

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH PAT SUMMITT

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor University of Tennessee women's basketball coach Pat Summitt for her hard work, courage, and perseverance. Pat, like me, is from Clarksville, Tennessee. We share a love for basketball, and it has been an honor to watch her lead the Lady Vols for nearly forty years. Pat's commitment to excellence has resulted in almost 1,100 wins, making her the winningest basketball coach in NCAA history.

What is most impressive about Pat isn't her .840 winning percentage or her eight national championships. Nor is it her ability to run laps with, and sometimes around, her teams, or the intense stare that I am sure is still burned into the minds of some of the ladies on her 1974 inaugural team. What impresses me most about Pat is the way she does everything in her life with heart and to the best of her ability. When she announced her condition last August, I was impressed both by her courage to fight Alzheimer's in a very public way, as well as her leadership in founding the Pat Summitt Foundation Fund. According to the Alzheimer's Association, 5.4 million Americans are currently living with Alzheimer's. By sharing her story, Pat has undoubtedly helped to bring awareness to this disease. I'd be one sorry fan if I didn't also point out that, despite her condition, last season Pat still led the Lady Vols to the NCAA tournament.

Pat Summitt has left the UT community with an amazing legacy and I have no doubt she will continue to faithfully serve the University in her new role as head coach emeritus. I also look forward to seeing great things from her son, Tyler, as he follows in his mother's footsteps. My thoughts and prayers are with Pat and Tyler as they move forward on this journey together.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on April 24, 2012, I missed one recorded vote on the House floor. I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Rollcall 178.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COMBAT MEDICAL SYSTEMS

HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Men and Women of Combat Medical Systems on the opening of their new office in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

One year ago this month, Fayetteville suffered from a sudden and devastating outbreak of tornadoes. These storms ripped through our region and caused horrendous damage to homes, businesses, and personal property. I was told of the bravery of their staff and President, Corey Russ, who, as a retired Delta Force medic, began treating casualties and handing out thousands of dollars of company equipment to strangers so that they could help others in the area and transport casualties to nearby hospitals.

One year later, our communities continue to rebuild and we can take pride in the new homes and buildings that have been erected. We must continue to remember the individuals that perished in this disaster and honor their legacy through the care and rebuilding of our community.

Combat Medical Systems and its employees show the dedication and determination we all aspire to as we rebuild and survive in the face of unforeseen obstacles. This courage embodies the spirit of our nation and fuels our economy. I commend them on their willingness to give back to the community and on the successes they have rightly earned.

Again, I congratulate them on the opening of their new office. May God bless them, their families, and our great nation.

AUJANAE VALDEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aujanæ Valdez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Aujanæ Valdez is a 12th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Aujanæ Valdez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING ROBERTA ROPER

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the work of a remarkable woman from Maryland, Roberta Roper, and to express to her the appreciation felt by so many across our state and throughout the country.

In 1982, Roberta and her family faced their darkest days when they learned that their daughter, Stephanie—a talented artist and college student—had been kidnapped, raped, and murdered. While struggling with her own personal pain and grief, Roberta learned that there were no supportive services for her and her family as they struggled with the loss of their daughter. Even more devastating was that the criminal justice system lacked the rights and support they needed as family members of a murder victim.

That same year, to honor the memory of their daughter and to address the inadequacies between the rights of a defendant and those of a victim of crime, Roberta and her husband, Vince, founded the Stephanie Roper Foundation. The Foundation's mission has been to provide supportive services to crime victims across Maryland for thirty years. They also established the Stephanie Roper Committee, the Foundation's legislative arm, which has resulted in over sixty laws enacted to create new or improved crime-victim rights and services.

With Roberta's active encouragement, the Maryland General Assembly created the State Board of Victim Services in 1988. This Board offers recommendations to the legislature and to the Governor on matters concerning state and local efforts to assist victims of crime. In 1994, Roberta was appointed as Chair of the Board, a position she held until her retirement last October.

In 2002, the Foundation merged with the Maryland Crime Victim Resource Center, a one-stop, statewide non-profit that provides victim services, crisis assistance, legal help, victim notification, financial help, social services, and links to national victim resources.

Roberta's activism since her daughter's tragic death in 1982 led her to so many important accomplishments befitting my home state. These include the creation of the Maryland Victims of Crime Fund, legislation ensuring victims and their families a place in the courtroom and a voice during the sentencing process, the creation of new support and services for victims and their loved ones, as well as the ratification of an amendment to the Maryland Constitution guaranteeing crime victims the right to be informed, present, and heard throughout the investigatory and judicial process.

• 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.

In addition to her tireless efforts to improve victims' treatment, Roberta serves as Co-Chair of the National Victims Constitutional Amendment Network—a network of states working with Congress to enact a Constitutional amendment establishing meaningful and enforceable rights for every crime victim in this country.

Today, I join in honoring Roberta Roper for turning a deeply saddening and difficult tragedy into a thirty-year movement to provide crime victims and their families a greater voice.

Stephanie Roper once said: "One person can make a difference, and every person should try." Roberta Roper has built a lasting legacy in her daughter's name by doing just that—and we are all better off for it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday April 24, 2012 I had obligations that necessitated my attention in my district and missed a suspension vote on H.R. 2157, to facilitate a land exchange involving certain National Forest System lands in the Inyo National Forest. Had I been present for this vote, I would have cast an "aye" vote for this piece of legislation.

Again, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 2157.

THE HOLOCAUST

SPEECH OF

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. Each year on the 27th day of the Jewish month of Nisan, we remember the victims whose lives were destroyed, and who suffered unspeakable brutalities at the hands of their Nazi tormentors. We all know the number six million far too well, but we must always remember that each of those six million—along with so many others—was an individual whose life was snuffed out because of baseless, senseless hatred.

We should also remember that the date for Yom HaShoah was also chosen to coincide with the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising of 1943, perhaps the most famous example of Jewish resistance to the Nazis. When the Germans came to liquidate the last remaining inhabitants of the Warsaw Ghetto in order to murder them at the Treblinka extermination camp, these brave, untrained, overmatched and starving souls fought back. Though they were ultimately crushed, they held out against the Nazis for nearly a month, forcing the German army to divert thousands of troops, as well as air force, artillery, armed vehicles, minethrowers, and machine guns in order to put down the rebellion.

While the Holocaust is the greatest of Jewish tragedies, the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

stands as a moment of pride for the Jewish people, and a foreshadowing of the new Jewish spirit that would rise with the State of Israel just a few years later. Never again would Jews give up without a fight. With a state and an army, the Jewish people would finally have a refuge to run to in their time of need.

While we commemorate the Holocaust today, I call on my colleagues to join me in reaffirming our connection to the State of Israel, and our responsibility to help Israel through its most difficult times. The Jewish State ensures the survival of the Jewish people in a dangerous and often anti-Semitic world, which is one of the many reasons we in the United States have stood by Israel for so many years and will continue to stand by Israel for as long as they need our help.

The memory of the six million killed by the Nazis demands no less. We in Congress stand with the entire Jewish people in saying Never Again.

AUDREY ARAGON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Audrey Aragon for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Audrey Aragon is a 12th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Audrey Aragon for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF MR. JIM SCHLECHT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Jim Schlecht, who is being recognized for his work serving the homeless.

Born and raised in Euclid, Ohio, Jim has been a lifelong Cleveland area resident. While attending Cleveland State University, he and a group of progressive Catholics joined together at Merton Community's Houses of Hospitality in Cleveland's Near West Side neighborhood to begin serving the community's less fortunate.

Throughout the years, Jim has become one of Ohio City's most well-known residents. He has worked to establish health centers, schools, book stores, social service agencies and community organizations, such as Near

West Neighbors in Action, which cater to the homeless. He has also worked at the Rose Mary Center, West Side Community House, West Side Catholic Center and currently, Care Alliance.

Because of his relentless work to support those in need, today, at the Bishop Cosgrove Center, the Cleveland Tenants Organization and the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless are coming together to honor his lifetime of service.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Mr. Jim Schlecht. His faith has guided him into a life of service which is unparalleled.

HONORING JOHN "JAY" DALICANDRO

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long and distinguished career of John "Jay" Dalicandro. Mr. Dalicandro, who honorably serves the Village of Elmwood Park as village manager, plans to retire this June after 23 years of service.

A native of Elmwood Park, Jay has remained a part of the community throughout his life. To date Mr. Dalicandro is the longest-serving Village Manager Elmwood Park has ever had and his retirement will leave some big shoes to fill. Jay is admired by those in his community for his enduring devotion to the Village of Elmwood Park and his service is to be commended.

During his tenure as Village Manager, Jay has done a tough job very well. He has been responsible for day-to-day operations of the Village of Elmwood Park. Most people in Jay's position remain as Village Manager for a short stint before moving on to another position, but Jay's commitment to the people of Elmwood Park for the past 23 years demonstrates his sincere devotion to the wellbeing of the community.

Mr. Dalicandro's vision for the Village of Elmwood Park has impressed his peers and ensured a bright future for the Village. Jay's accomplishments as Village Manager include establishing the Village's first tax increment finance district, superb handling of the Villages finances, and a commitment to establishing new parkland for the Village. In addition to these accomplishments, Mr. Dalicandro has succeeded in ensuring the Village's fiscal stability by consistently staying under budget.

Jay is credited as being the man who brought the Village of Elmwood Park into the 21st century. His colleagues recognize the hard work he has invested into the community. Undoubtedly, the impact Jay has had on the Village of Elmwood Park will be seen for years and decades to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jay Dalicandro and his commitment to public service in his community. The devotion he has demonstrated to his work in the Village serves as an example to us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the House on April 24, 2012 due to important commitments in my district.

On rollcall 178, had I been present I would have voted "yea" on H.R. 2157, to facilitate a land exchange involving certain National Forest System lands in the Inyo National Forest.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVE CSINTYAN IN HONOR OF HIS SERVICE TO THE COLORADO SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and say thank you to the outgoing President and CEO of the Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce, Dave Csintyan.

Dave has been a dedicated and devoted servant to our region and our Chamber since 2002. He has also loyally served our country for 28 years as an officer in the United States Air Force. The culmination of that career was in Colorado Springs serving as the Air Base Wing Commander at the Air Force Academy.

Dave accepted new challenges this year in guiding the merger of the Springs Chamber and the Economic Development Corporation. He is a passionate worker and advocate for the Pikes Peak Region and I offer him my sincerest thanks and wish he and his wife Margo the best of success in their future service.

BAILEY BATISTE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bailey Batiste for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Bailey Batiste is a 7th grader at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Bailey Batiste for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING BIRUTA STAKLE McSHANE

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of a beloved mother and wife, Biruta Stakle McShane. She was born Biruta Isolda Stakle in Riga, Latvia April 21, 1940, and passed away surrounded by her family on April 14, 2012, in Cupertino, California.

Biruta immigrated to Oklahoma following the close of World War II after living for some time in Germany. Raised in Stillwater, she attended Oklahoma State University, where she graduated with honors in Mathematics. Shortly thereafter, she moved to Dallas, Texas, where she met and married Thomas McShane.

Biruta and Tom moved to Burlingame, California and started a family. During her career, Biruta worked in various marketing roles for several Silicon Valley Companies, before ultimately starting her own businesses, Meetings & Incentives Group and Bimark Incorporated. Meetings and Incentives Group is one of the leading event planning groups in Silicon Valley and Bimark Inc. specializes in advertising specialty items. Biruta served as president of the Northern California Chapter of the Business Marketing Association and was honored repeatedly as owner of one of Silicon Valley's top twenty women-owned businesses.

Biruta is remembered for her love of travel and cooking. She explored the globe and planned exotic events for some of Silicon Valley's most successful businesses. She was famous for her endless energy, creativity and zest for making other people's lives unforgettable through her event planning.

Biruta is survived by her husband, Tom McShane, her daughter Laura Powers of San Ramon, daughter Alison Aarts of Millbrae and son Steve McShane of Salinas. Biruta is also survived by her four grandchildren, Jack Powers, Shane Powers, Cooper Powers and Aidan Aarts.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Biruta Stakle McShane for her accomplishments and contributions. The life of Biruta Stakle McShane serves as an example of excellence to those in her life, and her legacy will not be soon forgotten.

MARQUIS ALEXANDER, FUTURE COMMANDER OF TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY'S CORPS OF CADETS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a milestone reached by Marquis Alexander. He is the first African-American to become commander of Texas A&M's Corps of Cadets. Currently Marquis is a Corporal in the U.S. Marine Reserves and a rising senior majoring in International Studies.

HISTORY OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS AT TAMU

The history of African-Americans at Texas A&M University dates back to the founding of

the institution. African-Americans in the Texas Legislature advocated for and supported the passage of the Morrill Land-Grant Act in 1866, which established the A&M College of Texas between 1876 and 1963. African-Americans worked at A&M as laborers, maids, custodians and various other support staff; however they were prohibited from attending as students and faculty.

The history of African-Americans at A&M has been shaped by decades of racial segregation, quiet desegregation, and attempts to redress historical wrongs. It has been filled with lifelong struggles and determination to fulfill a dream which was accomplished when A&M opened the doors in 1963 to African Americans. The past 37 years have been a continuing struggle by African-Americans and A&M to ensure that the dream is kept alive.

The first African-Americans joined the corps in 1964. The first female cadets came a decade later. In A&M's centennial year, Fred McClure won election as body president, making him the first to be equal to that of Corps Commander and Aggie Yell Leader.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Civil rights is a subject that cannot be ignored or taken lightly, even in this day of progressive movement toward tolerance. We must not lose sight of the continued need for civil rights. We must not relax our initiatives which build greater racial, ethnic, and religious tolerance. While I believe that there is still work to be done on the issue of civil rights and hurdles to overcome, we cannot ignore the progress that has been made as the result of decades of hard work, diligence, the sweat and tears of many of our country's civil rights trailblazers.

This is evidenced by an increase in the numbers of minorities attaining leadership positions in the private and public sectors for example: Ken Chenault, an African American who currently serves as the CEO of American Express; Ursula Burns, who became the first African American woman to serve as Chairman and CEO of Xerox, a Fortune 500 Company; and Antonio Perez, the first Latino American to serve as CEO of Eastman Kodak Corporation to name a few.

BACKGROUND ON MARQUIS ALEXANDER

He is the oldest of 10 children and the first in his family to go to college. He is said to be an admirable and mature young man. Mr. Alexander is currently a Corporal in the Marine Reserves. He has become the first person with military experience to head the Corps. Texas A&M University has the proud distinction of having the most graduates to enlist in our nation's armed forces when compared to other non-military academies.

Marquis Alexander grew up in my home city of Houston. And our city is proud of his achievements. Marquis has always wanted to attend Texas A&M. He was so "gung-ho" military that he participated in Texas A&M's Junior Cadet Accessions Program while still in high school. A week after enlisting in the Marine Corps, he received his letter of acceptance to Texas A&M University.

Yet, true to his word and commitment, Alexander attended boot camp at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego and spent a year and a half on active duty. He subsequently reverted from active duty status and is serving the remainder of his enlistment commitment in the Marine Corps Reserves. He re-applied for admission to Texas A&M in 2009 and was promptly accepted.

He was selected following a rigorous review process in which a host of cadets are considered when leadership selections are made each year. Soon he will assume duties as Cadet Colonel of the Corps, the 2,100 member organization's top leadership position, also known as Corps Commander, and one of the three top positions on campus, along with that of student body President and Yell Leader.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Mr. Alexander for aiming high and continuing to strive above and beyond his primary goals of joining the military. He is a mentor and guiding light to those who know him. I congratulate Marquis on his achievement. He has indeed risen to the top and I hope he keeps on rising. In my office, I have an intern named Ashley Hawkes whose family has also dedicated their lives to the military. Marquis Alexander stands as a role to young people like Ashley. Ashley was honored to work on this statement, and was inspired by his story. That is why I stand here today to spread the word about his tremendous achievement to not only honor Marquis Alexander but to inspire young people like Ashley to realize that they must continue to advance.

BRUGETTE THOMPSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brugette Thompson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brugette Thompson is a 12th grader at Pomona High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Brugette Thompson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

THE HOLOCAUST

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solemn recognition of Holocaust Remembrance Day. Today marks the passage of almost 70 years since the unfathomable annihilation of six million Jewish men, women, and children from Europe. In addition to working to systematically eliminate the Jewish people, the Nazis also targeted other marginalized groups such as political opponents, the LGBT community, the Roma, Soviet prisoners of war, the disabled, and other religious minorities.

The effort to remove, wholly and completely, from society certain categories of human

beings because of their ethnic, political, religious, cultural, and biological characteristics was atrocious. While we honor the memory of the millions lost during the Holocaust and the millions more who were never born because of this unparalleled crime against humanity, we must learn from the past in order to ensure that the worst actions in history are never again repeated.

On this Holocaust Remembrance Day, it is important not only to commemorate those who perished, but also those who refused to be bystanders to this grave human tragedy. We may take heart from the brave efforts of those who resisted the Nazi reign of terror, in the ghettos and the camps, from the cities to the countryside. We stand in awe of the rescuers who, against all odds and at great personal risk, demonstrated moral courage the world must honor, remember, and uphold as a model for ourselves, our children, and our grandchildren.

As individuals, communities, and as a nation, we must rededicate ourselves to ensuring that the world will never stand idly by in the face of mass atrocity. We must work to extinguish the sparks of hatred, intolerance, and violence wherever they may be found, while nurturing in ourselves and others the seeds of empathy and a resistance to the indifference that enabled the unthinkable destruction of human life 70 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, may we let this be our monument to the millions who perished in the Holocaust.

IN RECOGNITION OF NANCY DOUTT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Nancy Douth and to acknowledge her receipt of the 2012 Grindstone Award by the Berea Chamber of Commerce. Nancy has dedicated her life to her community through volunteerism.

A lifelong resident of Berea, Nancy was an active member of 4-H and graduated from Berea High School in 1976. Today, Nancy is married to Steve. She works at Medical Mutual and is a member of the New Century Beatniks.

As a young child, her parents ingrained a sense of selflessness in Nancy that has translated into a lifelong commitment to her community. She is an active member of the American Legion Post 91 Auxiliary and Auxiliary Color Guard. She is involved with St. Mary's Church, where she is a member of the choir and a Eucharistic Minister. Additionally, Nancy spends countless hours as a volunteer with Berea Arts Fest, Southwest General Health Center's Community Outreach Program and the Berea Children's Home. She is fundamental in the work done by Coats for Kids, Dress for Success, Pajama Walk and the Hand-to-Hand leaf raking projects. Nancy also personally participates in Relay for Life, Pedal to the Point, numerous walk-a-thons and has donated more than 18 gallons of blood to the Red Cross.

Because of her relentless work on behalf of her community, the City of Berea honored Nancy with the 2012 Spirit of Community Award.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Nancy Douth as she is honored by the Berea Chamber of Commerce.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II
VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II veterans who traveled to Washington, DC on April 25, 2012 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II veterans the opportunity to visit the World War II Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, DC. This memorial was built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on April 25 answered our Nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorial. I am proud to submit the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

John Abraham, Jr.; Fred Alpern; Arthur L. Barron; Elizabeth H. Bartolich; Philip Bartolotta; John N. Basic; Robert R. Beazley; Jerry S. Benesh; Francis J. Bialas; Victor N. Bonneau; Robert D. Brakley; Stanley A. Branauskas; LeRoy Matthias Braun; Leo B. Braun, Jr.; Francis Brogan; Laverly Williams Brown; Roy V. Carlson; Gabriel A. Casalino; Josephine E. Chandler.

Melvin Chesler; Melvin A. Conviser; Ned L. Crandall; Wanda Ann Cukla; Anthony A. Czarnowski; Harry Dandelles; Carl William Davis; Jerome Dribin; George Druktenis, Sr.; Melvin A. Ehlers; Forrest J. Fischer; William Fisher; Edward Fox; Harvey Fritz; Paul A. Genova; Charles C. Giovannini; Donald L. Glasgow; Joseph Goldenberg; Edward J. Gorcowski; Harvey Gossell.

Nikles K. Hagopian; LeRoy J. Hankins; Howard Roy Heckmann; Arthur P. Heminger; Joseph Hoidik; Donald Hoskinson; John S. Houston; Colin S. Howat; Charles G. Hunt; David Johnson; Thomas Jundanian; Irving K. Kannett; Lloyd L. Keiber; Joseph A. Marthaler; John H. McCollom; Donald T. McCollom; Kenneth Joseph McDonough; Thomas P. McKale; Mavis L. McNamara; Robert E. Morin; Irene L. Mostek; Clarence O. Norman; Stanley T. Oboy; Robert T. Olson; Joseph Leo O'Mara, Sr.; Elijah Ostrander, Jr.; Joseph J. Paladino; Robert Pankau; Donald B. Patterson, Jr.; James D. Patton; Emanuel T. Petrakis; Veronica S. Potter; William J. Prindiville; Ernest M. Reynolds; Ernest E. Rittenhouse; Walter C. Russell; Walter Jerome Sawkiw.

John F. Schmaling; William F. Schmidt; Melvin Schneider; Milton Schwartz; Harry Silver; Richard J. Small; Delmar J. Smith; Jarmila V.

Stark; Cecil O. Swanson; Earl G. Thompson; Stanley A. Thompson, Jr.; Clyde A. Voigt; Bernard J. Warchol; William K. Watson; William J. Weldon; Fred Wolf; Myron Wolff; Donald R. Zirzow.

BOBBY ROBERTS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bobby Roberts for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Bobby Roberts is an 8th grader at Wheat Ridge Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Bobby Roberts for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

H.R. 4483, THE "BROADENING PARTICIPATION IN STEM EDUCATION ACT"

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing H.R. 4483, the "Broadening Participation in STEM Education Act." This bill aims to increase the number of students from underrepresented minority groups who receive undergraduate degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, or STEM, disciplines. It also seeks to increase the number of STEM faculty members from underrepresented minority groups at institutions of higher education.

The U.S. faces a severe shortfall in students graduating with degrees in STEM fields. With approximately 20 percent of our undergraduate degrees awarded in science and engineering disciplines, we rank 27th among developed nations in producing graduates qualified for 21st Century STEM careers. Statistics become even more alarming when you look at the number of students from underrepresented minority groups who receive degrees in STEM disciplines. As of 2011, only about 8 percent of 24 years-olds from these groups had obtained a bachelor's degree in a science or engineering discipline.

This is more than just a question of equity. We have a vast, untapped pool of talent in America, and this pool is continuing to grow. It is estimated that, by 2050, 52 percent of the U.S. population will be from underrepresented minority groups. We have to drastically increase the number of students from these

groups receiving degrees in STEM disciplines or we will undoubtedly relinquish our global leadership in innovation and job creation.

There are many reasons why the number of underrepresented minority students receiving degrees in STEM fields is so appallingly low. It starts at the K-12 level, where too many of our teachers are not well prepared to teach math and science and too many of our schools lack even basic science laboratory equipment. But even those minority students who enter college intending to major in a STEM discipline abandon science and engineering for other fields at a much higher rate than their peers. These young people are smart and motivated and small steps such as improved mentorship and increased access to research experiences have proven to keep students from all backgrounds on track to complete their STEM degrees.

Statistics are equally troubling when it comes to underrepresented minorities and their pursuit of academic careers in STEM disciplines. Underrepresented minorities currently make up about 29 percent of the U.S. population, but only about 8 percent of tenure-track science and engineering faculty members at universities and four-year colleges. Less than one percent of tenure-track science and engineering faculty members at the nation's top 100 research universities are from underrepresented groups. One consequence of having such a low number of minority faculty, among other things, is that they are called on much more frequently than their peers to serve on commissions, committees, and the like as a way of showing that a college or university is committed to diversity in their administrative procedures. As a result, minority faculty have less time to conduct research, publish papers, mentor students, and do other work that is required for them to achieve tenure status and otherwise thrive in their research careers. More fundamentally, the low number of minority faculty is another indicator of the untapped potential that we have in the STEM disciplines.

Passing the "Broadening Participation in STEM Education Act" will help address both of these issues. By authorizing the Director of NSF to award grants to colleges and universities that want to implement or expand innovative, research-based approaches to recruit and retain students from underrepresented minority groups, we will take a necessary step toward increasing the number of students from these groups who successfully complete undergraduate degrees in STEM fields. Similarly, by making grants available to colleges and universities to allow them to make an effort to increase the number of faculty members from underrepresented minority groups, we will take a necessary step toward achieving equality at our institutions of higher education. These are admittedly small steps toward maintaining American leadership in innovation, but they are necessary and achievable steps and we need to act now. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting H.R. 4483.

A LIFE WELL LIVED

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Chuck Colson who this past Satur-

day, "slipped the surly bonds of earth" to "touch the face of God." I also submit for the RECORD his official obituary.

Chuck's family has lost a husband, father and grandfather. Many of us have lost a dear friend and brother. And, the Nation has lost a compelling, often-times prophetic voice with a winsome ability to speak truth with grace about some of the most challenging issues of the day.

Chuck's political instincts gave him a keen ability to effectively communicate with policymakers and politicians alike about matters of utmost import that are rarely given their due in the halls of Congress or the White House.

Chuck's personal journey, marked by redemption and grace, gave him a heart beyond pale for the prisoner, the down-trodden, and the forgotten among us.

Chuck's faith defined him—and inspired countless others.

He possessed a passion for shaping the next generation of leaders, for equipping them with the tools to articulate and defend a Christian worldview in the public square. This is among his greatest legacies.

In short, we have lost a giant.

As we mourn his loss, we take comfort in knowing that the heavens rejoice and Chuck is most assuredly hearing the words, "well done, good and faithful servant."

CHUCK COLSON, FOUNDER OF PRISON FELLOWSHIP & COLSON CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN WORLD VIEW, DIES AT AGE 80

LANSLOWNE, VA., April 21, 2012.—Evangelical Christianity lost one of its most eloquent and influential voices today with the death of Charles W. "Chuck" Colson. The Prison Fellowship and Colson Center for Christian Worldview founder died at 3:12 p.m. ET today at the age of 80. After a brief illness, Colson passed away at a Northern Virginia hospital with his wife, Patty, and family at his bedside.

On March 30, Colson became ill while speaking at a Colson Center for Christian Worldview conference in Lansdowne. The following morning he had surgery to remove a pool of clotted blood on the surface of his brain, and doctors determined he had suffered an intracerebral hemorrhage. Though Colson remained in intensive care, doctors and family were optimistic for a recovery as he showed some signs of improvement. However, Tuesday (April 17) Colson became gravely ill when further complications developed.

A Watergate figure who emerged from the country's worst political scandal, a vocal Christian leader and a champion for prison ministry, Colson spent the last years of his life in the dual role of leading Prison Fellowship, the world's largest outreach to prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families, and the Colson Center, a research and training center focused on Christian worldview teaching.

Colson has been a central figure in the evangelical Christian community since he shocked the Washington establishment in 1973 by revealing his new Christian commitment in the midst of the Watergate inquiry. In later years Colson would say that because he was known primarily as Nixon's "Hatchet Man," the declaration that "I've been born again and given my life to Jesus Christ" kept the political cartoonists of America clothed and fed for a solid month." It also gave new visibility to the emerging movement of "born-again" Christians.

PUT PRISON MINISTRY ON THE CHURCH'S
AGENDA

In 1974 Colson entered a plea of guilty to Watergate-related charges; although not implicated in the Watergate burglary, he voluntarily pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice in the Daniel Ellsberg Case, which was prosecuted in the acutely sensitive Watergate atmosphere. He entered Maxwell Federal Prison Camp in Alabama in 1974 as a new Christian and as the first member of the Nixon administration to be incarcerated for Watergate-related charges. He served seven months of a one- to three-year sentence.

Colson emerged from prison with a new mission: mobilizing the Christian Church to minister to prisoners. He founded Prison Fellowship in 1976; this would become perhaps his greatest contribution to the Church and the world. Although many local churches had ministered in nearby prisons for many years, most observers would affirm that Colson and Prison Fellowship truly put prison ministry on the agenda of the church in a substantial way.

Colson's personal prison experience and his frequent ministry visits to prisons also developed in him new concerns about the efficacy of the American criminal justice system. His founding of Justice Fellowship in 1983 helped make Colson one of the nation's most influential voices for criminal justice reform. His call for alternative punishments for non-violent offenders was often effective because Colson's conservative credentials enabled him to line up conservative legislators in support of what had traditionally been seen as a liberal set of reforms.

That passion and sense of obligation to God's calling and to his fellow inmates took Colson into prisons several times a year. He visited some 600 prisons in the U.S. and 40 other countries, and built a movement that at one time extended to more than 50,000 prison ministry volunteers. Often, particularly in the early days of Prison Fellowship, he was vocal in his disgust over the terrible conditions in the prisons and the need for more humane conditions and better access to religious programs.

Colson's advocacy for prisoners' religious rights took an additional form in the late 1990s when he and Justice Fellowship were at the forefront, lobbying legislators to support the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA), both nationally and state by state. Colson's and Justice Fellowship's work to bring an end to the national scourge and shame of prison rape culminated with the passage of the Prison Rape Elimination Act in 2003.

His 1987 book, *Kingdoms in Conflict*, was a best-selling directive to the Christian community on the proper relationships of church and state, and it positioned Colson as a centrist evangelical voice for balanced Christian political activism. Although not as visible as others in the frontline battles, Colson provided counsel to many of the most-evident activists and had a strong influence on Christian politicians who went to Washington in the 80s, 90s and into the new millennium.

RECIPIENT OF THE TEMPLETON PRIZE

In recognition of his work among prisoners, Colson received the prestigious Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion in 1993, donating the \$1 million prize to Prison Fellowship. In perhaps his most-eloquent and well-known speech, *The Enduring Revolution*, given at acceptance ceremonies at the University of Chicago, Colson encouraged the Church in the face of troubling times:

"For history's cadence is called with a confident voice. The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob reigns. His plan and purpose rob the

future of its fears. By the cross He offers hope, by the resurrection He assures His triumph. This cannot be resisted or delayed. Mankind's only choice is to recognize Him now or in the moment of ultimate judgment. Our only decision is to welcome His rule or to fear it."

Colson's other awards included the Presidential Citizens Medal (2008, the second-highest U.S. civilian honor), Humanitarian Award from Domino's Pizza Corporation (1991), The Others Award from the Salvation Army (1990), several honorary doctorates from various colleges and universities (1982-1995), and Outstanding Young Man of Boston from the Chamber of Commerce (1960).

Recognized as a champion for historic orthodoxy, Colson ignited a controversy in the Protestant world in the mid-1990s with his initiative to declare common ground with conservative Roman Catholics in two documents called *Evangelicals and Catholics Together*.

PROVIDED INTELLECTUAL SUPPORT TO MODERN
EVANGELICALISM

The evangelical-Catholic issue was just one in which Colson brought intellectual vitality to popular Evangelicalism in the last three decades. Many considered him a prophetic voice for the evangelical community, and, perhaps, an intellectual successor to theologian/sociologist Francis Schaeffer. Perhaps in open recognition of that legacy, his magnum opus was titled *How Now Shall We Live?* after Schaeffer's *How Then Shall We Live?*

In all, Colson wrote more than 30 books, which have sold more than five million copies. His autobiographical book, *Born Again*, was one of the nation's best-selling books of all kinds in 1976 and was made into a feature-length film. His last book, *The Faith*, is a powerful appeal to the Church to re-embrace the foundational truths of Christianity.

Colson was one of the Christian community's most sought-after speakers, but he resolutely refused to establish a speaker's fee. Colson donated all speaking honoraria and book royalties to the ministry and accepted the salary of a mid-range ministry executive.

In 1991 Colson launched *BreakPoint*, a unique radio commentary that provides a Christian perspective on today's news and trends. *BreakPoint* was aired weekdays on some 1,400 outlets nationwide with an audience of 8 million listeners. But his heart was ever with the prisoner. He clearly never forgot the promise he'd made to his fellow inmates during his brief stay in prison that he would never forget those behind bars.

In his later years, Colson focused full time on developing other Christian leaders who could influence the culture and their communities through their faith. The capstone of this effort was *The Chuck Colson Center for Christian Worldview*, a research and training center launched in 2009 for the promotion of Christian worldview teaching. In addition to a vast library of worldview materials, the Colson Center provides online courses and serves as a catalyst for a growing movement of Christian organizations dedicated to impacting the culture.

In 2009, Colson was a principal writer of the *Manhattan Declaration*, which calls on Christians to defend the sanctity of human life, traditional marriage and religious freedom. More than half a million people have signed the *Manhattan Declaration*. Collaborating with other Christian leaders, Colson aimed to launch other ecumenical grassroots movements around moral and ethical issues of great concern.

Colson was born in Boston in 1931 and received a scholarship to Brown University and went on to earn his law degree at George

Washington University in Washington. He served in the Marine Corps from 1953-1955, becoming what was at the time its youngest captain. He began his political career in 1956, when he was the youngest administrative assistant in the Senate, working for Massachusetts Senator Leverett Saltonstall.

Although God worked through Colson to encourage Christians around the world and serve many whom society would often neglect, his greatest love and focus were his family. Colson is survived by his wife of 48 years, Patty; three children, Wendell, Christian and Emily; and five grandchildren.

AUSTIN CLARK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Austin Clark for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Austin Clark is a 7th grader at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Austin Clark for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE VALENTINES FOR
TROOPS PROGRAM

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the students and adults involved in the Valentines for Troops program in Connecticut and around the nation. The students involved in this program wrote over 4,000 letters for our servicemembers this year.

This program seeks to give thanks to the most deserving among us, the men and women of our Armed Forces. Donna Monteleone Randle, a former captain in the Army Signal Corps, serves as the chairperson of Valentines for Troops in Newtown, Connecticut and helps the organization send letters from the students to the servicemembers overseas.

The participants in the Valentines for Troops program are doing a fabulous job of showing their support and admiration to those who need it the most.

This program was started by a second grade student at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, in 2006. That first year there were 50 letters written by students at the school, and since then the popularity of the program has increased tremendously. Schools and organizations from

Trumbull, Monroe, Bethel, Fairfield, and Danbury have joined Newtown in this program. There has been a great deal of national interest in the program this year as well. There are clubs, groups, churches, senior centers, professional offices, and schools from such diverse locations as Colorado, Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin, Texas, and New York City lending their support to the program.

I conducted a similar program called Holiday Cards for Heroes this holiday season. School children in northwestern Connecticut made hundreds of cards for veterans staying in the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and the State of Connecticut Veterans' Home in Rocky Hill. So I know what these small tokens of appreciation can do to lift the spirits of a veteran.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that we can all agree that the Valentines for Troops program deserves recognition for their efforts to show the admiration that this nation has for its troops. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the Valentines for Troops program for the service it provides to the men and women of our Armed Services.

CONGRATULATING LONGFELLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, FOR BEING RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE FIRST "GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS" IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise proudly to congratulate Longfellow Elementary School located in my hometown of Long Beach, California, and the 37th Congressional District which I am proud to represent, on its designation by the U.S. Department of Education as one of the first-ever Green Ribbon Schools.

According to Education Secretary Arne Duncan, Longfellow Elementary School was recognized for its outstanding achievements in the areas of environmental curriculum, energy reduction, campus recycling and water efficiency.

The Green Ribbon Schools program is a federal recognition program that began in September 2011 under the leadership of President Obama, Education Secretary Arne Duncan, and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson. Honored schools embrace and exercise a comprehensive approach to creating "green" environments, which includes taking remedial action to reducing adverse environmental impacts, promoting health, and providing high-quality environmental instruction that prepares students with the skills and sustainability concepts needed to compete and win in the global economy of the 21st century.

Green Ribbon Schools promote environmental education and learning as well as protect our children's health.

Under the leadership of Principal Laurie Murrin, Longfellow Elementary School has successfully gone "green" by reducing energy use by 17 percent since 2004, has a 34 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions

since 2003, and an increased recycling rate of 46 percent. Also, 100 percent of the landscaping at the school is water-efficient, and the District uses Compressed Natural Gas School Buses.

Additionally, Longfellow Elementary School actively promoted environmental learning by implementing environmental programs on campus like Energy Star Recycling program, Water Quality and Efficiency program, Green Cleaning program, Safe Routes to School, School Garden, School Integrated Pest Management Program, Indoor Air Quality Program, as well as Environmental Education.

This is a remarkable record and is all the more impressive given the economic background and demographic diversity of the Longfellow Elementary School student body. The student body is comprised of 1,080 students, 30 percent of whom are Hispanic, 17 percent are African American, 5 percent Asian and Pacific Islander, and 28 percent Caucasian. Four in ten students receive free or reduced lunches.

Despite their challenging backgrounds, the students at Longfellow Elementary School have shown that great things can happen if you are motivated, committed, and have the right leaders like Principal Murrin. As King Henry V exhorted his comrades in arms at the Battle of Agincourt, "all things are ready if our minds be so."

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Lions of Longfellow Elementary School, Principal Laurie Murrin, The Green Team, and the entire Longfellow Elementary community for being at the forefront of improving our environment and helping prepare our students to be competitive and succeed in an emerging green economy.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TAMBURITZANS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Tamburitzans, a group which has been promoting Eastern European arts and culture for 75 years.

Established by Dr. A. Lester Pierce in 1937, the Tamburitzans are a multicultural song and dance group. The group consists of students of Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Duquesne University Tamburitzans are dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the cultural heritage of Eastern Europe and its neighbors through performance, while awarding scholarships to talented and deserving student performers.

The Duquesne University Tamburitzans have grown from an original group of 12 men to today's company of more than three dozen performers. Since 1988, the Tamburitzans have been under the direction of Mr. Paul Stafura, a former member of the Tamburitzans during the late 1960s. Each year, the Tamburitzans travel throughout the United States to put on an average of 80 concerts. They have also held concerts in numerous Latin American countries, Canada, Bulgaria, France, Italy, Poland, Romania, the former Czechoslovakia, Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the Duquesne University

Tamburitzans, the longest-running live stage show of its kind in the United States.

ANJELICA HARRISON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Anjelica Harrison for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Anjelica Harrison is a 7th grader at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Anjelica Harrison for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II veterans who traveled to Washington, DC, on April 4, 2012 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II veterans the opportunity to visit the World War H Memorial on The National Mall in Washington, DC. This memorial was built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on April 4 answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorial. I am proud to submit the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Leonard David Adler; David S. Albert; Donald John Anderson; Richard J. Andrew; Theodore Arey; Harold L. Autrey; Asa Melville Bacon; Rudolf Balek; Stanley C. Bartecki, Jr.; Robert L. Barz; Victor J. Biasetti; Otto R. Bobysud; Raymond J. Brejcha; Joseph P. Brooks; Walter H. Burtan; Joseph S. Buttice; Jack R. Cerniglia; Ranson Coleman; John M. Conway; James J. Corolis; James M. Cribbs;

Robert Chapman Dillion; John L. Dykstra; Harry A. Fandre, Jr.; Chester S. Faron; Willie Ferba, Jr.; Joe J. Fleck; George E. Fyock; Edwin D. Geisenheimer; Mark M. Greenburg; Joseph H. Gross; Don R. Gunderson; Maurice G. Guysenir; Hallie J. Hamilton; George J. Hazdra; Floyd J. Hoffman; Emmitt Ingram, Jr.; Edward Jage; Richard H. Johnson; George M. Kaiser; Frank William Karl; Chester J. Kijak; Richard R. Kinneman; Robert F. Kirby; John D. Kiser; Joseph Kujawa; Wallace Bruce Kurtz; Walter E. Lambert.

James T. Langan; LeRoy Larson; Stanley Marvin Levy; Edward V. Lisowski; Robert R. Luke; Charles E. Mahan; Anthony Marino; Wilbur J. Martin; Virgil E. Mathias, Jr.; William J. McCaffrey; James A. Moscato, Jr.; James M. Mulqueeny; Carl A. Nelson; Joseph A. Nemanich; David S. Newquist; Franklyn M. Nipper; Daniel N. Obriot; John Oldenburger; David E. Olson; Joseph V. Pacelli; Robert V. Peck; Betty M. Peterson; Harold Peterson; Richard L. Raddatz; Angelo S. Regopoulos; Robert Joseph Roelle; Marvin Rose; Arnold Marshall Rusten; Robert T. Sasman; Jean A. Scheve; Charles William Schoenherr; Richard S. Schofield; Frank A. Schroeder; M. Eldon Schultz; William Springer; Robert A. Thatcher; James H. Thoma; Preston G. Thorpe; Robert W. Tobiaski; Fred E. Turek, Jr.; Robert G. Wallace; Allan A. Walters; Donald Lutter Wood; Bill Zamzow; George Zervos; Norman H. Zumm.

SMALL BUSINESS TAX CUT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 9, the so-called Small Business Tax Cut Act. This bill is an incredible waste of taxpayer money that will do nothing to grow America's economy or create jobs.

House Republicans admit that H.R. 9 will add \$46 billion to federal deficits and force our country to borrow more money from foreign countries such as China. They argue deficit-spending is worthwhile because their bill will create jobs and stimulate economic growth. Unfortunately, there is absolutely no evidence to support their claim. The nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation determined the economic impact of this Republican bill is "so small as to be incalculable."

The country's wealthiest individuals and corporations are the true beneficiaries of this legislation. H.R. 9 will provide over 125,000 millionaires with an average tax cut of \$58,000. According to the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center, nearly half of the bill's benefits go to individuals with annual income over \$1 million even though this group comprises just 0.5 percent of all taxpayers and 4 percent of all small-business employers. The largest tax breaks in this bill go to law partners, corporate consultants, lobbyists, hedge fund managers, and other highly profitable, private enterprises that do not need extra support from America's taxpayers.

The tax benefits in H.R. 9 are so poorly targeted that reality-show stars Donald Trump, Paris Hilton and Kim Kardashian qualify as

"small businesses" and will receive taxpayer-financed handouts. In fact, this legislation provides tax breaks to pornography shops and corporations that ship American jobs overseas.

This legislation represents a new low point for the House Republican majority. It is so flawed that even fellow conservatives are mocking the bill. The Wall Street Journal editorial page calls H.R. 9 a "tax gimmick." Former economic advisor to President Reagan Bruce Bartlett said H.R. 9 "will do nothing whatsoever to increase employment. It is nothing more than an election year give-away to a favored Republican constituency and should not be taken seriously."

H.R. 9 is a signal to the American people that House Republicans are officially out of ideas for creating jobs. This bill merely recycles the Bush Administration's failed economic policies that ballooned the national debt and produced the lowest rate of job creation since World War Two. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office analyzed a range of policies that could be enacted to strengthen the economy and promote economic growth: this measure ranked second to last.

I urge my Republican colleagues to abandon this dead-end legislation and instead, join with Democrats to support proven job creation measures, including bonus depreciation for main street businesses.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF WAYNE AND KATHY FOWLER

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 50th wedding anniversary of Wayne and Kathy Fowler.

Wayne and Kathy Fowler nee Pierce were married on March 17, 1962, at Kathy's parents' home in Kissee Mills, Missouri, where her father was postmaster and owned a grocery store and gas station.

Kathy graduated from Forsyth High School, where she was salutatorian of her class. She then attended Draughon's Business College and went to work for Charles A. Moon, attorney at law. She left the law office to work for Frisco Railroad, later Burlington Northern and then Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad, where she retired after 32½ years. She then worked for Burrell Behavioral Health for over 6 years before retiring and starting a home transcription business. She always had a huge love for horses, with her dad buying her first Fox Trotting mare for her 12th birthday. The horses have always remained her passion.

Wayne was originally from Waterloo, Iowa, and had moved to Kissee Mills with his family in 1961. Wayne was a car enthusiast and drove stock cars for several years at the Fairgrounds Speedway, Bolivar Speedway, Odesa Speedway, and Fort Smith Arkansas. When he got out of racing, he took up bass fishing. Wayne is a welder and retired from the Paul Mueller Company several years ago. He now has a portable aluminum/stainless welding business and specializes in marine repairs. They have one son, Ken Fowler, and three grandchildren, Chase, Katie and Nick, who reside in Camdenton, Missouri.

Kathy and Wayne have resided in Springfield for the past 28 years, operating horse boarding and training stables in Republic for 13 years. Wayne and Kathy are both very busy pursuing their hobbies. Wayne still participates in bass fishing tournaments and Kathy trains and rides her Fox Trot horses. The couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a stay at Downstream Casino, one of their favorite things to do.

I am proud of Wayne and Kathy Fowler and am honored to call them my neighbors in the 7th Congressional District of Missouri. I wanted to take this opportunity to commemorate their 50th anniversary. May God bless them with many more happy and loving years together.

ARISAI GURROLA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Arisai Gurrola for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Arisai Gurrola is a 12th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Arisai Gurrola for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

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

Today, it is \$15,628,266,498,708.04. We've added \$5,001,389,449,794.96 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF OF POLICE, ROBERT "BOBBY" HYATT

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retiring Chief of Police, Robert

“Bobby” Hyatt of the City of La Vernia in Texas. He has dedicated his career to assisting and protecting the south Texas community through his work and efforts. Chief Hyatt retired from the City of La Vernia Police Department on November 30, 2011, after 17 years of faithful service, making him the longest sitting Chief in the State of Texas.

Mr. Hyatt grew up in San Antonio, Texas, and graduated from Burbank High School. He began his law enforcement career at the young age of 21. Mr. Hyatt joined the San Antonio Police Department in 1963. Chief Hyatt retired from the San Antonio Police Department after 31 years of faithful service on Friday, July 29, 1994, and began work as the Chief of Police for the City of La Vernia on Monday, August 1, 1994. Some of his notable career accomplishments include escorting many dignitaries while they visited the City of San Antonio, including Presidents of the United States and the Queen of England. Towards the end of his career in San Antonio he worked as an applicant processing officer, conducting background checks on new cadet candidates for the San Antonio Police Department.

When he began his tenure in the City of La Vernia, he was the only police officer in the City—making him a vital asset in the area for their law enforcement. When he retired, he had a department consisting of six full-time officers, including him and eight reserve officers. Chief Hyatt retired from the City of La Vernia Police Department on November 30, 2011, after 17 years of committed service. Mr. Hyatt has been married to his wife Pat for 54 years. The couple has three children and six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored and privileged to have the opportunity to recognize the extraordinary commitment to former Chief of Police Robert “Bobby” Hyatt for serving and protecting the communities in Texas.

A TRIBUTE TO HEARTSAPART.ORG

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to HeartsApart.org, a truly outstanding organization providing a creative and invaluable service to the men and women of our Armed Forces. As their name implies, HeartsApart.org serves the members of our military while they are apart from their hearts—their families and loved ones—as they serve our Nation across the seas and around the world. HeartsApart.org pairs soon-to-be deployed men and women with local photographers, who donate their time, resources, and skills to give soldiers a precious gift: a portrait of their children and spouses. These photographs, printed on waterproof and durable bifolded cards, which fit securely in a uniform pocket, serve as reminders of home and encouragement for those who serve us so readily.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to say that HeartsApart.org began as a local organization in my own state of North Carolina. For Wilmington, NC photographer Brownie Harris, it was a way to show his support and apprecia-

tion for America’s service members one photo shoot at a time. From humble beginnings and a simple mission, HeartsApart.org has grown to become a national organization, with volunteer photographers in states from Virginia to Nevada and California to Illinois. On April 11, HeartsApart.org was one of 20 organizations honored by First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden as finalists for the Joining Forces Community Challenge, an initiative aimed at encouraging citizens to honor, support, and celebrate our military families. The vision and commitment of the staff of HeartsApart.org is to be commended and applauded. Today, I offer my heartfelt thanks to those who give of their time and talents to serve our brave men and women. May God continue to bless their efforts, and may God bless America.

BROOKE BALLANTYNE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brooke Ballantyne for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brooke Ballantyne is an 11th grader at Two Roads High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Brooke Ballantyne for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

LAUNCH OF NORTH KOREAN MISSILE

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, the recent launch of a three-stage rocket by North Korea was a clear provocation that cannot be ignored. Although the launch was a technical failure, it was an aggressive statement that shows the new regime in North Korea intends to continue down the dangerous path of saber rattling to intimidate other nations, particularly South Korea.

For years now, the United States, South Korea, and other countries have been trying to engage the North Korean regime diplomatically to end its program to develop nuclear weapons and the delivery devices that could threaten Northeast Asia and the Western Pacific.

Despite offering many positive incentives in the form of humanitarian aid, the Stalinist government of North Korea has persisted in its belligerence and has stubbornly refused to ad-

here to peaceful international protocols that engender stability and economic prosperity.

By contrast, South Korea is one of the world’s most economically successful countries. Many of us have seen that dramatic satellite image of the Korean peninsula at night, which shows South Korea lit brightly while North Korea is in near total darkness. This image serves as a metaphor for the freedom and enlightenment that governs South Korea and the enslavement and barbarism in North Korea. Indeed, were it not for its dalliance with advanced technologies in rockets and nuclear bombs, North Korea could truly be said to be living in the Dark Ages.

My father served in the Korean War. He fought side by side with South Korean soldiers who were struggling to save their homeland from the onslaught of communism. For 60 years, the two Koreas have lived under a fragile armistice that masks a tinderbox threatened by a match held by the Kim family dynasty.

I visited South Korea just last year. I saw economic prosperity and political liberty that never could have been imagined when my father was there in the 1950’s.

South Korea is one of the largest trading partners of the United States. The recently-implemented U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement will open up many more opportunities for American businesses to engage our Korean partners.

In the 29th congressional district of New York, which I am privileged to represent, farmers, small business owners, and larger firms are already benefiting from the Free Trade Agreement’s Launch of North Korean Missile effects. That doesn’t even take into account the substantial benefits to consumers who are able to buy high-quality products at lower prices.

Political stability and the security of the Korean Peninsula are vital to U.S. interests and to our allies. Beyond South Korea, nations such as Japan and the Philippines could be threatened by the existence of North Korean nuclear missiles. Further North Korean provocations could easily and seriously disrupt the trans-Pacific trade relations that have developed over the past six decades.

It is the obligation of Congress to speak out when U.S. security and our economic interests are under threat. Even though North Korea’s ill-considered missile experiment failed last week, that does not mean that the next launch will fail.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join me in condemning the Pyongyang regime’s belligerent behavior as a threat to regional and global security.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MRS. IDA COOK-CROWDER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mrs. Ida Cook-Crowder, a long-time member of the Greater Cleveland community.

Born on April 8, 1930, in Marshville, North Carolina, Ida was the daughter of Raymond and Annie Belle Hailey. She moved to Cleveland, Ohio, after graduating from high school.

Upon moving to Cleveland, Ida met and married Army Master Sergeant James Cook. Together, the couple has two daughters, Patricia and Paula. Because of James' career, the family often traveled to places such as Germany, France, Japan and Korea. Twelve years after the tragic passing of Mr. Cook, Ida remarried the Reverend Dr. Roland Crowder of Cleveland's Second Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.

Ida was a skilled seamstress who attended the Clark School of Dressmaking and Cuyahoga Community College, from which she earned an associate degree in decorating. She was well known throughout the Greater Cleveland area for her ability to design draperies. She ran her business under the name of "Ida's Draperies."

I offer my condolences to her family and friends at the Second Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. Ida's spirit and kindness will be missed by all those who had the pleasure of meeting her.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mrs. Ida Cook-Crowder.

BRIAN SOUKUP

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brian Soukup for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brian Soukup is a 12th grader at Arvada Senior High and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

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

I extend my deepest congratulations to Brian Soukup for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

CELEBRATING ISRAEL'S 64TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, sixty-four years ago the state of Israel declared its independence. As Israelis celebrate their Independence Day on Thursday of this week, I offer my wholehearted congratulations to our most cherished ally.

For millennia, the state of Israel was merely a dream to the Jewish people. In 1948, under the leadership of Holocaust survivors who had resolved to overcome mid-Twentieth Century Europe's atrocities, the state of Israel declared independence in its ancient Holy Land and that dream became a reality.

The United States promptly recognized Israel, but she was met with open hostility from her Arab neighbors.

Sixty-four years later, in many respects it seems as though very little has changed. However, we know that Israel prevailed against overwhelming odds in 1948, in 1967 and in 1973 and countless other times. Undoubtedly, Israel is an overwhelming success in a region plagued by conflict.

In a neighborhood of sworn enemies, Israel is a beacon of hope. It boasts a vibrant economy and a well-educated populace whose values and interests are much the same as ours. Israel is the only functioning democracy in the Middle East, and I join my colleagues who, on a bipartisan basis, have time and again stood by her in times of trial.

Freedom-loving nations have a duty to stand with Israel much like Congress has over the years. With a growing threat from an increasingly hostile Iranian regime, a regime that has threatened on more than one occasion to 'wipe Israel off the map,' let us recommit ourselves to the defense of the state of Israel. As we celebrate the 64th anniversary of her founding, the United States must renew its commitment to preserve and protect Israel and stand firm as Israel's closest friend.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FLORENCE JODZIES TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY LIBRARIES ACROSS VIRGINIA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the ongoing work of the Vale Club and the Oakton Womens' Club to promote education and engagement on civic, cultural and social welfare issues in our community. I also join them in celebrating the contributions of Florence Jodzies, a leading voice in the effort to provide public library services across the Commonwealth of Virginia during the early 20th century, with the dedication of a highway marker in her honor near the Vale community. It is fitting to reflect on that legacy today, April 24, 2012, on the 212th anniversary of the founding of the Library of Congress and as we near the end of National School Library Month.

Mrs. Jodzies moved in 1934 to the Vale community of Fairfax County, where she promptly joined the local Home Demonstration Club, which was then an outreach program under the cooperative extension. Through her involvement with the club, she soon launched an impassioned campaign to stimulate interest in reading, to provide reading material and to help communities establish libraries. In a 1938 article in "The Southern Planter," Mrs. Jodzies wrote that reading of high class literature was necessary to humanity's progress and happiness. "Free libraries are essential instruments of education, information, research, culture and recreation—all necessary factors in any democracy which expects to remain a democracy," she wrote.

The fact that more than half of Virginia's residents at the time had no access to a library was a motivating factor. Within two years, every county in the Commonwealth with

a Demonstration Club boasted an active library program. In addition, it was thanks to her efforts that Virginia's governor provided funding for construction of the first state library building with the assistance of a federal grant. In recognition of her efforts, Mrs. Jodzies was appointed by two successive governors to represent the Commonwealth at the Annual Conference of the American Library Association in 1937 and 1938. In addition to her work to promote community libraries, Mrs. Jodzies was active with the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, the Business and Professional Women's Club, Community Chest, and the County Advisory Council. She and her husband relocated to Winter Haven, Florida, before she died in 1969 at the age of 82.

She was an early pioneer for the Fairfax County Public Library system, which now boasts eight regional branches and 14 community libraries. It is one of the largest and busiest library systems in the nation with more than half a million library card holders, more than 13 million items loaned out each year, and more than 4.5 million visits to its online resources. The Fairfax system also hosts more than 8,000 events annually, attracting 150,000 attendees, and countless volunteers donated more than 155,000 hours of work to their community branches last year.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Jodzies once wrote that she and other Demonstration Club members would "march on . . . until every man, woman and child in Virginia has public access to books." Thanks to her tireless efforts, we have realized that vision, and thanks to the ongoing work of the Vale Club and the Oakton Women's Club, future generations will continue to benefit from the legacy of Mrs. Jodzies and other community leaders who followed in her footsteps. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the tremendous service of these outstanding community volunteers and organizations.

COMMEMORATING THE 97TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I stand to commemorate the Armenian Genocide on the 97th anniversary of its occurrence. It is unfortunate, however, that once again I do so without an official recognition on behalf of the American government.

As I have said in years past, the undeniable genocidal actions by the Ottoman Empire against its Armenian citizens deserve official recognition from the American government. 1.5 million Armenians were killed, the first genocide of the 20th century. As a member of the House Armenian Issues Caucus, I have cosponsored legislation to affirm the U.S. position on Armenian Genocide and will continue to urge my colleagues in Congress and the Obama administration to support this position.

As we mourn the lives of those lost, it is important to recognize the resilience and incredible strides the Armenian people have made in recovering from that unspeakable past. I stand in solidarity with the Armenian people and renew my commitment to pursuing a future of reconciliation and peace.

As a nation we must lead by honoring the memory of those that perished so the Armenian people and the international community can move forward toward a brighter tomorrow. The U.S. has officially recognized other such tragic events and 21 other countries have recognized the Armenian Genocide. I call on my colleagues in Congress and the Obama administration to join me in recognizing the 97th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and urge enactment of H. Res. 304.

HONORING GERALD MICHAEL PACE, SR.

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks in honor of Gerald Michael Pace, Sr., a devoted public servant to the people of Salem and the Greater Roanoke Valley, who passed away suddenly on Wednesday, April 18, 2012.

Born and raised in Pulaski, Jerry attended Pulaski High School, and graduated from Hampden-Sydney College. A committed student himself, Jerry was truly passionate about education. He was instrumental in helping to establish the Community College Access Program—a partnership between the Virginia Western Community College (VWCC), Salem Public Schools, and Roanoke City Public Schools, which allows high school graduates to attend VWCC without paying tuition. He was a scholar of the writings of the Apostle Paul and the Dead Sea Scrolls. And, he taught Sunday school classes on these topics at First United Methodist Church in Salem, and to civic and other community groups.

Jerry served on the Salem School Board for 15 years and one term on the Salem City Council. He was a very proud, active member of the Board of Trustees of Virginia Intermont College in Bristol and of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Western Community College Foundation. A true go-getter, Jerry even spent time working as an adjunct professor at Virginia Western Community College, where he taught sales and marketing, industrial safety, algebra, and manufacturing processes.

I am honored to pay tribute to his many contributions to the community. A husband, father, grandfather, businessman, community servant, educator, cancer survivor, friend to me and so many others, and storyteller to all, Jerry will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to Jerry's family and friends. His legacy and influence will be long remembered across the Roanoke Valley and throughout Southwest Virginia.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF REV. EVERETT KELLEY

HON. MIKE ROGERS OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a personal friend of mine, Reverend Everett Kelley, upon his retirement

from the Anniston Army Depot and the Federal Government.

Mr. Kelley was born on February 24, 1957, in Goodwater, Alabama. In 1971, his family moved to Sylacauga, Alabama, where he graduated from Sylacauga High School in 1975. Later he enlisted in the United States Army and served three years at Fort Campbell in Kentucky.

In 1981, Everett began working at the Anniston Army Depot and on March 2, 2012, retired from Federal services with 34 years of service. While employed with the Anniston Army Depot, Everett was Program Specialist for the High School Co-Op Program and President of the AFGE Local 1945 for nine years. During his career he also held positions of Shop Steward, Chief Steward and Vice President of AFGE Local 1945.

During his career, Everett has served as Senior Pastor at St. Mary Missionary Baptist Church for the past 25 years.

Upon his retirement, Rev. Kelley will continue assisting Federal employees as National Vice President of AFGE District 5.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Reverend Everett Kelley and thank him for his outstanding service to our community and our nation.

RECOGNIZING THE SUSTAINABLE AND GREEN INITIATIVES OF GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, on its recent commendation by the 2012 version of The Princeton Review Guide to 322 Green Colleges and to congratulate GMU on its strong and exemplary commitment to sustainability.

Over the past several years, George Mason has taken a multilateral approach to creating a climate neutral campus. The university has compiled annual greenhouse gas inventories since 2006, designing its first Climate Action Plan in January 2010. In an effort to transition to environmentally sound construction, Mason has committed all new buildings to seek a LEED Silver designation, with six registered projects currently seeking certification. Additionally, all equipment on campus much be Energy Star-rated.

A central component of the university's strategy to reduce campus-based greenhouse gas emissions has been the development of the scope, appeal, and accessibility of public and alternative transportation to accommodate the ever-increasing student population.

Mason students also have played an important role in developing the sustainability and environmental responsibility of the University. Student organizations like the Environmental Awareness Group, the Patriot Green Fund, and the student-run organic vegetable garden facilitate opportunities for discussions, student research, and exposure of University initiatives to the local community. Students also can focus their academic careers through the Environmental Science, Environmental and Sustainability Studies majors, the Sustainability and Renewable Energy minors, or one of the

first Energy and Sustainability Master's degree concentrations in the nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all members of the George Mason University community for their success in creating a responsible and sustainable academic community. By infusing sustainability principles into every aspect of higher education, George Mason University is training the next generation of leaders to put green ideas into practice today.

BALUCHISTAN

HON. TED POE OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Baluchistan is one of four provinces in Pakistan. It is the largest of the four provinces in terms of area (44 percent of the country's land area), but the smallest in terms of population (5 percent of the country's total). Within Baluchistan is the Baluch people group. They have their own language, culture, and history.

This distinct group of people, who once held autonomous status, was deprived of their freedom without consideration when the British Empire invaded the area. When the British took control over the area they divided the Baluchistan land into three separate parts, giving part of the land to Persia in 1896 while retaining the largest portion for India. The third and final division of the land by the British occurred in 1894 that gave part of Baluchistan to Afghanistan.

Once the British relinquished control and India and Pakistan separated, the majority of Baluchistan was forcefully annexed to Pakistan in 1948. The Baluch people never had any say—they were never asked if they wanted to be part of Pakistan.

Since then, the government of Pakistan has neglected them. Look at almost any indicator and the Baluch people are worse off than other Pakistanis. Life expectancy, school enrollment, and adult literacy are all particularly low amongst the Baluch people. This is ironic when you look at all the large reserves of gas, oil, gold, copper, silver, platinum, aluminum, and uranium it has. The Baluch people have the resources to take care of themselves, but the government of Pakistan takes the resources and either puts tight constraints on the profit that goes back to the Baluchs or gives the profit away to its friends. For example, the government has historically required Baluchistan to sell gas at a lower rate than the other provinces. Baluchistan receives a mere \$0.29 per thousand cubic feet for its gas, while nearby Sindh gets \$1.65 and Punjab receives \$2.35. Pakistan gave the exploration rights to the Saindak copper mine to the Chinese, so the Chinese will get most of the profit and the Pakistan profit the rest.

It is not just neglect of the Baluch people but also outright persecution. Since 2005, Pakistani human rights organizations have recorded numerous serious human rights violations by security forces, including extrajudicial executions, torture, enforced disappearances, forced displacement, and excessive use of force. According to the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Center, violence in 2005 around Dera Bugti district alone displaced around 6,000 people and killed scores.

Over 2009 and 2010, Human Rights Watch detailed 45 cases of alleged forced disappearances.

Pakistan decided to respond to complaints over how they rule with brutal force. Instead, they should give the Baluch people a voice in how they will be governed. They should not only listen to their complaints, but answer them with positive steps. Should the government of Pakistan continue to not only neglect but persecute the Baluch people, it is hard to argue with Baluchs who demand self-determination. In the end, a government is only legitimate as long as it has the support of its people. The government of Pakistan is dangerously close to that line.

Apparently, the Baluch people have been reading Thomas Jefferson's comments when he said in the Declaration in the Independence, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government." History recorded what happened to the British when they forgot these truths. And that's just the way it is.

APRIL IS MONTH OF THE
MILITARY CHILD

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize April as the "Month of the Military Child."

In 1986, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger established April as the Month of the Military Child. Since then, the communities that surround our military families have had the month of April as a time to focus on recognizing the important roles that military children play.

There is no doubt that we owe a great debt and gratitude to our military for the unparalleled freedom and opportunity we enjoy in this country. But, we need to pause and remember that this is also made possible through the dedication and sacrifices made by their families and children as well. While I understand it is important to show our support for the military and their loved ones every day of the year, I welcome the emphasis placed on the children of service members in the month of April.

As a way to offer my continued support and gratitude, I recently introduced H.R. 4341, TRICARE for Kids, which would help the Department of Defense and its TRICARE program develop and encourage health care practices and policies that are designed to address the specific health care needs of military children and families. The Department of Defense estimates there are approximately 1.9 million military children, and I believe we all need to work to ensure they have access to the resources and support that best meets their needs—including health care.

Without the selfless contributions our military and their families have made throughout history, our great nation would not have the freedom that it does today. Military children are a special part of that aspect of our history, as they are the young, brave, and often unnoticed heroes who have stood strong alongside their parents who have risked their lives and fought for our country and way of life. I thank every one of them for what they do, and I would like to ask every Member of Congress to look me in offering support throughout this Month of the Military Child.

HONORING DICK WYLIE

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Dick Wylie for his 25 years of service as President of Endicott College in Beverly, Massachusetts.

Receiving a bachelor's degree from Plymouth State College and a master's and doctorate from Boston University, Dr. Wylie has led by example as a professor and administrator at several notable institutions, including the University of Connecticut, Temple University, the University of Colorado, and Lesley University.

Thanks in part to Dr. Wylie's leadership and dedication to higher education, Endicott College grew from a small, two-year women's college into the esteemed four-year coeducational institution it is today. Specifically, when Dr. Wylie arrived in spring of 1987, Endicott College had an enrollment of fewer than 600 students. Its campus consisted of 28 buildings on 140 acres; the College's operating budget was \$7.7 million; and its endowment was \$3.9 million dollars. Today—25 years later—almost 5,000 students are enrolled at Endicott College, which now has 51 buildings on 235-acres of land. The College's operating budget is now over \$85 million, and its endowment is more than ten times what it was in 1987.

In 1996, Dr. Wylie helped found the Van Loan School of Graduate and Professional Studies, which currently offers Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Technology and Nursing (M.S.), Master of Arts, Master of Fine Arts, and Master of Education degrees as well as accelerated bachelor's degrees for adult learners. In December 2011, the College received approval to offer its first doctoral program, a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership, which is reportedly the first approved doctoral program on the North Shore of Massachusetts.

Throughout his tenure at Endicott College, Dr. Wylie has never lost sight of the school's philanthropic duty to give back to its community. Mr. Speaker, it is worth noting that, just this past year, Endicott College's study body put in 15,000 hours of community service, an achievement which earned them recognition from the White House.

Dr. Wylie also established Endicott Colleges "Keys to Degrees" program. This forward-thinking program seeks to provide young, single parents the opportunity to receive a college education. Providing an environment that supports not only their needs but their children's as well, the Keys to Degrees program

allows our young parents to have a better life and in turn offer a better life to their children.

Dr. Wylie's vision for providing single parents the services they need and deserve did not begin and end with the "Keys to Degrees" program, but it continues with a variety of educational services including internships and mentoring programs as well as weekend retreats on campus for both the students and their children. His stewardship in intergenerational education has recently earned him the distinct honor of being named a fellow at the Aspen Institute.

On May 5, Endicott College will be formally celebrating Dr. Wylie's remarkable 25 years as president. I look forward to being with him and his colleagues that night. In the meantime, I wanted to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate Dr. Wylie as well as thank him for his efforts to educate and provide opportunities for students of all ages.

IN RECOGNITION OF EARTHFEST
2012

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Earth Day Coalition of Cleveland, as they celebrate EarthFest 2012 on April 22, 2012—a date that also commemorates the 23rd annual celebration of EarthFest in Cleveland, Ohio.

Cleveland's Earth Day Coalition was formed in 1990 to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of Earth Day in Ohio. EarthFest is now Ohio's largest environmental educational event and the longest running Earth Day celebration in the nation. I stand in recognition of the staff and volunteers of the Earth Day Coalition for all their effort and dedication in creating such an innovative, exciting and educational event for the Greater Cleveland community to enjoy. This year, EarthFest's theme is "Year of Local and Sustainable Food." Over 175 environmental exhibits are expected from environmental and community organizations, government entities and businesses. EarthFest is just one of Earth Day Coalition's many nationally-recognized programs and promises once again to be a significant aspect of the world celebration of Earth Day.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the staff, volunteers, and members of the Earth Day Coalition as we celebrate EarthFest 2012 on April 22, 2012 at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and The RainForest. EarthFest 2012 promises to educate, inspire and motivate all of us to join together as a community and work toward a more healthy Earth for future generations.

HONORING DR. ROBERT AGRELLA

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Rep. MIKE THOMPSON, to honor the career of Dr. Robert Agrella, who formally retires from his position as president

of Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) on May 5, 2012, after 22 years. Just the fourth president in the 94-year history of SRJC, Dr. Agrella has overseen a period of substantial change in an institution now recognized as a national leader in community college education. His management and foresight have benefitted us all by bringing higher learning closer to the people of the North Bay.

Serving over 36,000 students each semester, and drawing on the expertise of some 3500 faculty and staff, Santa Rosa Junior College is amongst the oldest and most widely recognized two-year colleges in California. It is also a large and growing institution, with two main campuses and a number of career-specific facilities dedicated to public safety, agriculture, technology, culinary arts, and more.

It is a proud part of Dr. Agrella's legacy that many of the SRJC facilities have been built, expanded, or refurbished during his tenure. In the 1990s, classes first began at the Petaluma campus, and SRJC moved into several new buildings in Santa Rosa. In the past decade, during a time of increasing budgetary difficulty, the new Frank P. Doyle Library, a new student services center, and vast new improvements at the Petaluma Campus and elsewhere have all been completed or undertaken. These are the products of Dr. Agrella's tireless work to unite SRJC staff and a Sonoma County community committed to the funding and planning necessary for continued growth. SRJC has also become a model for environmental consciousness, supporting green construction and a thoughtful, collaborative approach to development.

As the North Bay has grown and diversified, so too has the training and education SRJC offers to meet the needs of our community. While opening new facilities in agriculture and public safety—areas of historic strength in Sonoma County—Dr. Agrella has also overseen an expansion into new areas that will strengthen our economic base and serve the needs of a modern workforce. High technology, green energy and green building, tourism and hospitality, and performing arts offerings have all been upgraded. At the same time, scholarships have been greatly expanded to serve a diverse and inclusive College community.

Dr. Agrella's role in realizing these changes has been widely recognized in Sonoma County. He has been named Santa Rosa Citizen of the Year, and he is the recipient of the Spirit of Sonoma County Award. In appreciation of his longstanding service to SRJC and Sonoma County, Dr. Agrella has also been named the College's first president emeritus.

Mr. Speaker, we ask you to join us in thanking Dr. Agrella for his contributions to Santa Rosa Junior College, and in wishing him all the best in his retirement. Dr. Agrella leaves SRJC with a remarkable legacy of service, and with a firm footing for a strong, progressive future.

HONORING THE BRAVE FIRST RESPONDERS OF HACKLEBURG AND PHIL CAMPBELL

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the courage and dedication of the

first responders of Hackleburg and Phil Campbell in the wake of the deadly tornadoes of April 27, 2011. Furthermore I want to honor the heroic actions of these volunteer firefighters, law enforcement officers and paramedics for their selfless devotion to their communities.

On Wednesday, April 27, 2011, the State of Alabama experienced the worst tornado outbreak since 1974 and possibly the deadliest the State has ever seen. The small Northwest Alabama towns of Hackleburg and Phil Campbell were completely devastated by the storms. The storms left a path of destruction through the towns at least half a mile wide, destroying numerous houses and businesses as well as both high schools, the fire and police stations in Hackleburg and severely damaging the city hall in Phil Campbell. Worst of all, the tornadoes took the lives of 18 people in the Hackleburg area and 27 people in Phil Campbell.

During the difficult hours and days immediately following the tornadoes of April 27, 2011, the first responders of Hackleburg, Phil Campbell, Marion County and Franklin County acted with the utmost professionalism and bravery when called to duty. Despite the carnage, they performed their duties with valor and perseverance. Many of them were working to assist others while not knowing whether their own families were safe. During the first frantic hours—and even days—of the search and rescue effort, sleep was not an option. They had a mission to do: to coordinate emergency work and retain order even while the debris-littered streets were the same route used to carry out the wounded and deceased and to welcome in relief workers from neighboring communities. But through it all, they never lost sight of the people they had sworn to serve and the spirit that has held their communities together.

On behalf of the citizens of the Fourth Congressional District of Alabama, I commend the brave men and women of the volunteer fire departments, law enforcement agencies and paramedics for their courage, selflessness and commitment to their communities. They, along with the resilient folks they serve, have begun to pick up the pieces of their shattered towns. I have every confidence that the Towns of Hackleburg and Phil Campbell will fully rebuild and be better than ever.

TO RECOGNIZE BATTLEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL'S PARTICIPATION IN THE STOCK MARKET GAME'S "CAPITOL HILL CHALLENGE"

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Battlefield High School's Participation in the Stock Market Game "Capitol Hill Challenge."

The Stock Market Game (SMG) program is an extension of SIFMA and the SIFMA Foundation for Investor Education and has provided financial literacy, including personal financial skills and global economic education, to 13 million students and hundreds of thousands of teachers. Through this program, students further their performance and understanding of such financial and economic topics.

The "Capitol Hill Challenge" (CHC) poses a challenge to participating student teams by having them manage a hypothetical \$100,000 online portfolio and investing in bonds, real stocks, and mutual funds. CHC would also engage Members of Congress with the constituents participating in SMG. The top five teams will travel to Washington D.C. to meet with their Congressman or Congresswoman. Again, CHC is an investment in our students' financial literacy for their future.

Battlefield High School will participate under the guidance of Michele Adkins and is among the more than 3,000 teams participating in the Ninth Annual Stock Market Game "Capitol Hill Challenge."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Battlefield High School on the occasion of its participation in the Stock Market Game's "Capitol Hill Challenge" and in congratulating the students, educators, administrators, and parents on working together as a team for the benefit of all.

A TRIBUTE TO DREW MINARD

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize West Des Moines Crossroads Park Elementary student Drew Minard, for his brave efforts to combat bullying in his school, state, and country.

Bullying is a problem for millions of school children every day in every corner of America. As adults we are well aware of the damage and pain that bullying causes, but it is the children of our country that live through this grim reality every day. Eleven-year-old Drew Minard understands the state of bullying firsthand and is using his talents, perspective and his big heart to motivate students across Iowa to change this reality, rather than accept it.

The 2012 documentary "Bully" is being viewed by millions as a heartbreaking look into our nation's bullying problem, but to Drew the film was his call to action. Drew knows that the solution to bullying does not lie with a select few, but instead lies with each and every one of us. When it comes to bullying, as Drew says, "There is no such thing as an innocent bystander."

To get his fellow students actively involved in combating bullying, Drew launched a student-led bully prevention initiative called ABC, or Anti-Bullying Club, for sixth-graders at Crossroads Park. ABC currently boasts roughly 30 members that gather to write and perform anti-bullying lessons that are presented at school assemblies. ABC also creates and places posters around the school to encourage students to speak out against bullying and report acts of bullying to an authority figure immediately when witnessed. The members of ABC are also readying a "Declaration of Non-Bullying" that they hope every student will sign to affirm their commitment to putting a stop to bullying in their school. Drew readily acknowledges that bullying is not just specific to Crossroads Park, and he plans to expand ABC to other elementary schools in his area and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, the actions Drew has shown to a cause greater than himself speaks volumes

of his selfless commitment to assisting others. Drew is a testament to the high quality character and unwavering work ethic instilled in lowans both young and old. I know I speak for all of my colleagues in the United States Congress in congratulating Drew, thanking his supportive family, and thanking all the members of ABC, and the staff of Crossroads Park Elementary, for their life-changing efforts now and in the future.

TRIBUTE TO MARY SKEENS ON
HER INDUCTION INTO THE WEST
VIRGINIA AFFORDABLE HOUSING
HALL OF FAME

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Mary Skeens, as she is inducted into the West Virginia Affordable Housing Hall of Fame. Mary was raised in southeastern Kentucky, but has chosen West Virginia as her home to carry out her life's work in affordable housing.

Mary is currently the Executive Director of Community Works in West Virginia, a statewide housing network with a membership of 27 nonprofit housing providers serving the State's moderate to low-income home buyers. Since becoming its Executive Director, Mary has expanded the organization's lending capacity by becoming a qualified Seller/Service of loans to Neighborhood Housing Services of America. In addition, Mary has created a Campaign for Excellence, a leadership program designed to empower nonprofit housing managers; and developed an Affordable Housing Internship Program in partnership with West Virginia University, Marshall University and West Virginia Wesleyan University. As a matter of fact, I currently employ one of the first interns in this valuable program.

Prior to joining Community Works, Mary worked for the Federation of Appalachian Housing Enterprises, known as FAHE, and held various positions at the West Virginia Housing Development Fund with the HOME Program and in the Commercial Business and Development Department.

Mary has remained active in many state and local organizations that serve affordable housing solutions such as the West Virginia Interagency Housing Council, NeighborWorks America Rural Initiative Advisory Committee, Board Member of Rea of Hope Fellowship Home for Women and as Board Member and past-Chair of the West Virginia Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the West Virginia Affordable Housing Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor men and women who have made significant and lasting contributions to affordable housing in West Virginia. Mary Skeens is truly a leader in affordable housing and community investment, and deserving of this honor.

I thank Mary for her years of service to the improvement of housing for all West Virginians. West Virginia is fortunate to call Mary one of its own.

IN HONOR OF THE GABRIEL
ZIMMERMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer tribute to The Gabriel Zimmerman Scholarship Fund at University of California, Santa Cruz and the recipient of the inaugural award, Yethzell Diaz, a senior majoring in Latin American and Latino studies and sociology.

Gabriel Zimmerman graduated from UC Santa Cruz in 2002 with a degree in sociology. He served as community outreach director for Representative Gabrielle Giffords. Tragically, he was one of six people fatally wounded in the Tucson, Arizona shooting rampage that also critically injured Representative Giffords. He was the first congressional staffer to give his life in the line of duty. Gabe was a passionate public servant, committed to non-violent solutions and consensus and was motivated to help people.

Moved by his death, UCSC alumni Jonathan Klein and Alex Clemens established a scholarship fund in his honor and offered an initial gift. The scholarship is designed to support students committed to public service.

On Friday, April 27th Gabe's mother Emily Nottingham will present the first scholarship award to Yethzell Diaz. Yethzell has already demonstrated her commitment to public service and social issues. After high school, she lived in Paraguay for seven months doing human rights work with Amnesty International. At UCSC she has worked with other students to create and implement a program in Watsonville schools to increase computer literacy among Spanish-speaking parents. She has also worked to start "Strive for College", a program the will help prepare students from underserved and disadvantaged communities to successfully transition from high school to college.

Mr. Speaker, this scholarship not only honors the efforts to which Gabe Zimmerman devoted his life, it also will support the work of Yethzell Diaz and future students who are involved in helping average citizens improve their quality of life.

CONGRATULATING THE USAF JUNIOR
RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING
CORPS UNIT AT SOUTHERN
NASH HIGH SCHOOL

HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United States Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit at Southern Nash High School in Bailey, North Carolina.

Since 2006, Unit NC-935 has been selected by Headquarters, United States Air Force Air University as a Distinguished Unit, ranking in the top 25 percent of units worldwide.

For the 2010-2011 School-Years, Unit NC-935 was selected by Headquarters, United States Air Force Air University as a Distinguished Unit with Merit, the highest honor be-

stowed in the United States Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps.

In March, Cadets Trevon Davis, Lorell Dupree, Austin Fennell, Samantha Hill, Cristal Raya, and Trebor Walker flew on an Air Force mission with a KC-135 Tanker crew from the 77th Air Refueling Squadron to refuel a C-17 in flight.

And most recently, Unit NC-935 placed first overall at the annual Capital City Invitational Drill Meet in Raleigh, North Carolina. The Regulation Armed Flight placed third, commanded by Cadet John Setera. The Regulation Flight placed third, commanded by Cadet Lance Burnett. The First Year Cadet (AS-1) Element placed third, commanded by Cadet Eric Wall. The Regulation Color Guard placed third, commanded by Cadet Raya. The Relay Team placed third. The AS-1 Flight placed second, commanded by Cadet Davis. The Innovative Element Armed placed second, commanded by Cadet Trebor Walker. The Innovative Duo placed second, performed by Cadets Walker and Burnett. The Regulation Element Male placed first, commanded by Cadet Fennell. Cadet Burnett placed first in the Best Individual Drill with Rifle competition. Cadet Fennell placed first in the Best Individual Drill competition. Cadet Fennell also received an award for most sit ups performed in two minutes.

I would also like to congratulate Lt. Col. John Coulter, CMSgt John Wedding, Commander Luis Lewis Pimentel, and all the cadets at Southern Nash High School, on the accomplishments of this impressive unit. The 2nd district of North Carolina thrives on strong leaders like these, and I am proud to represent these fine young men and women.

KEYNOTE SPEECH FOR THE AFRI-
CA AND INTERNATIONAL LAW
CONFERENCE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following remarks given by Willy Mutunga, Chief Justice and President Supreme Court of Kenya on April 13, 2012.

Fellow Africans and our Friends: I thank the Albany Law School and Professor James Gathii for inviting me to this conference. I am delighted to be among so many practitioners and scholars of international law who share a commitment to Africa. There is a very special reason for me to be delivering this address today. April 13th was the late President—Mwalimu-Julius Nyerere's birthday. He would have been 88 today. Nyerere was a special and inspirational leader—he believed in the solidarity of the African people as well as in human dignity.

Nyerere was interested in both constitutional law and international law. There is a picture of him as a student at Edinburgh holding a copy of Dicey's Law of the Constitution. His interest was both scholarly and practical. It fell to him to develop a constitution suitable for his country—where his commitment to a one party state, although intended to increase democracy, must have come sorely in conflict with the Diceyan preference for the rule of law. As far as international law goes, he was greatly concerned to promote African unity, redefine the relationship between Africa (indeed the whole of

the South) and the West—as well as deal with Tanzania's colonial legacy, including that relating to treaty succession. He ruled out automatic succession, so the newly independent country was not burdened with unfair and unequal obligations.

I also felt honored as I read the biographies of the other participants in this conference: they read like a "Who's Who?" of international law and Africa. One only has to look at the conference program to see the broad depth of international law work relating to Africa. The papers submitted are impressive. I am looking forward to the deliberations here and the opportunity to get to know you and to talk about our common commitments and concern about Africa. My challenge to you always is to continue making transformative contributions in your work on Africa and international law. This will at times require those of you who are based outside Africa to return home and help contribute to the growing use and practice of international law in Africa.

My focus this morning is the new Constitution of Kenya and the role of the judiciary within it. First I want to tell you about that constitution and the vision that it espouses. We are now engaged in the challenging but difficult task of implementation in which a key role has been assigned to the judiciary. The judiciary has already made a good start on a progressive, indeed in some respects, radical jurisprudence—and now enjoys great public support.

The Constitution is one of the most progressive in the world. It was overwhelmingly approved in a referendum as a result of the most consultative and participatory processes of Constitution making anywhere in the world. The long period before the Constitution was upheld in the referendum was characterized not only by delays and deadlock, but by a series of governance challenges familiar in many countries of Africa:

An absence of a political culture of obedience to and respect for rules, and a cavalier treatment, even of constitutional texts;

Failed systems including the electoral system;

Failed institutions including a corrupt judiciary and police force;

A population tortured and inhibited from fulfilling its full potential;

Exclusion of women and many groups from full participation in society;

Gross manipulation of ethnic, racial, regional, religious, generational, clan, class, and occupational divisions by politicians for their personal ends;

Extreme inequality, great poverty and failure of even development;

An institutional culture of timidity, even where no threats existed;

A society and politics characterized by violence, fragility and instability; and

An international community that excelled in perfidy and double standards and that could not be relied upon to consistently support progressive constitutional reforms.

The result of the above has been a massive culture and practice of impunity and the marginalization of the constitution. The Constitution, which was, as my old teacher, and one of the leading constitutional scholars in Africa and the world, Yash Ghai is fond of saying, "forced upon the rulers by the ruled." Here Yash's reference to rulers means both internal and external rulers—for Ghai, the Constitution has to be written to address these ills.

The 2010 Constitution of Kenya seeks to incorporate such rules in a number of ways. For example, it constantly emphasizes the sovereignty of the people, and is full of people oriented values. So Article 10 enumerates the national values and principles of governance that bind all state organs as well as ev-

eryone who applies or interprets the Constitution or any law or performs any public duty:

Patriotism, national unity, sharing and devolution of power, the rule of law, democracy and participation of the people;

Human dignity, equity, social justice, inclusiveness, equality, human rights, non-discrimination and protection of the marginalized;

Good governance, integrity, transparency and accountability; and
Sustainable development.

I had argued before its promulgation that our constitution should establish a human rights state and society whose vision is radical social democracy. It is my view that this has now happened. It is, therefore, not surprising that there is considerable internal and external resistance to the constitution from people who have a vested interest in bad old habits—tribalism, nepotism and corruption. This increases the responsibility of the judiciary to ensure the enforcement of the constitution, as indeed is envisaged in Art. 20(3), which requires that a court develops the law where the Bill of Rights fails to give effect to a right or fundamental freedom.

The extent of my personal pride, sense of responsibility, and hope, as head of the judiciary, can perhaps be judged from the fact that I once wrote a book about efforts for a new Constitution, in the 1990s, in which I said "The process of making the new constitution, the credibility of the final document and whether the people would be convinced that they own the new constitution are all issues at the root of the problem of constitution making. It is a fact that the judiciary has not fully implemented the Bill of Rights to protect the rights of the people against encroachment by the executive and state apparatuses. The overhauling of the judiciary and judicial system is also at the root of these issues."

I still believe in the key importance of the judiciary. And the Constitution does give it a central role. Article 259 requires that the Constitution be interpreted in a way that promotes its purposes, values and principles, an obligation placed specifically upon courts and tribunals by Article 159(2)(e). And it provides a practical basis for this central role of the courts by its provisions designed to make them truly accessible, including through the institutionalization of public interest litigation. It destroys old concepts of standing by providing that anyone may bring an action to protect rights or enforce the constitution, even if they have no interest other than that of concerned citizen. It prohibits the charging of court fees for actions to enforce the Bill of Rights. It endorses the practice that the Indian Courts call "epistolary jurisdiction"—the possibility of actions being commenced by informal documentation. And while requiring the rules of natural justice to be observed, it denies the possibility of "unnatural justice" in the form of procedural technicalities standing in the way of justice. Much of this comes ultimately from the jurisprudence of the Supreme Court of India, some by way of the South African Constitution.

The judiciary was one of the most criticized of the institutions of the old order. The legacy of the one party state was still discernible in judicial pandering to executive wishes. And I do not mean merely the sort of deference to the legislature that lawyers may legitimately argue about, but judges who would adjourn matters before them to take instructions from State House. The judiciary was one aspect of the machinery of impunity. Simple financial corruption was also rife. And, if you are auctioning your judgment to the highest bidder, it is prob-

ably counter-productive to exhibit much legal skill! For many years law reports were not up to date, and legal literature was all but non-existent.

Radical measures were needed. And they are found firstly in a process of subjecting all serving judges and magistrates to an examination of their suitability to remain in office. This process is under way, in the hands of an independent body, a process with which I have nothing to do, and on which it is of course improper for me to comment. Secondly, the appointment system was revamped. Now judges are interviewed and nominated by a Judicial Service Commission truly independent of government. The President is to have no discretion but must act on the Commission's recommendation. The Chief Justice and Deputy must be approved by Parliament. I was myself interviewed by the parliamentary committee, on live television, and questioned about, among other things, my finances, my attitudes to certain sensitive issues, my sexuality and my earring!

The judiciary has embarked upon many organizational changes intended to realize the Constitution's vision. These include the recruitment of judges and magistrates and professional administrative staff. Recently we appointed 26 judges to the High Court (that is the court of first instance of unlimited jurisdiction)—half of them women. The Court of Appeal now has 7 more judges, 5 of them women. We will recruit 160 Magistrates before the end of May, 2012. We have delinked judicial functions from administrative functions, boldly set out to stamp out corruption in the judiciary while speeding up reforms in computerization and other electronic justice measures. We have achieved some significant progress in reducing the backlog of cases and changing backward judicial culture. The 12 clusters that reflect these reforms, including the creation of progressive, indigenous and patriotic jurisprudence that I touch on later are contained in a write-up named the Judicial Transformation Framework that I will launch in May, 2012.

The constitution also provides for the decentralization and democratization of the judiciary. Unlike previous years when the old constitution made the Chief Justice a judicial autocrat and monarch, under the new constitution I do not control everything from the top. I have already set up a management and leadership committee that is representative and participatory.

Organization is of course important, even essential, to make the courts accessible, to end the interminable delays, the strain on the pockets and the patience, and to end impunity and, as far as the courts can, injustice. But I want briefly to emphasize something else.

I preside over the Supreme Court. As I understand the reasoning of the Constitution makers when creating this new court, apart from the desire to reintroduce the possibility of a second appeal, was similar to that that motivated the drafters of the South African Constitution when they created the Constitutional Court: to have at the apex of the system a court that would be respected, was committed to the Constitution and could set a new standard, and a new tone. In my view, one of the most important tasks that court will perform will be as a source of a new, highly competent and indigenous jurisprudence.

I link this last adjective to the Constitution's value of patriotism. Patriotism (when not being abused as the "last refuge of the scoundrel" in Samuel Johnson's words) requires putting love of country above love of self. For a judge it does not mean putting country above justice. I conceive that it requires the judge to develop the law, for, as

we all know, in the common law system that is what judges do, in a way that responds to the needs of the people, and to the national interest. I call this patriotic and indigenous jurisprudence. Above all, it requires a commitment to the Constitution and to the achievement of its values and vision.

But don't get me wrong: by "patriotic and indigenous" I do not mean insular and inward looking. The values of the Kenyan Constitution are anything but that. We need to learn from other countries. And we need to learn from scholars like this assembled company. We intend to build up a network of interested and highly qualified academics who share our vision. I hope that some of you here will form part of that network. My concern, when I emphasize "indigenous" is simply that we should grow our jurisprudence out of our own needs, without unthinking deference to that of other jurisdictions and courts, however, distinguished. The Kenyan judiciary has, therefore, a great opportunity to develop a robust, indigenous, patriotic and progressive jurisprudence that will give the country direction in its democratic development. This transformative mission is a duty to all judicial officers. They have all undertaken a constitutional obligation to undertake it and I have challenged them to make a personal obligation to help accomplish it.

Former Justice Krishna Iyer of the Indian Supreme Court expressed the same ambition, in his inimitable style:

Jurisprudence must match jurisdiction and jurisdiction must broaden to meet the challenges of the masses hungry for justice after a long night of feudal-colonial injustice. . . . The rule of law must run close to the rule of life and the court, to be authentic, must use native jural genius, people-oriented legal theory and radical remedial methodology regardless of Oxbridge orthodoxy, elitist petulance and feudal hubris.

Far from being inward looking, it would be my hope that we could learn from, and even emulate, distinguished courts in other countries, including, for example, the Supreme Court of India and the South African Constitutional Court. The Kenyan courts do not need to be as bold as the Indian apex court: many of its procedural innovations in public interest litigation are already enshrined in our constitution. And I would argue that the types of jurisprudence that that court has been so creative in developing are already part of our constitution. Protection of the environment, recognition of rights of communities especially in land, affirmative action, rights of persons with disability, rights to education, health and food—and the redress of past injustices—are engraved in our constitutional text.

What the first Chief Justice of the South African Constitutional Court, Arthur Chaskalson, said of their constitution could just as well be said of ours:

We live in a society in which there are great disparities in wealth. Millions of people are living in deplorable conditions and in great poverty. There is a high level of unemployment, inadequate social security, and many do not have access to clean water or to adequate health services. These conditions already existed when the Constitution was adopted and a commitment to address them, and to transform our society into one in which there will be human dignity, freedom and equality, lies at the heart of our new constitutional order.

For these reasons, including that our Constitution is couched often in language similar to that of South Africa, I anticipate that we shall learn a great deal from them, though always, as I say, suiting the decisions to our own realities.

Upendra Baxi wrote, of Public Interest Litigation (PIL),

The Supreme Court of India is at long last becoming . . . the Supreme Court for Indians. For too long the apex court had become "an arena of legal quibbling for men with long purses". Now increasingly, the court is being identified by the Justices as well as people as "the last resort of the oppressed and bewildered."

I would hope that the Supreme Court of my country will be the Supreme Court for Kenyans where the oppressed and bewildered will find justice.

But it is not enough for the Supreme Court to shine in jurisprudential terms. Most cases will never get beyond the High Court. The corollary of the decision to create a new, final, court of general, not specifically constitutional jurisdiction, was the desire that courts at all levels could confront constitutional issues and deal with them in a way that fulfills the constitutional dream. We are hoping to raise standards of judging and standards of advocacy, including through the work of the Judicial Training Institute, and by adopting frequent use of written briefs, rather than just skeleton oral arguments. The development of a new jurisprudence must be a collaborative effort between judges at all levels, and practicing and academic lawyers.

The internet is making access to precedents much easier, and there is an improvement in the law reporting situation. There is even some sign of a resurgence of interest in writing about Kenyan law. Do add your bit!

If I may turn now to the focus of concern of most of you: international law. The Constitution took a bold step and provides that "The general rules of international law shall form part of the law of Kenya" and "Any treaty of convention ratified by Kenya shall form part of the law of Kenya under this Constitution". Thus Kenya has become a monist state rather than a dualist one!

The implications of this will have to be worked out over time, as cases come before the courts. I would not have you imagine that Kenyan judges have ignored international law. I know firsthand from Kenya's supercharged civil society that constantly makes claims of international law to hold the government accountable, exemplifies the growing importance of international law in our courts. The courts have often applied the familiar common law approach, and indeed quoted the Bangalore Principles on Domestic Application of International Human Rights Norms, including:

It is within the proper nature of the judicial process and well-established judicial functions for national courts to have regard to international obligations which a country undertakes—whether or not they have been incorporated into domestic law—for the purpose of removing ambiguity or uncertainty form, national constitutions, legislation or common law.

However, where national law is clear and inconsistent with the international obligations of the State concerned in common law countries the national court is obliged to give effect to national law. In such cases the court should draw such inconsistency to the attention of the appropriate authorities since the supremacy of national law in no way mitigates a breach of an international legal obligation, which is undertaken by a country.

Now, however, the courts have greater freedom. Many issues will have to be resolved: what precisely are the "The general rules of international law"? what is the effect of the direct application of a treaty of which the language is not self-executing, such as "States Parties shall take all appropriate measures" rather than "everyone has the right"? And what is the effect of a treaty provision that does not fill a gap in domestic

law but inescapably conflicts with it? And what if the general rules of international law are exploitative, oppressive and subvert the radical social democratic vision of our constitution? All these questions clearly identify where the scholarship of people like yourselves, will be much appreciated by both bar and bench.

I should also like to quote another Bangalore Principle, relevant to my theme of indigenous jurisprudence:

While it is desirable for the norms contained in the international human rights instruments to be still more widely recognized and applied by national courts, this process must take fully into account local laws, traditions, circumstances and needs.

How can we achieve this marriage consistent with international law obligations?

Let me also emphasize that Kenya does not intend to be a "user" of international law, but a producer, shaper and developer of it as well. This is the link to the Nyerere Doctrine where I began. Nyerere refused to accede to existing international rules on treaty succession and came up with his own innovation. Kenyan judiciary will not just import all international legal rules including those which are disempowering to the South as a political and economic category. Instead, as I pointed above in our strategy to create an indigenous, patriotic and progressive jurisprudence, the Kenyan judiciary will use our new constitution to begin a dialogue with international legal communities to nudge the jurisprudence of social justice in a progressive direction. In particular, we have a chance to develop jurisprudence on economic and social rights in ways that are unique to our social and economic development. We intend, therefore, to be able to export progressive jurisprudence to the rest of the world.

Finally, let me not give the impression that I am negative about the work of my judicial colleagues. There are many competent and committed members of the bench. Even under the former constitution with its inadequate Bill of Rights (more limitations than rights!) creative judges were doing their best. And now many of them, new and longer established, are responding with enthusiasm to the challenges and opportunities of the new Constitution. I cannot really comment on individual cases—none has come before us yet, and some will undoubtedly do so. But I personally feel encouraged by signs of willingness to draw on international instruments, not only treaties, and by reliance on the values including those of Article 10—as Article 259 requires.

As we say in Kenya in Kiswahili—Asante Sana. We also say Shukrani, shukran and shukria. Thank you very much.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF CHARLES WALTER "WALT"
RUCKEL, JR.

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the life of Northwest Florida's beloved Charles Walter "Walt" Ruckel, Jr. Throughout Northwest Florida, Walt Ruckel was known for his warm nature, immense generosity, dedicated service to his local community and, above all, his never-ending love for his family. Walt Ruckel is survived by 8 children, 12 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Walt Ruckel was a true Northwest Floridian, born and raised on the Gulf Coast. After graduating from high school, he attended Davidson College and North Georgia College as part of the U.S. Army Specialized Training Reserve Program. Upon completion of his training, Mr. Ruckel entered the U.S. Army Air Corps, where he served as an airplane mechanic before being honorably discharged in 1947. In 1948, he graduated from Soule Business College in New Orleans and returned to his native Northwest Florida where he began a distinguished career in the Northwest Florida business community. Mr. Ruckel took a position working as a bank teller and bookkeeper at Valparaiso State Bank in Valparaiso, Florida, where he quickly established himself, rising to become Assistant Vice President in 1950 before becoming President of the bank in 1951. Mr. Ruckel continued to serve at the bank as Chairman of the Board until 2004.

Mr. Ruckel's immense pride in his local community inspired him to pursue a career in real estate and property development. In 1955, he founded Ruckel Properties, which continues to serve the Northwest Florida community today. Through Mr. Ruckel's leadership, Ruckel Properties has developed countless homes and businesses in Northwest Florida and has been a driving force in the development of the cities of Niceville and Valparaiso.

In addition to his work in the Northwest Florida business community, Walt Ruckel was also a noted civic leader. He was a founding member of the Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club, where he served as President from 1954 to 1955 and was twice named the club's "Man of the Year." Mr. Ruckel truly believed in the value of community service, and he remained active in the Rotary Club until his passing, helping to organize and volunteer at the club's latest fundraiser. His steadfast dedication to serving his community extended beyond the Rotary Club, and he was active in many other civic organizations, including the local Chamber of Commerce, United Way and Boy Scouts of America.

Northwest Florida is also home to numerous military installations, and Mr. Ruckel was a strong supporter of the servicemen and women and their families who form such an integral part of our local community. Mr. Ruckel served as Chairman of the Air Force Armament Museum Foundation, where he helped lead a successful effort to raise more than \$1 million for the construction of the Air Force Armament Museum, located at Eglin Air Force Base.

All those who had the fortune of meeting Walt Ruckel were blessed by his kindness and generosity, and his impact on Northwest Florida will never be forgotten. To some, Walt Ruckel will be remembered as an invaluable member and leader of the Northwest Florida community, to others, an honorable member and strong supporter of our Armed Forces. To his friends and family, Walt Ruckel will most fondly be remembered as a loving and committed family man.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life of Walt Ruckel and his living legacy. Northwest Florida has truly suffered a great loss with his passing, and my wife Vicki joins me in sending our most heartfelt condolences to the entire Ruckel family.

IN MEMORY OF DELORES THOMAS HADNOTT

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to honor the memory of a noble public servant and spiritual leader, Delores Thomas Hadnott. With singular dedication, Ms. Hadnott devoted her life to faithfully serving her community.

Ms. Hadnott was born in Arcadia, LA on December 31, 1951. Her parents instilled within her the importance of education and the drive to help others. In 1972, she received her B.A. degree in Sociology from Grambling State University in only three years, while serving as salutatorian, class president and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

After Ms. Hadnott completed Management Training at the University of Houston, she started her thirty-six year career with the American Red Cross—Greater Houston Area Chapter. Ms. Hadnott excelled in her position, becoming the office director of the southeast branch office in 1987. Ms. Hadnott worked tirelessly to advocate for the betterment of Houston and under-served individuals.

In addition to her lifelong service in her community, Ms. Hadnott acted in several roles at the Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church. Through her unselfish hard work and virtue, she eventually became the assistant church secretary, a member of the finance committee, program coordinator for the Mission Society and a Sunday school instructor.

Ms. Hadnott's leadership and community service have been consistently recognized by her colleagues. Mayor Lee Brown honored her on May 9, 2002 when he proclaimed it Delores Hadnott Day in the City of Houston. In 2006, she received the 42nd Annual Founders' Day, Sojourner Truth Crystal and Professional awards. In 2009, I had the honor to present her with the 2009 Congressional Certificate of Special Recognition.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Delores Thomas Hadnott will be missed dearly by her daughter, Crystal Denise, son, Lawrence Oliver, stepson, Lawrence Isaiah, grandson, Ashton Joshua, and daughter-in-law, Shakwanna. She will be remembered in the City of Houston as a dedicated public servant and valued community leader. May she rest in the peace she has so richly earned.

RECOGNIZING MASTER AGRICULTURIST DALE HINES

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to congratulate a second-generation dairy farmer from my home district in western Wisconsin. Dale Hines is a hard-working man from the beautiful small town of Ellsworth who was recently recognized as a Master Agriculturist. This distinction, awarded by the magazine Wisconsin Agriculturist, recognizes Wisconsin farmers who not only display an ability to raise crops or livestock, but those who also

dedicate significant time to their family, communities, churches, farm organizations, and other local efforts.

I'm proud to be from an area so rich with agricultural history—an area which celebrates and appreciates the hard-working men and women who work on our farms, raising crops and livestock, helping to put food on our tables. The family farm is an important American institution, and Dale Hines and the rest of the Hines family are an embodiment of that spirit. As a child, Dale grew up surrounded by farming. Even at a young age, he spent his time milking his family's 30 Holstein cows along with his older brothers—a chore which became a full-time career for Dale after graduating from Ellsworth High School in 1977. Today, the Hines Ranch, which was recognized in 1987 as the Wisconsin Conservation Farm of the Year, has grown exponentially. They cultivate 810 acres of land and milk 80 cows, a herd which produces more than 28,000 pounds of milk per cow.

However, despite their farm's growth amidst the ever-changing world of farming, one thing has never changed for the Hineses: the importance of the family-run operation. Although only Dale's family lives in the farmhouse, the entire extended family is still very much involved with the farm's day-to-day operations. Everyone helps out in whatever way they can, whether it's helping with the planting and harvesting of the crops, constructing all of the farm's buildings, or keeping track of the books—a task which Dale's 85-year-old mother Joyce still does to this day.

The Hines family is truly an example to follow, both due to the success of their farm and the importance they place on family. It is with great pride that I rise today and congratulate Dale Hines, a dedicated father, farmer, and citizen, on having received proper recognition of the hard work that he and his family have put forth over the last half-century. He is truly deserving of the title of Master Agriculturist, and I wish him and the rest of the Hines family all of the best in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEPHANNIE FINLEY IN HONOR OF HER SERVICE TO THE COLORADO SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Stephanie Finley, the outgoing President of the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs and Public Policy Division.

Stephannie began her career working for a small food distribution business that served Peterson AFB, the Air Force Academy, and Ft. Carson. After the business was sold, Stephannie entered the world of politics.

She has extensive experience including: working for the White House Advance Team in the early 1990s, serving as a staffer to the Colorado General Assembly, the Chief of Staff for Colorado's 3rd Congressional District, the Director of State Government Relations for the University of Colorado, and the Chief of Staff to Lt. Governor Jane Norton.

Stephannie first joined the Chamber in February of 2006. She has been a passionate and

dedicated servant to the Front Range of Colorado, and I extend her my sincerest thanks and wish her the best of success in her future service.

“UNBROKEN”

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on a fateful day in May 1943, bombardier Louis Zamperini and his fellow airmen were flying in a B-24 over the Pacific Ocean on a reconnaissance mission. The plane fell apart mid-flight, crashing into the middle of ocean and killing all but three of the 11-man crew.

In the midst of the catastrophe and chaos, Louis along with his pilot Russell Allen Phillips and tail gunner Francis McNamara, found a small rubber life raft. All three avoided sharks, dodged bullets from Japanese aircraft and devised ways to catch rainwater, fish and sometimes birds.

After 33 days on the raft, Francis McNamara died. The chance of rescue for the other two men seemed bleak, until day 47, when their raft finally made landfall in the Marshall Islands.

Once they reached the island, Louie and Russell were immediately captured by Japanese forces and put in a POW camp where they were imprisoned for over two years in several infamous camps, including Ofuna, Omori and Naoetsu. Thought dead by his family, Louis faced torture worse than death.

One particular brutal guard, nicknamed “The Bird,” planned to make an example of the famous Olympian. Louis would look away from The Bird’s eyes and get punched for looking away; Louis would stare into The Bird’s eyes and get punched for staring at his eyes. The Bird would then whip Louis with a 2-pound steel buckle across the face and head. The Bird would torture, starve and force Louis to perform demeaning acts every day. It seems unthinkable, but during the two years of abuse and torture, Louis never broke down. That is a resilient spirit.

Finally, almost 28 months after his plane crashed, Louis was brought home to California. Louis tried to balance the horrors of his imprisonment with his new found celebrity status in America. His life began to spin out of control. This is not where his story ends.

Louis attributes getting his life back on track to a young evangelist named Billy Graham

who inside a revival tent changed Louis’s life forever. After his reconfirmation to his God, Louis became a missionary to the same country that had held him captive. In Japan, he preached the good word of forgiveness to the guards that tortured him during the war.

Laura Hillenbrand tells the tale of the great American hero Louis Zamperini in the appropriately titled book “Unbroken.” Born in Olean, New York in 1917, Louis moved to Torrance, California with his Italian-American family in the 1920’s. Like most rural American children of the era, he grew up poor in the Depression.

Louis’s teenage years were far different from the life he leads today, but, they were a precursor to the spunk he still exhibits some 80 years later. In his younger years, he was in and out of trouble with the law, having established a reputation on the streets of Torrance as a fighter and a thief. It was here that his older brother, Pete, discovered Louis’s talent for running.

In an effort to restore his street reputation, Louis joined the high school track team. Pete helped develop Louis’s natural athletic speed by training him, first for the mile run. By his senior year, Louis set the world’s high school record in the mile run. Soon after, he qualified to run in the 1936 Berlin Olympics where he was the top American finisher in the 5,000-meter run.

At the Berlin games, Louis’s speed caught Adolf Hitler’s attention, and Hitler sought him out for a congratulatory handshake. The dictatorship that Louis witnessed in Berlin would soon affect him personally.

After returning from the ’36 Olympics, Louis enrolled at the University of Southern California where he earned a track scholarship. It was five years later that Louis enlisted in the U.S. Army. After Pearl Harbor, Louis was sent to Houston to train in the U.S. Air Corps bombardier school. From there, he served as a bombardier in the South Pacific during World War II.

Louis is now 94 years young. Louis has done more in his life than many can claim: he ran in the 1936 Berlin Olympics; fought in the Second World War; survived a plane crash into the ocean; and endured two years of torture at Japanese POW camps. Having lived for nearly a century, Louis still travels the country telling his story and inspiring generations to come. He still has the fight left in him—don’t let his age fool you.

Today, Louis still travels the world and tells his story of endurance and survival. His patriotic legacy of military service and plain old giving back is one of the best examples of our greatest generation in American history. Louis

is that special warrior who never forsook his duty and never forsook his honor. He was unbroken.

And that’s just the way it is.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JUDGE
PETER SIKORA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court Judge Peter M. Sikora.

Born on December 11, 1951, Judge Sikora was a lifelong Clevelander. He attended St. Ignatius High School where he ran track, cross country and played on the hockey team. Tragically, at the age of 17, Judge Sikora suffered a life altering trampoline accident that left him in a wheelchair. However, he was able to overcome his injury and have a successful career as a judge.

After earning an associate’s degree from Cuyahoga Community College and graduating as valedictorian from Baldwin-Wallace College, Judge Sikora earned his law degree from Case Western Reserve University. He went on to serve as deputy legal counsel for Governor Celeste in the mid-1980s before becoming deputy director and general counsel to the Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.

In 1989, former Governor Celeste appointed Judge Sikora to the Cuyahoga Juvenile Court where he continued to be re-elected for consecutive terms until his passing. He was the most veteran judge at the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court. In addition to his service, Judge Sikora was a dedicated and active member of the Greater Cleveland community. He was a board member for the Cleveland Ballet, International Services Center, Health Hill Hospital for Children and MetroHealth Rehabilitation Institute of Ohio.

I offer my condolences to his sister, Linda Baxendale; nieces and nephews, Nathan (Sara), Jared (Ashley), Aaron (Suzanne), Leah, Molly, Claire, Ava, Hatcher, Briley, Mary Grace and Jack; his caregiver, Jean Foutz and his court staff.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Judge Peter Sikora, who dedicated his life to serving the Greater Cleveland community.

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 infor-

mation, 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 Thursday, April 26, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

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