless cannot be fixed with magic dust and self-help policy prescriptions. Life is complicated and fraught with danger and uncertainty.

Lucky are many of us who go home to warm shelter, food, and family. There, but for the grace of God go I.

SNAP benefits are available to most people who meet the financial requirements, and the program serves a broad spectrum of low-income people. In Fiscal Year 2010, SNAP provided about \$5.4 billion in food benefits to a monthly average of over 3.6 million people in Texas.

Another pressing issue is the encroaching and massive debt from student loans. In January President Obama stated:

When kids do graduate, the most daunting challenge can be the cost of college. At a time when Americans owe more in tuition debt than credit card debt, this Congress needs to stop the interest rates on student loans from doubling in July.

Student debt loan and the looming prospect of a massive interest rate increase is like a stealth tax darkening the horizon of borrowers nationwide. Indeed it is a ticking time bomb for students and families: If Congress doesn't act in 74 days, subsidized Stafford student loan rates will double from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent.

In 2007, Congress made an historic investment in higher education when we passed the College Cost Reduction and Access Act. Included in this legislation was a provision that reduced the fixed rate on Stafford student loans for undergraduate students. The College Cost Reduction and Access Act lowered subsidized Stafford student loan rates from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent over a four-year period easing the burden on thousands of students and their families.

However, despite the ever-increasing cost of a higher education and the challenging job market graduates face, without Congressional action these rates will double later this year and cost students and families thousands of dollars over time.

In their zeal to avoid picking "winners and losers," the majority has embraced a massive \$46 billion tax cut that is being offered in the name of small business but will go to 99.6 percent of all businesses, whatever the value of their assets or the amount of their income and irrespective of the nature or function of their business.

The tax break is available to partnerships of highly paid professionals, including lawyers and lobbyists. It is available to hedge fund and private equity fund managers. By restricting the definition of small business to an employee count and ignoring other relevant factors, such as revenues, H.R. 9 guarantees that the benefit will be available to a host of businesses that are anything but small. For example, many professional sports teams would get the tax break.

H.R. 9 is not targeted at job creation. Any number of measures could have been included in H.R. 9 to limit the availability of the tax benefit to businesses that hire or invest in the United States.

None of these measures was included. There is no requirement that a business receiving the deduction created by H.R. 9 expand employment.

In fact, a business that reduces employment remains eligible for the deduction. Even worse, businesses that reduce their American workforce while expanding overseas still get the tax break. In contrast to measures such as bonus depreciation or expensing, there is no requirement that a business receiving the tax break invest in the United States. And in contrast to measures such as infrastructure spending, this one-time tax cut for the very wealthiest would have a relatively small effect on cumulative economic output.

The benefit provided by H.R. 9 is arbitrary. In the case of small business owners, the same amount of small business income will not always produce the same benefit. Be-

cause the benefit is a deduction and not a credit, the value of the benefit increases with income.

In addition, because the size of the benefit can be limited by a taxpayer's taxable income, losses that reduce or eliminate such income, including losses carried forward from prior years, can eliminate the benefit.

Preliminary analyses indicate that H.R. 9 is a \$46 billion tax cut disproportionately benefiting the very wealthiest Americans.

Although a distributional analysis by the Joint Committee on Taxation is not yet available, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities indicated that, based on an analysis provided by the Tax Policy Center, approximately "49 percent of the tax cut provided by H.R. 9 would go to the 0.3 percent of people with incomes exceeding \$1 million in 2012; they each would receive an average tax cut of more than \$44,000."

Middle- and low-income families are struggling to recover from the deepest recession in decades; they have lost jobs, homes and retirement security. The Republican Majority for months resisted extending the payroll tax cut benefiting these families. But now, the Majority is rushing to put forward another tax break for the very wealthiest Americans.

Given that this Committee has spent the last year and three months talking about tax reform, perhaps the most striking thing about H.R. 9 is that it is the antithesis of tax reform. The House Republican budget assumes that this Committee will produce a tax reform package with two rate brackets, but it offers no clear indication of how to finance rate reductions that would cost trillions of dollars.

The only hint we have gotten is the vague promise of the House Budget Committee chairman to eliminate what he calls "tax loopholes." But to raise sufficient funds for his tax reform plans, his definition of "tax loophole" would have to include provisions related to health, education, home mortgage interest, and pensions.

These are not "loopholes." Rather, in many cases, they are provisions designed to achieve clear economic and social policy goals. Ironically, H.R. 9 would be a new tax expenditure and a temporary one at that. And it would have far less merit than policies, such as the mortgage interest deduction and the exclusion for employer provided healthcare, that now appear to be in the majority's cross-hairs.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot in good conscience support a measure that takes away from Medicare, the SNAP Program, and dollars that could be used to mitigate the devastating effect of sharply escalating interest rates on Stafford student loan.

Let's reject this bill and move on to real job creation, tax reform and deficit reduction and not the sham version before us this morning.

HONORING FRANCIS LEE CONTRACTING AS THE 2012 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me

in honoring Francis Lee Contracting as the 2012 District of Columbia Small Business of the Year, as well as its principals, Brian Smith, Geary Powell, and Terry Smith.

Francis Lee Contracting is a District of Columbia small business specializing in excavation, grading, site concrete, clearing, grubbing, and demolition. After doing work in the initial stages of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, DHS, headquarters construction project at the St. Elizabeths West Campus, Francis Lee Contracting was selected as a subcontractor to perform earthwork for the perimeter security fence there, because of the high quality of its work. Francis Lee Contracting is located in Ward 8, where the DHS headquarters construction is taking place and which is the section of our city with the highest unemployment rate. Francis Lee Contracting has worked to improve the local community and has hired Ward 8 residents.

Francis Lee Contracting has over 50 years of experience in the construction field, on both public- and private-sector projects, and has several certifications, including Certified Business Enterprise and certifications to work with the District Department of Transportation, the Maryland Department of Transportation, and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Francis Lee Contracting continues to share its experience and knowledge with other small businesses by sponsoring and participating in training sessions about bonding and other aspects of the construction industry.

The House of Representatives is gratified when a local small business competes and is selected to perform work on a federal construction project because of its quality of work, as exemplified by Francis Lee Contracting.

I ask the House to join me in honoring Francis Lee Contracting and its principal, Brian Smith, for its outstanding accomplishments and commitment to the residents of the District of Columbia, and in commending Francis Lee Contracting on becoming the 2012 District of Columbia Small Business of the Year.

IN RECOGNITION OF LUBIANA BAGNESCHI CERNOBORI

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lubiana Bagneschi Cernobori, one of the most generous, altruistic and loving women I have ever met. Lubiana is being honored by the Peninsula Italian American Social Club in San Mateo, California for her outstanding charitable and civic activities in San Mateo County.

Lubiana was born in Lucca, Italy as the youngest daughter of the late Gina and Nello Bagneschi. She came to the United States with her family in 1952, attended local schools and learned English. In 1962 she graduated from Burlingame High School.

Perseverance, hard work and creativity have been the constant theme of Lubiana's life. She worked as a secretary and word processor for many years while raising a family. She and her husband Renato Cernobori have three daughters and four grandchildren.

Since her retirement, Lubiana has dedicated her time and energy to two Italian-American

organizations: the Peninsula Italian-American Social Club (PIASC) and the Italian-American Women's Guild (IAWG). As one of the founding members of IAWG, she started and still chairs Mani di Angeli, or Hands of Angels. Mani di Angeli helps fellow IAWF members in time of crisis by taking them to hospital or doctor visits, cooking meals or simply making cookies.

Mani di Angeli does hands-on work and makes the recipients feel like they have been touched by an angel. Under Lubiana's guidance, the committee members have donated clothing, food and toiletries to Samaritan House and Saint Francis Center, organized a knitting group and delivered thousands of items to nursing homes, hospitals and chemo infusion centers. They have sent care packages to soldiers in Iraq and donated cell phones and chargers to a domestic violence shelter. They have conducted fundraisers for Cooley's Anemia and the Alzheimer Aid Society and food and toy drives for charitable groups and food banks. They have sewed hundreds of surgical dolls and wheelchair backpacks for children in local hospitals.

As is apparent from the diversity of projects Lubiana initiated, she is incredibly creative and resourceful and cares deeply about the good of our community. She also has extraordinarily good taste as one can see from her work decorating PIASC's beautiful hall.

Mr. Speaker, it is right to honor Lubiana Bangneschi Cernobori on Columbus Day for her invaluable service to the Italian American community and our community at large.

HONORING GEORGIA PIEDMONT  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, Fifty years ago, DeKalb County, Georgia was blessed with an educational institution that continues today to uplift and assist citizens in gaining knowledge to enhance their lives and the lives of others by investing in dreams; and

Whereas, In 1961, DeKalb Area Vocational School—now Georgia Piedmont Technical College was founded to promote a student-centered environment for lifelong learning and development, encompassing academic and technical education for employment in a global community here in DeKalb County, Georgia to service the citizens of DeKalb County and nearby communities; and

Whereas, Georgia Piedmont Technical College has grown from one campus to nine campuses in DeKalb, Newton, Rockdale and Morgan counties; and

Whereas, Georgia Piedmont Technical College continues to be a resource for citizens in DeKalb County and throughout the state of Georgia by providing excellent community service, educational opportunities and stellar leadership; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia is officially honoring, recognizing and congratulating Georgia Piedmont Technical College on its 50th anniversary as an anchor in our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim April 14, 2012 as Georgia Piedmont Technical College Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 14th day of April, 2012.

HONORING U.S. ARMY SPECIALIST-  
4 HENRY L. WOODS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Veterans of Foreign Wars Chowchilla Post 9896 Life Member U.S. Army Specialist-4 Henry L. Woods. Specialist Woods served the United States of America honorably with the 20th Combat Engineers and 101st Airborne in the Vietnam war siege of Phu Nhon.

Specialist Woods was born in Elgin, Oklahoma, in 1944. His family subsequently moved to California and settled in the Plainsburg area, later settling in Dos Palos. Specialist Woods graduated from Dos Palos High School in 1963. He worked in the maintenance department of Chowchilla High School and in agriculture until he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1969.

Specialist Woods, or "Woody" as he was called by his fellow soldiers, completed basic training at Fort Ord, where he qualified as a sharpshooter with the M-14 rifle. He was assigned to duty with the 984th Military Police Company at Fort Carson, Colorado. He was later transferred to Fort Lewis, Washington, for pre-deployment training for service in Vietnam. In December 1969, he arrived in Saigon and joined the 1st Cavalry in the Central Highlands and assigned to Company D of the 20th Combat Engineers near Qui Nhon. The unit provided security called QL 14-South that saw heavy enemy action and was often referred to as "Massacre Highway." During this assignment, the unit was part of a major assault at LZ Black Hawk in the Central Highlands in which Specialist Woods was injured in hand-to-hand combat. He was treated for facial and head injuries before returning to duty.

In early 1971, while serving temporary duty with the 101st Airborne, Specialist Woods was a door gunner on a helicopter gunship. During this time, North Vietnamese Army Troops began targeting the U.S. Army base at Phu Nhon, commonly known as "LZ Lonely." On March 15, 1971, a North Vietnamese force attacked the base, quickly overrunning South Vietnamese soldiers. Specialist Woods served as part of a reinforcement group to repel the attack. During the battle, he acted as a door gunner on a gunship, delivering M-60 machinegun fire to enemy forces. While making a pass over enemy positions, the co-pilot and second door gunner were killed. Back on the ground, Specialist Woods joined ground troops in delivering upon the enemy, twice transporting wounded soldiers to medical help under heavy fire. During the fight, Specialist Woods sustained a gunshot wound to his head and was med-evaced to an aid station.

During treatment for his second wound, Specialist Woods exhibited symptoms that later would be attributed to exposure to herbicide Agent Orange. He struggles with the symptoms of Agent Orange exposure to this day. After recuperating from his wounds, he

was sent to Fort Ord where he completed active service before being discharged.

For his service in the U.S. Army, Specialist Woods received the National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with Bronze Star, Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, two Purple Hearts, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Army Aircrew Badge, and Sharpshooter Badge with Auto Rifle BAR, and the Sharpshooter Pistol Badge. On Veteran's Day 2003, he was honored in a special ceremony by Congressman George Radanovich in which he received the medals for his service.

Specialist Woods returned to the Chowchilla area where he worked in agriculture for several years. He attended Merced College on the G.I. Bill where he earned an Associate of Arts and an Associate of Science Degree in Plant Science and Mechanized Agriculture. Specialist Woods has four children: Debbie, Chuck, Erin, and Matt. He is the proud grandfather of seven. He now resides near Helena, Montana.

Specialist Woods is a Life Member of Chowchilla VFW Post 9896, the American Legion, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, and the Disabled American Veterans. He attends St. John's Lutheran Church in Helena.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Specialist Henry L. Woods for his honorable service to our great country, and wishing him the best of luck and health in his future endeavors.

HONORING EILEEN SAMUEL

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman . . . who has given of herself to her community and family; and

Whereas, Mrs. Eileen Samuel's spirit is present in Birmingham, Alabama for all to see, being a nurse, neighbor and friend; and

Whereas, this giant of a woman was born in Birmingham, Alabama to Mr. Dewey and Mrs. Dellie Barnes on February 6, 1943, she has been on the move ever since as a woman of God; and

Whereas, this remarkable woman gave of herself, her time, her talent and her life; she never asked for fame or fortune just fairness for the people, she was our quiet storm, a spark that starts a flame; and

Whereas, Mrs. Eileen Samuel led by doing behind the scenes, she encouraged all those around her who wanted to make a difference, be it her children, her elected officials, her neighbors and her church members at Oak Street Baptist Church; she was a virtuous woman, a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of her community which in turn uplifted my community in Georgia through her daughter DeKalb County Commissioner Sharon Barnes Sutton; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional Recognition on Mrs. Eileen Samuel for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens throughout the Nation; a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Mrs. Eileen Samuel of Birmingham, Alabama is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition"—Mrs. Eileen Samuel, U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 10th day of March, 2012.

IN RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW  
PETER O'CONNOR

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Matthew Peter O'Connor who retired as the Chief of Police for the Hillsborough Police Department after more than 30 years of service.

Chief O'Connor has a stellar record of keeping the residents of Hillsborough safe. He maintained the lowest crime rate for a municipality with a population of over 10,000 for the entire decade of the 2000's. His leadership was instrumental in the department's radio and computer technological advances and in establishing lasting relationships with the Hillsborough school district. He has engaged our youths with bike rodeos, reading events and police officer lunches.

Mr. O'Connor followed in his father's footsteps in pursuing a career in law enforcement. The son of Matthew M. O'Connor, who was a special agent at the San Francisco office of the California State Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement, Matthew P. O'Connor began his career as a community service officer with the San Bruno Police Department at age 20. In 1981, he was hired as a deputy sheriff for the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. The following year he moved to the Hillsborough Police Department where he worked his way from police officer to field training officer to sergeant to commander and eventually chief of police in 2002.

Chief O'Connor has received numerous awards including the Life Saving Act of Heroism, the Notre Dame de Namur University Dean's Award for academic excellence and service to the University, the Notre Dame de Namur Alumni Award for achieving prominence in a profession and the Leadership in Action Award. Chief O'Connor's dedication and commitment to law enforcement are reflected in the many roles he has taken on over the years: he served as president of the San Mateo County Police Chiefs and Sheriff Association, Member of the California Police Chiefs Association and International Association of Chiefs of Police, chair of the County Communications & Technology Committee, member of the California State Police Chiefs Communications & Technology Committee, President of the 100 Club of San Mateo County, and graduate of the Leadership Program of San Mateo, Foster City, Burlingame and Hillsborough. He has also been a strong supporter of the annual Hillsborough Concours d'Elegance, the Centennial Celebration, the Memorial Day Parade and dignitary visits.

Matthew O'Connor was born in Glendale, California and raised in South San Francisco. He attended St. Veronica's Catholic School and South San Francisco High School. He earned his Associate in Science Degree from

San Francisco City College. He received both his Bachelor of Science in Human Services and Counseling and his Master's Degree in Public Affairs Administration from Notre Dame de Namur University. In addition, he is a graduate of the FBI National Academy Class 191 and the Delinquency Control Institute at the University of Southern California.

Chief O'Connor and his wife of 28 years, Janie, have two children, Matthew and Tayler. Upon his well deserved retirement Mr. O'Connor will be spending more time with his family and friends, traveling and taking photos.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor Matthew Peter O'Connor for his outstanding service to our community. He personifies what a law enforcement officer ought to be and has touched and improved the life of every resident in Hillsborough.

COMMENDING ARMISHA ROBERTS  
FOR BEING A RECIPIENT OF THE  
2012 BUICK ACHIEVERS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Armisha Roberts of Boynton Beach, Florida, for being named one of the first four winners of the 2012 Buick Achievers Scholarship Program. The Buick Scholarship is bestowed upon students nationwide who have continually demonstrated an ability to excel in the classroom as well as have an interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, STEM, education; along with a willingness to serve the community.

Armisha has displayed an extraordinary commitment to community activism, volunteering for a variety of important projects such as Toys for Tots, Relay for Life, and Education Rocks. Furthermore, through her community involvement Armisha has participated in efforts to clean debris from a local inlet in addition to planting a community vegetable garden. Due to her dedication to community service, Armisha was appointed to the Education and Youth Advisory Board for Boynton Beach as a student voting member.

Armisha will be attending Howard University where she plans to major in mathematics and then seek a career in electrical engineering. In this field, Armisha hopes to be involved in the development of electric vehicles. I am proud that Armisha and other students recognize the value and importance of STEM education as well as the importance of giving back to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to represent such a driven student and young leader who lives in my Congressional district. I wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors, where I know she will go on to do great things. Armisha Roberts is the definition of a role model, and she is truly deserving of this most prestigious award.

HONORING LORRAINE B. MYLES

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, reaching the age of 75 years is a remarkable milestone; and

Whereas, Ms. Lorraine B. Myles was born on March 4, 1937 and is celebrating that milestone; and

Whereas, Ms. Myles has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; and

Whereas, Ms. Myles is celebrating her 75th birthday with her family members, church members and friends here in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the Lord has been her Shepherd throughout her life and she prays daily and is leading by example a blessed life; and

Whereas, we are honored that she is celebrating the milestone of her 75th birthday in the 4th District of Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Lorraine B. Myles for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all,

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 4, 2012 as Ms. Lorraine B. Myles Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 4th day of March, 2012.

RECOGNIZING TWO-YEAR ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE DEEPWATER  
HORIZON OIL SPILL

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tragic two-year anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill on April 20, 2010. The explosion that day and subsequent fire claimed the lives 11 American workers and after the sinking of the oil rig two days later led to the largest oil spill in U.S. waters. The damaged well was estimated to have lost approximately 60,000–100,000 barrels of oil each day. The affects of the oil spill on the Gulf Coast were staggering and still today have lingering effects.

Hundreds of miles of delicate ecosystems were devastated along the tidal shorelines of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. Approximately 83,927 square miles of Gulf of Mexico federal waters were closed to fishing because of health concerns. Even after the eventual sealing of the well and the shutting off of crude oil flow, the work was not done. Extensive efforts were made to rid the water of oil and to restore the shorelines to their prior beauty. The untold economic impact on the fishing, tourism, and other industries of the Gulf cannot be overlooked.

I praise the valiant efforts of the men and women that spent countless hours dedicating themselves to containing and cleaning up of this disaster. The team included the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), EPA, the Department of

Homeland Security (DHS), Department of Commerce (DOC), Department of Interior (DOI), as well as state and local representatives. Workers diligently worked to get the necessary equipment to coastal waters but there were delays that can't be ignored.

I commend our efforts to immediately respond to the disaster by passing H.R. 5503, the SPILL Act, to reform the following maritime liability laws: Death on the High Seas Act, Jones Act, and Limitation on Liability Act. These bills are to ensure the families of those killed or injured in the BP Spill and other similar tragedies are justly compensated. We also passed H.R. 5481 that gave subpoena power to the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling tasked with providing recommendations on how to prevent future oil spills that result from offshore drilling. Our efforts should not stop there.

Strides have been made to establish a clear chain of command and developing a coordinated and efficient response to disasters. But, there is much more that has to be done to avoid another oil spill of this magnitude. We must stay vigilant in evaluating our nation's capacity to respond to oil spills. Develop standard national protocols for oil spill response and clean up assessments and develop guidance and tools for oil spill responders. Establish direct research and take action to improve the ability of the United States to conduct oil spill prevention, response, and recovery in Arctic waters. Our civic responsibility is to learn from our mistakes and apply those lessons to future oil spills and other such disasters that unfortunately may occur.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tragic two-year anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. I urge this body to continue to introduce and support legislation that prevents and protects our environment, economy, and families from future unfortunate disasters that may occur.

#### HONORING MARCI MCCARTHY

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, the public safety of our citizens is the foremost priority of our government; and

Whereas, Ms. Marci McCarthy has given and continues to give exceptionable and distinguished service by providing guidance, protection and leadership in protecting our public and private sectors in cyberspace; and

Whereas, Ms. McCarthy gives of herself to insure that our Nation can foster greater professionalism in the Information Security Industry; and

Whereas, the issue of cybercrimes is of historical importance, and the work of Ms. McCarthy enhances the efforts of our homeland security and local law enforcement agencies; and

Whereas, Ms. McCarthy gives of herself daily without any need for praise and fame, while serving valiantly and making us proud; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this

day to honor and recognize Ms. Marci McCarthy for her leadership and service to our District and the Nation;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 13, 2012 as Ms. Marci McCarthy Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 13th day of March, 2012.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT J. PAYNE

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Officer Robert Payne for his 30 years of service at the Daly City Police Department.

Mr. Payne was appointed a police officer on June 1981 and attended the San Jose Criminal Justice Training Center Academy where he graduated in November of the same year.

Officer Payne served as a patrol officer and trained many new police recruits as field training officers. In the late 1980s he was assigned to the community division where he launched his career as a school resource officer and investigator. In that capacity he graduated from the prestigious Delinquency Control Institute at the University of Southern California. Officer Payne has taught an anti-gang and drug program throughout all the elementary schools in Daly City. He also was a liaison officer for both Westmoor and Jefferson High Schools where he developed a great rapport with the faculties.

Officer Payne coordinated several youth programs, including the "Every 15 Minutes" anti-drunk driving event and the "Kops and Kids" program. He helped design the "Just Say No to Gangs" program which was commended by the State of California Youth Authority.

He distinguished himself as a detective investigating crimes against children and was promoted to senior juvenile officer as a result. Officer Payne's dedication and commitment has not gone unnoticed. He received numerous awards, letters of appreciation, citizen letters and tributes from schools for his empathy and advocacy for our youth.

As a patrol officer he was awarded several commendations. For example in 2003, he received one for bravery and quick action for his assistance in the capture of an armed bank robbery suspect.

Robert is a Daly City boy through and through, having attended Holy Angels School and graduated from Westmoor High School in 1976. He earned his degree in criminal justice from San Jose State University.

He lives in Brentwood with his wife of 26 years, Debbie. They are the proud parents of two sons, Brian and Stephen who serve in the Marine Corps.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor the distinguished service of Officer Robert Payne to the residents of Daly City. His familiar face will be missed by his fellow officers and citizens alike.

#### HONORING SHUNDRA Y. NEPHEW

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service; and

Whereas, Ms. Shundra Y. Nephew has answered that call by giving of herself as an educator at Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Traditional Theme School, and as a beloved daughter, granddaughter and friend; and

Whereas, Ms. Nephew has been chosen as the 2012 Teacher of the Year, representing Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Traditional Theme School; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community and our nation through her tireless works, motivational speeches and words of wisdom; and

Whereas, Ms. Nephew is a virtuous woman, a courageous woman and a fearless leader who has shared her vision, talents and passion to help ensure that our children, receive an education that is relevant not only for today, but well into the future, as she truly understands that our children are the future; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Shundra Y. Nephew for her leadership and service for our District and in recognition of this singular honor as 2012 Teacher of the Year at Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Traditional Theme Elementary School;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 30, 2012 as Ms. Shundra Y. Nephew Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 30th day of March, 2012.

#### HONORING SERGEANT DONALD E. SCHNOOR

### HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Veterans of Foreign Wars Chowchilla Post 9896 Life Member Sergeant Donald E. Schnoor. Mr. Schnoor served the United States of America honorably with the U.S. Army First Cavalry in the Korean War.

Sergeant Schnoor was born in Chowchilla, California, on December 19, 1934. After graduating from Chowchilla High School in 1952, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. He completed basic training at Fort Ord, and was selected to train as a musician with the Army Band Training Unit. Upon completion of band training, he was assigned to play the trombone with the 6th Army Band at Fort Mason in San Francisco. The band played for troops leaving and arriving by ship to and from the Far East, primarily Korea. Numerous Hollywood and local professional celebrities performed with the band.

Wanting to see a bit of the world, Sergeant Schnoor subsequently volunteered for duty with Army occupation troops in Japan. Upon arrival in Japan, Sergeant Schnoor was informed that although he had been trained as a musician, the Army considered him an infantryman first and a trombone player second. His next stop would be Inchon, Korea, carrying an M1 rifle and a pack.

While deployed in Inchon, Sergeant Schnoor joined the 5th Regiment of the legendary First Cavalry Division stationed near the front lines southeast of Seoul near Yong Dong Po. He was assigned to a fire team for a 75 MM recoilless rifle mounted on a 3/4 ton 4 x 4 utility truck. He and his fellow soldiers were sent on missions to deliver fire with high explosive rounds and armor piercing rounds on North Korean troops along the front lines.

At a later point in his tour, Sergeant Schnoor and 20 other soldiers were assigned to escort 120 North Korean prisoners by train to the Pusan area. After reaching Pusan, the unit was assigned to guard more than 4,000 North Korean prisoners held on the island of Koje-do.

Sergeant Schnoor served in North Korea until the truce was signed in 1954. After the conclusion of the war, he joined the rest of the First Cavalry Division in Hokkaido, Japan. The mission of the division was to serve as a deterrent to Russia from attempting to invade the Japanese islands of Northern Hokkaido. At the end of 1954, the 5th Regiment relocated to Sendai, Japan, where he joined the First Cavalry Band and Orchestra. He was recommended to audition for the U.S.O. Orches-

tra. After a competitive audition process, he was accepted. Sergeant Schnoor spent the remainder of his overseas service as one of three trombonists traveling in Japan playing U.S.O. shows for American servicemen.

Sergeant Schnoor returned to the U.S. in the spring of 1955. He was discharged as a Sergeant. For his service, he was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Medal, the National Service Defense Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal. After his military service, Sergeant Schnoor returned to Chowchilla and began a career in farming that has continued for 56 years. He and his wife, Peggy, have three daughters, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Sergeant Schnoor is a Life Member of the Chowchilla VFW Post 9896, the American Legion Post of Madera, the Madera Elks, and the First United Methodist Church of Madera.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Sergeant Donald E. Schnoor for his honorable service to our great country, and wishing him the best of luck and health in his future endeavors.

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HONORING CAROL CRUMBY

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, Over fifteen years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta; and

Whereas, Ms. Carol Crumby began her career with the United Way working in Resource Development, Area Development and Community Engagement. Today she retires as the Senior Director for Education; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents, giving the citizens of our District a friend to help those in need, a fearless leader and a servant to all who wants to insure that the system works for everyone; and

Whereas, Ms. Carol Crumby is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Carol Crumby on her retirement from the United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta and to wish her well in her new endeavors;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim March 27, 2012 as Ms. Carol Crumby Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 27th day of March, 2012.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 24, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 25

9 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Business meeting to consider the 2012 Farm Bill.

SR-328A

9:30 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 2218, to reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes, S. 241, to expand whistleblower protections to non-Federal employees whose disclosures involve misuse of Federal funds, S. 2061, to provide for an exchange of land between the Department of Homeland Security and the South Carolina State Ports Authority, S. 1673, establish the Office of Agriculture Inspection within the Department of Homeland Security, which shall be headed by the Assistant Commissioner for Agriculture Inspection, and for other purposes, S. 2170, to amend the provisions of title 5, United States Code, which are commonly referred to as the "Hatch Act" to eliminate the provision preventing certain State and local employees from seeking elective office, clarify the application of certain provisions to the District of Columbia, and modify the penalties which may be imposed for certain violations under subchapter III of chapter 73 of that title, S. 1998, to obtain an unqualified audit opinion, and improve financial accountability and management at the Department of Homeland Security, H.R. 3902, to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to revise the timing of special elections for local office in the District of Columbia, H.R. 2668, to designate the station of the United States Border Patrol located at 2136 South Naco Highway in Bisbee, Arizona, as the "Brian A. Terry Border Patrol Station", S. Res. 419, expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the United States during Public Service Recognition week, H.R. 298, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 East Whitestone Boulevard

in Cedar Park, Texas, as the "Army Specialist Matthew Troy Morris Post Office Building", H.R. 1423, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 4th Avenue Southwest in Ardmore, Oklahoma, as the "Specialist Micheal E. Phillips Post Office", H.R. 2079, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10 Main Street in East Rockaway, New York, as the "John J. Cook Post Office", H.R. 2213, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Eastport Street in Iuka, Mississippi, as the "Sergeant Jason W. Vaughn Post Office", H.R. 2244, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 67 Castle Street in Geneva, New York, as the "Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office", H.R. 2660, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 North Holderrieth Boulevard in Tomball, Texas, as the "Tomball Veterans Post Office", H.R. 2767, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8 West Silver Street in Westfield, Massachusetts, as the "William T. Trant Post Office Building", H.R. 3004, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 260 California Drive in Yountville, California, as the "Private First Class Alejandro R. Ruiz Post Office Building", H.R. 3246, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15455 Manchester Road in Ballwin, Missouri, as the "Specialist Peter J. Navarro Post Office Building", H.R. 3247, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building", H.R. 3248, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 112 South 5th Street in Saint Charles, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver Post Office Building", and the nominations of Tony Hammond, of Missouri, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission, Mark A. Robbins, of California, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and Roy Wallace McLeese III, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

SD-342

## Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-226

## Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine S. 219, to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

SR-301

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Veterans' Affairs mental health care, focusing on evaluating access and assessing care.

SD-138

10 a.m.

## Finance

To hold hearings to examine tax reform, focusing on what it means for state and local tax and fiscal policy.

SD-215

## Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled "Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act", and any pending nominations.

SD-106

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
Housing, Transportation and Community Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine helping homeowners save money through refinancing.

SD-538

10:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

Department of Defense Subcommittee

To hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for national and military intelligence programs.

SVC-217

2 p.m.

## Armed Services

Personnel Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine the Active, Guard, Reserve, and civilian personnel programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-106

2:30 p.m.

## Appropriations

Financial Service and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine expanding broadband access, promoting innovation, and protecting consumers in a communications revolution, focusing on fiscal year 2013 resource needs for the Federal Communications Commission.

SD-138

## Armed Services

Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine current readiness of U.S. forces in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

## Armed Services

Strategic Forces Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine ballistic missile defense policies and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SR-222

APRIL 26

9:30 a.m.

## Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kathleen H. Hicks, of Virginia, to be Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Policy, and Derek H. Chollet, of Nebraska, to be Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs, both of the Department of Defense.

SD-G50

## Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider Adam E. Sieminski, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, Marci Lynn A. Burke, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and Anthony T. Clark, of North Dakota, and John Robert Norris, of Iowa, both to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine weather related electrical outages.

SD-366

## Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 2224, to require the President to report to Congress on issues related to Syria, H.R.

1016, to measure the progress of relief, recovery, reconstruction, and development efforts in Haiti following the earthquake of January 12, 2010, S. Res. 401, expressing appreciation for Foreign Service and Civil Service professionals who represent the United States around the globe, an original resolution calling for democratic change in Syria, the nominations of Scott H. DeLisi, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Uganda, Michael A. Raynor, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Benin, and Makila James, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Swaziland, all of the Department of State, and lists in the Foreign Service.

S-116, Capitol

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine legislative proposals in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's fiscal year 2013 budget.

SD-538

Finance

To hold hearings to examine tax filing season, focusing on improving the taxpayer experience.

SD-215

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine biological security, focusing on the risk of dual-use research.

SD-342

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Michael P. Shea, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, Gonzalo P. Curiel, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, and Robert J. Shelby, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah, vice Tena Campbell.

SD-226

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine Marine Corps acquisition programs in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-222

2:15 p.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine gas prices in the Northeast, focusing on the potential impact on the American consumer due to loss of refining capacity.

SD-G50

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine financial literacy, focusing on empowering Americans to prevent the next financial crisis.

SD-342

3 p.m.

Foreign Relations

East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine United States policy on Burma.

SD-419

APRIL 27

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mark J. Mazur, of New Jersey, and Matthew S. Rutherford, of Illinois, both to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and Meredith M. Broadbent, of Virginia, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission.

SD-215

MAY 9

10 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Joseph G. Jordan, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy, Executive Office of the President.

SD-342