

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN MEMORY OF THOMAS COONAN

**HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today, on behalf of the men and women of our institution, to honor the American life of Thomas Coonan.

For most Members of Congress, the gateway to the chamber of the United States House of Representatives is the doorway to the Speaker's Lobby.

For many years, Tom Coonan stood at that door in the service of his country and the service of democracy. As a trusted member of the House Chamber security detail and the Office of the Sergeant-at-Arms, it was his post.

For more than 15 years, Tom Coonan stood at the passage to the People's House, where he was a familiar and comforting sight to all who passed regularly through our chamber.

But Tom Coonan was standing vigil for American democracy long before his first day of work for the House.

Before he served his country with the House Sergeant-at-Arms Office, Tom Coonan served his country with distinction in our armed forces.

He began his military career in 1963, and served as an Assistant Intelligence officer, as the commander of Amphibious Group Two, until 1966.

For the next decade and a half Tom held a number of civilian positions. Then, in 1981, once again feeling the tug of his desire to serve the nation he loved, Tom volunteered for a recall to reserve active duty.

Beginning in 1990, he served as the U.S. Commander-in-Chief Pacific's Representative for the Southwest Pacific, Suva, and Fiji.

In September 1995, he joined the House Sergeant-at-Arms Office as a member of the Chamber Security staff. He was always stationed in the Speaker's Lobby—the gateway to the chamber at the heart of the democracy Tom spent most of his adult life protecting.

On August 23, 2012, tragically, while members were away for the August District Work Period, Tom Coonan suffered a fatal heart attack at his home in Washington, DC. He is to be buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

For those who served with Tom Coonan, knew him, and were protected by him, his presence is sorely missed. But because of his steadfast and constant service, the vibrant commotion of democracy goes on. And as the House returns this week for legislative business, its members and staff do so with unfailing gratitude for the life he led.

Having stood guard faithfully at the passage to the People's House, Thomas Coonan now stands in the halls of eternity with Our Creator—forever strong, forever vigilant, and forever at peace.

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL  
CENTURY OF SERVICE COM-  
MEMORATIVE COIN ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. ENI F. H. FALÉOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2012*

Mr. FALÉOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2139, the Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act. I thank my colleague, Mr. ROSKAM from Illinois, for introducing this bill which would direct the Secretary of Treasury to mint and issue \$1 coins in commemoration of the centennial of the founding of the Lions Clubs International.

Founded in 1917 by Chicago businessman Melvin Jones, the Lions Club has expanded to over 46,000 clubs and 1.35 million members worldwide. What began as a national association extended beyond U.S. borders within 3 years of founding. Now, nearly a century later, the Lions continue to carry out their motto "We Serve" in 207 countries, touching every corner of the globe.

In the last century, Lions Clubs International has helped to solve problems and serve humanitarian needs on the ground. Their services reach the blind, youth, and the elderly and also address health, the environment and disaster relief.

I am especially grateful to the Lions for their dedicated assistance to the people of my district in American Samoa. Following the deadly 2009 tsunami that devastated villages in American Samoa and Samoa, our local Lions Clubs were among those that came to the aid of our people. The Lions Club of Pago Pago continued to provide relief to many residents who lost their eyeglasses during the tsunami. Volunteers offered residents eye screening services that included complete eye examinations to evaluate visual health and detect eye diseases, prescriptions, and referral services. The Apia Lions in Samoa also provided assistance through disaster relief shelters and distributed donations such as clothing, food, and medicine from international Lions Clubs members.

I am proud to say that the Lions Club of Pago Pago has provided consistent services to our people of American Samoa and is a priceless asset to our community. I commend the Lions Clubs International and I stand in full support of this bill which celebrates and honors a century of international leadership in humanitarian service.

IN MEMORIAM AND REMEM-  
BRANCE OF FIRST SERGEANT  
ACKEEM PAUL GREEN 369TH  
HARLEM HELLFIGHTERS—HAR-  
LEM YOUTH MARINES, INC.

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to share the news of a devastating loss to Harlem and the greater New York City community. We joined with many family members and friends at Memorial Baptist Church to celebrate the life of Harlem Youth Marine Cadet First Sergeant, Ackeem Paul Green, who passed away Sunday, June 3, 2012, from a fatal gunshot wound.

On behalf of our beloved Village of Harlem, my wife Alma and I want to extend our most sincere and heartfelt sympathy, support, and love to my beloved friend, Col. Gregory E. Collins, and the entire family of the First Sergeant Ackeem Paul Green. At the age of 25 he was indeed a promising young man continuing the honorable legacy of his father to better not only himself but his fellow community youth members as well.

Great young men like Ackeem are precious gifts that God has made to help make this world a better and safer place for all of us. First Sergeant Ackeem Paul Green lost his life on the urban battlefield, from gun violence right here at home, while enjoying a game of basketball with friends on a Sunday afternoon. First Sergeant Green was shot in the back by the enemy of illegal guns in the hands of our misguided youth. An enemy that has taken the lives of so many of our promising young carnations and roses and that has declared war throughout every urban neighborhood in the United States of America.

Every time I hear the news that one of our young sons, daughters, fathers, mothers, husbands and wives are struck down by illegal guns in the wrong hands of our misguided young people—it pains my heart with depression and anger. What makes this very difficult for me is that it has taken the life of a young man whose very focus in life was to mentor young men and women and provide them with a positive direction through the principles and leadership of the Harlem Youth Marines and with the values and courage of the United States Marine Corp.

Since the age of 15 Ackeem has committed countless amounts of time and effort to the Harlem Youth Marine Cadets (HYMC). Once Ackeem reached the age limit to serve as a cadet, he remained dedicated and continued to serve the organization through volunteer work. He took time to mentor young cadets and served as a positive and much needed role model to many of our youth both in and outside of HYMC.

The Harlem Youth Marines, Inc. provides instruction in military grooming and development to students willing and eager to learn. This

• 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.

program has supported the youth in my district for over thirty years with an emphasis on youth development through education and discipline. They also provide cadets with the opportunity to indulge in basic military skill building activities such as rappelling, marksmanship, and weapons safety. The children of Harlem have thoroughly benefited from this program through the development of body, mind, and spirit. Ackeem was a remarkable testament of their success.

Mr. Speaker, I know that we, the Village of Harlem, will honor Ackeem's life by ensuring that his young infant son, Ackeem Paul Green, Jr., follows in his father's drill steps and exceeds his dreams and aspirations to be all that he can be. May First Sergeant Ackeem Paul Green's legacy be far remembered and everlasting, as we pick up the flag and defeat this enemy of illegal gun violence that has destroyed the lives of our children, families and communities. I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring a great young man and an impassioned mentor whose legacy shall be far remembered and everlasting.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**  
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Joseph's Slovak Catholic Church of Raritan, Somerset County, New Jersey, which is celebrating 100 years as an important member of the local community.

Since St. Joseph's establishment in 1912, it has been contributing to the religious, cultural and social diversity that has come to define New Jersey. The church was initially founded by immigrants fleeing religious persecution in Slovakia. Many of the early members of the congregation worked in the Woolen Mills, Duke Park and along the railroads crisscrossing the area. Beginning with only a handful of families, the parish of the new St. Joseph's Slovak Catholic Church gathered on October 1, 1912 to form a church society with the goal of raising enough money to build a church where they could practice their faith in their native tongue free from persecution or prejudice.

In 1914, the society raised enough money to purchase a piece of property in Raritan for the construction of a church. The church was formally dedicated in 1915 after a year of construction. Adding to their permanent presence in Raritan, the parish added an adjoining school in 1926. The school initially had a class of 234 students and was focused on providing students with a source of education on their Catholic faith and Slovak heritage.

St. Joseph's provides an exemplary illustration of the benefits of sharing culture and beliefs with others. Religious and cultural centers such as St. Joseph's, provide religious education, philanthropic assistance for those in need, and a greater sense of cultural awareness to the local community while providing a place for people to gather and worship.

The parish of St. Joseph's has been very involved in giving back to the community philanthropically, participating in food bank collections, gathering baby clothing and formula for

struggling mothers, and joining other churches in their charitable works. St. Joseph's assistance casts a wide net, helping people from the Raritan area as well as participating in worldwide assistance efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating St. Joseph's Slovak Catholic Church for 100 years of dedicated work on behalf of the Great State of New Jersey.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, September 11, 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 \$ 16,046,680,286,836.39. We've added \$5,419,803,237,923.31 dollars to our debt in 3 years. This is \$5.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITY CHURCH IN GRAPEVINE

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize the 30th anniversary of Unity Church located in Grapevine, Texas. It is an honor for me to celebrate this congregation's achievement and share its history with my fellow colleagues in Congress.

The Unity Church of Northeast Tarrant County, which is now commonly called the Unity Church of Grapevine, held its first worship service in rented hotel facilities on September 12, 1982. The church moved to facilities in Hurst, where they remained until 1991 when the church purchased property at 1970 E. Dove Road in Southlake, Texas.

In January 1996, the church purchased 5,825 acres on Hughes Road, one mile south of downtown Grapevine. The church built a 13,116 square foot building which was dedicated in September, 1996. Funding for the building was through issuance of \$920,000 in church bonds through American Church Trust. The bonds were re-financed in 2002, providing funding for the start up of Hughes Road Montessori in September, 2003. The Church sold 1.75 acres of back property in 2005 for \$285,000, leaving it with roughly 4 acres. The church received a signing bonus for the property mineral rights from Chesapeake Exploration in 2008 for the amount of \$92,754.50 which was applied against the mortgage. A campaign to pay off the mortgage of \$106,000 by June 1, 2012 began February 12, 2012 from a \$50,000 matching contribution from anonymous donors.

For 26 years, Unity Church in Grapevine has conducted a weekly ministry in the Federal Prison System at Federal Correctional In-

stitute in Fort Worth, Texas. In June 1989, the church received the John Templeton Radio Grant to begin a radio ministry and in 1991 was awarded the first Voice of Unity Award for excellence in broadcasting. Also in 1991, a Care Team was established in the church with its members making hospital calls, nursing home visits, furnishing food for members as needed, and contacting members by phone once a month.

Active in the community, Unity Church of Grapevine assists Grapevine Relief and Community Exchange (GRACE) by furnishing food for the food pantry. The church partners with Grapevine Middle School and has tithed to the school over the past eleven years with funds providing an after school martial arts program, medical assistance, and for needs of students and their families in time of crisis. Members also volunteer as mentors to the students.

Rev. Carol Record has served the Unity Church in Grapevine since its inception. She served as Chaplain of Trinity Springs Pavilion (the County psychiatric hospital), the first woman president of Grapevine Rotary, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, a 26-year volunteer at Federal Correctional Institute, mentor at Grapevine Middle School, and a MHMR Visions Board member. Rev. Record leads the weekly Sunday services, teaches a Bible class each week as well as spiritual growth classes throughout the year. She is a published author, a well known speaker, and a community leader.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Unity Church in Grapevine on its 30th anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall No. 558; had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall No. 559; had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of the nearly three thousand lives lost in the attacks of September 11th. On Patriots Day, we also honor the servicemen and women who have paid the ultimate price in the war on terror. We will never be able to fully honor their sacrifice in the defense of our freedoms.

In the 11 years since the devastation of that day, our anger and sadness have turned to unflinching resolve and determination. On that terrible day, 19 terrorists believed they would bring America to its knees. They believed our Nation and our people could be defeated by a cowardly attack. They were wrong.

Today, America is a brighter beacon of freedom than she ever has been. We remain a nation inspired by the sacrifices of those before us and committed to the ideals they fought so dearly to protect. Mr. Speaker, we will never forget the loved ones and the heroes lost on that day.

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HONORING JOHN TOS

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John Tos of Kings County, California, as he is recognized by the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce as the 2012 Agriculturalist of the Year. A third generation farmer, John has been farming since 1961. John has consistently maintained a deep commitment to his family, faith, and community—which serves as a clear testament to his superior moral character. He is well deserving of this honor.

A passionate and proud son of the agriculturally rich San Joaquin Valley, John has earned the respect and admiration of his friends and neighbors. Tos Farms was started in 1912, north of Hanford in an area called Queen Wilhelmina Colony by Joe Tos, John's grandfather. John's father and his Uncle Larry were the second generation to take over the family farming operation. Since then, John and his son Jeff, along with Bill's son, Mark, have become partners in the farming operation—making Tos Farms, Inc. a four generation, one-hundred year old farming operation. Clearly, the Tos Family is a living example of the American Dream—an illustration of success that shows overcoming adversity and achieving success is possible through hard work and perseverance.

Today, Tos Farms employs an average of 250 to 300 people, many of whom have been with the company for as long as 30 to 40 years.

John is not only being honored by the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce for his exemplary work ethic, he is also being recognized for his meaningful contributions to our community. He and his wife of 50 years, Victoria Tos, have been members of the Christian Reformed Church, where John has served on the Church Council and as Deacon. In addition, John has dedicated his time to the Hanford Christian and Central Valley Christian School Boards. He was also a member of the California Tree Fruit Agreement (CTFA) for 30 years. Currently, John serves on the Marana and Sierra Village Retirement Homes Board of Directors. John also acts as Director of the California Grape and Tree Fruit League, the Kingsburg Federal Land Bank Association, and the Burris Park Foundation. John's steadfast devotion to his community is evident from his loyalty and extensive contributions to our Valley.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. John Tos for his numerous contributions to California agriculture, the San Joaquin Valley, and our Nation. His selfless nature and strong work ethic, truly exemplifies the best of what our Nation has to offer.

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP ACT  
OF 2012

**HON. JOHN P. SARBANES**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Instructional Leadership Act of 2012, which will strengthen schools by helping principals become high-performing instructional leaders.

The passage of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) charged school principals with additional responsibilities. They not only serve as organizational leaders, ensuring that school culture and resources support teaching and learning, but they are also accountable for student achievement and the broader goals of NCLB. Unfortunately, principals often lack the appropriate training and resources needed to accomplish these goals. It is time to bring attention to the importance of developing programs that train principals on the best practices to guide instruction in schools, so that they can more effectively support teachers in improving student academic achievement.

The Instructional Leadership Act of 2012 provides grants to State and local educational agencies to drive gains in academic achievement for all children by: 1) Creating innovative programs and sites to train principals in instructional leadership skills including developing a school vision, staff development, and effective instructional practices; 2) Developing pilot programs to evaluate the incorporation of standards of instructional leadership into State principal certifications; and 3) Establishing state-of-the-art principal induction programs that provide mentoring and on-the-job training for new principals.

This legislation is strongly supported by the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), two of the leading organizations working to develop and promote excellence in school leaders. The Instructional Leadership Act of 2012 represents a necessary first step towards developing the next generation of school leaders who are committed to, and effective in, increasing student achievement. I will continue working to include this bill in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act during the next Congress, and I urge you to join me in championing our Nation's principals by supporting this important piece of legislation.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, September 10, 2012 I had obligations that necessitated my attention in Campaign, Illinois and missed suspension votes on H.R. 6186, which directs FEMA to assess options, methods, and strategies for making voluntary community-based flood insurance policies available through the National Flood Insurance Program. H.R. 2139, which directs the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and

issue as legal tender \$1 coins in commemoration of the centennial of the founding of the Lions Clubs International. And lastly, H.R. 6122, which directs the Librarian of Congress to accept in the interest of the Library of Congress, its collections, or its service personal property valued at \$25,000 or less, nonpersonal services, or voluntary and uncompensated personal services.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on the above stated bills.

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HONORING NEIL ARMSTRONG

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a true American hero, the first human being to walk on the moon, Neil Alden Armstrong.

I had the privilege of meeting Neil Armstrong, and even introduced my son Eli to him at an event commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the *Apollo 11* landing. It has been said that "we're all dreamers," but Neil Armstrong inspired generations of Americans to dream big and reach for the stars, both literally and figuratively. He believed that the yearning to explore is part of what makes us human and his singular achievement on July 20, 1969 still inspires.

A reluctant hero, Mr. Armstrong never used his *Apollo 11* achievement for personal gain. On more than one occasion he questioned his own notoriety, protesting that his walk on the moon was the result of the dedication of more than four hundred thousand people from engineers who designed the Lunar Module to ground controllers who monitored every aspect of the mission, to seamstresses, who stitched by hand the suit that kept him alive on the moon.

The late 1960's was a time of tumult in America, when our nation was riven by Vietnam, the struggle for civil rights and the emerging women's movement. In the midst of this, Armstrong's climb down the lunar module's ladder and his "giant leap for mankind" united not just Americans, but people of all nations as they watched. That night . . . July 20th, 1969, countless children—including a nine-year old boy in Framingham, Massachusetts—looked up at the moon and dared to dream.

Neil Armstrong is no longer with us, but it is a remarkable testament that even now—more than four decades after *Eagle* landed on the Moon—the mission of *Apollo 11* still inspires us and challenges us to press forward in the exploration of space.

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HONORING THE IZAAK WALTON  
LEAGUE OF AMERICA'S 90TH AN-  
NIVERSARY

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Izaak Walton League as it celebrates 90 years of defending Minnesota's great outdoors.

In January 1922, a Minnesotan angler named Will Dilg and a group of fisherman created the Izaak Walton League of America in response to the environmental damage they witnessed during the rapid industrialization following World War One. They began a grassroots campaign to educate the public about the environment and worked to influence Congress to adopt pro-conservation legislation.

Just a year after its creation, the Izaak Walton League successfully blocked legislation that threatened wilderness land that is now the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA). For many years the League was the only organization working to defend this treasured landscape, which has become central to our state's identity. The Izaak Walton League of America would go on to help establish the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge and prove instrumental in passing the federal Clean Water Act in 1972. The Izaak Walton League has always remained true to its founding as a grassroots organization. Their members share my belief that in order to protect our nation's wildlife and natural lands we must focus on bringing communities together around a shared appreciation of nature. They do this through school visits, educational seminars, and hands on volunteer work. In 2005, the League established the National Conservation Scholarship Program to develop future leaders who will carry on the League's mission. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to recognize the Izaak Walton League and all its members on this anniversary and wish them continued success on the next 90 years.

REQUIRE THE VA TO CONSIDER  
ALL QUALIFIED VETERANS

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, we are remiss in our duty to reintegrate those who served in our military into the civilian workforce. The awful truth is that 16.7 percent of Iraq and Afghanistan servicemembers face joblessness upon separation. To help address this problem, I am introducing the Veterans Employment Act of 2012, which will require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to hire all qualified veterans before considering other applicants. The Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, has a workforce of 318,856 civilians, only 32 percent have actually ever worn the uniform. Increasing the amount of veterans they employ, while decreasing the amount of unemployed veterans, is a commonsense policy that benefits everyone.

The number of claims for veterans' disability benefits that take more than 125 days to complete has reached 560,000 unresolved cases. The VA claims backlog is leaving too many disabled veterans waiting an average of six months to receive the disability benefits they have earned. Worse, the Integrated Disability Evaluation System, IDDES, designed to make the transition from wounded warrior to veteran status more efficient, averages 394 days to process each veteran.

Broadening the presence of veterans working for the VA will ultimately make the organization more responsive to the needs of our

veterans. Having served in both the U.S. Army and the Marine Corps, I understand the strong bond of compassion shared between veterans of all uniforms and across all generations. There is a common culture, terminology and expectation of care among military personnel and veterans that have proven to be uncommon to civilians who struggle to connect with them. A dramatic increase in the number of veterans working at the VA is one solution to the systemic inefficiencies that have plagued the department and the reason I am introducing this bill.

My bill will require the VA to consider all qualified veterans for a job. If the VA determines none of those candidates meet the qualifications, only then may they consider non-veteran candidates. The VA will still be required to submit an explanation to the Office of Personnel Management for all veterans passed-over, in accordance with current regulation. No qualifications for employment will be changed or reduced. Requiring the VA to explain their hiring decisions introduces greater transparency into the process.

I look forward to working with my colleagues from both parties to fulfill our commitment to veterans by recognizing their increased value for employment in the VA.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF HARLEM'S SOUTHERN STYLE FOOD ICON, CALVIN COPELAND

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and legacy of another Harlem's Southern Home Style Restaurant owner and Master Chef, Calvin Copeland, who passed away on Thursday morning, August 23. As we remembered and recently celebrated the life of Sylvia Woods, The Queen of Soul Food—certainly for 50 years, Mr. Calvin Copeland and his famed Copeland's Restaurant & Reliable Catering was worthy and reigned with royalty on West 145th Street, between Amsterdam Avenue and Broadway in the Village of West Harlem.

Born in Virginia on May 1, 1925, Mr. Copeland headed north to live with an aunt who taught him her secret recipe to making finger licking good, fried chicken. Never one to forget his southern roots, Mr. Copeland proudly proclaimed Harlem as "the place" that made him famous by cooking and serving his delicious, and often catered, Southern foods and a little bit of live Jazz.

Mr. Copeland started the business in 1958 as a catering service, one of Harlem's first, in a modest storefront on Broadway north of 148th Street. Mr. Copeland baked and decorated cakes and only had but one worker, Ms. Gertrude Clark, who is white and grew up on a farm in upstate New York did whatever else was needed, which often included preparing Southern fare. Quoted in a New York Times Article, she stated, "I had never eaten collard greens in my life, and there I was making fried chicken and souse meat." Ms. Clark later became Copeland's banquet manager.

Mr. Copeland eventually rented the store next door, opened up a hole in the wall, expanded the kitchen and started serving break-

fast and lunch, cafeteria style. In 1980, As small business restaurateur, Copeland faced many challenges. In 1981, the restaurant burned to the ground and the insurance company went bankrupt before Mr. Copeland was able to recoup his losses. He lost everything, but the liquor. Back in the day Banks were not prone to lending money to restaurants located in Harlem, but because of the generosity of friends and special loyal worker, Copeland was able to reopen in grandeur. That very special worker was Gertrude Clark who mortgaged her property in upstate New York, which along with a small business loan helped her boss secure financing for a new location, on West 145th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam in Hamilton Heights.

Calvin Copeland became an institution, when he moved his business to 547 West 145th Street and opened Copeland's Restaurant & Bar Lounge and Reliable Catering Service, which was also a community buffet style diner. Copeland's became a destination for black families from as far South as Florida and the Carolinas and as far North as Buffalo, New York to Canada. Black entertainers, like Harry Belafonte and Stevie Wonder; and other notables would stop by when in town. Desmond Tutu, the retired Anglican archbishop, ate there once, and so did Muhammad Ali and the comedian Richard Pryor, who threw money in the air when he left the restaurant so as to distract the crowd that had surrounded him. Mr. Copeland stated that Natalie Cole was a regular. Michael Jackson came by once for take-out.

One of my fondest memories was the eve of the Mayoral General Election in 1989 when David N. Dinkins and I campaigned at the subway stop on 145th Street and Broadway and ate at Copeland's Restaurant. I don't know if it was the lucky fried chicken, the collard greens or Copeland's corner, but the next day David N. Dinkins won the election and became the first African American and 106th Mayor of the City of New York.

Copeland Restaurant was a place where you can catch Kathy Sharpton, Candi Staton, Lonnice Youngblood, Gloria Lynne and other great Jazz, Gospel and R&B artist perform. Where politicians held court and Harlem players and shakers hung out for breakfast. I miss those fried apples, chicken livers and cat fish, and that amazing banana pudding and sweet potato pie.

Unfortunately, in 2007 due to the economic downturn and poor health, Mr. Copeland had to close. Mr. Copeland always dreamed that one day he would make a comeback to the food business that he loved so much. He was a great teacher and mentor to those in need of a trade to make a decent living, Mr. Copeland trained many into the restaurant business. Even people coming out of prison with no real job options could depend on him for a professional introduction into the culinary arts.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Calvin Copeland, a Harlem Mainstay was there when rioters burned and looted stores in 1964, when crack cocaine and HIV/AIDS tore families apart, when brownstones were for sale for \$50,000 and few outsiders dared move in. He endured fire and financial ruin, yet each time he picked up the pieces and prospered, as bold and resilient as the neighborhood around him. If he could be the master of his fate, he would live out his days in Harlem. Please join me and

my colleagues as we salute another Harlem icon, Mr. Calvin Copeland who has contributed to the greatness in which Harlem is known.

WEST CALDWELL VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT'S 100TH AN-  
NIVERSARY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the West Caldwell Volunteer Fire Department of West Caldwell, Essex County, New Jersey for the celebration of its 100th Anniversary this year.

Although the Borough of West Caldwell received its charter in 1904, it was not until August 5, 1912 that the pressing need for organized protection against fire prompted the incorporation of a fire department. With the help of an appointed committee, the department soon legitimized, purchasing fire equipment and property for a firehouse, on which the first WCVFD firehouse was built. Additional investments in horse drawn wagons, a 700 foot fire house, and sounding fire alarms further improved the efficiency of the department.

Beginning in 1917 the Borough motorized the department, continuing to purchase automobile fire apparatuses throughout the 1950's and 1960's in response to the demands of industry, business, and an increasing population.

Despite the fact that the department's first initial firehouse no longer stands, in 1968 the West Caldwell Borough constructed a new firehouse. This firehouse, located on 6 Fairfield Avenue, is home to the present day headquarters of the department.

Today, the West Caldwell Volunteer Fire Department clearly maintains its initial principles of teamwork and commitment. Under current Chief James Alvine, the department consists of approximately 60 dedicated individuals who work together to save lives on a daily basis.

It is evident that the West Caldwell Volunteer Fire Department exhibits the unity and teamwork required of the fire service. The merits of courage, pride, and passion that permeate the department serve as a testament to its long withstanding success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the West Caldwell Volunteer Fire Department of West Caldwell, Essex County, New Jersey, for the achievement of its 100th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING CHET WALKER

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chet Walker of Benton Harbor, Michigan, who was elected to both the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame and the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame on September 7, 2012.

Mr. Walker began his career as the star of Benton Harbor High School's basketball team,

leading the school to the Class A Boys' state finals in 1958. He then matriculated to Bradley College in Peoria, Illinois, where he became the school's all-time top scorer and rebounder, and was a two-time unanimous First Team All-America pick. Mr. Walker led the Bradley Braves to victory in the 1960 National Invitation Tournament and finished his college career with an outstanding 69–14 win-loss record.

His success as a college athlete caught the attention of the NBA, and after graduation Mr. Walker was drafted by the Syracuse Nationals in the second round. Mr. Walker continued in his tradition of success, and was named to the first ever NBA All-Rookie Team. The rest of his professional basketball career proved to be exceptional: over the span of his 13 years, Mr. Walker scored 18,831 points and grabbed 7,314 rebounds, had a free throw percentage of 79.6, was a seven-time All-Star, and won the 1967 NBA championship with what is considered by many today to be the greatest basketball team of all time.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Walker's achievements and am glad that he is being properly respected for his contributions by the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame and the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. Chet Walker is one of the greatest to ever play the game and we are so proud in southwest Michigan.

IN HONOR OF THE ANDERSON  
POLICE DEPARTMENT K-9 UNIT

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply saddened to learn that, for the second time in less than a month, the community of Anderson is mourning the loss of a police dog. On July 26, 2012, Anderson Police Department K-9 Kilo was lost during a shooting that took the life of a Pendleton resident and injured two police officers. Just weeks later, on August 18, 2012, while tracking the scent of a bank robbery suspect, Anderson Police Department K-9 Magnum was shot and eventually succumbed to those wounds.

Both Kilo and Magnum were lost in the line of duty and while some may believe their service is far different from the officers who choose to wear the uniform, those who stand on the thin blue line see police dogs as partners. Kilo and Magnum both were loyal to the end. With their instincts and training, these police dogs were the front line of defense, protecting their human compatriots.

I couldn't be more proud, that in the wake of these tragedies, the community has rallied around the Anderson Police Department. Students at both Anderson Preparatory Academy and Anderson High School have raised funds to help the city bring on another K-9.

Police dogs, like Kilo and Magnum are often visible within our communities and can be very valuable with public outreach efforts. Yet, as we have learned, these animals often are the front line of defense for officers and the public at large.

Let us keep the Anderson Police Department, especially Officers Marty Dulworth and Matt Jarrett, the handlers of Kilo and Magnum, in our prayers. These instances demonstrate

that our first responders put our lives ahead of their own on a daily basis. For that, we will be forever grateful.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ADAM KINZINGER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, due to transportation issues beyond my control, I was unable to cast my votes on Monday, September 10, 2012. If able to cast those votes I would have voted Aye on H.R. 6122, to Revoke the Authority of the Librarian of Congress to accept gifts on behalf of the Library; H.R. 2139, the Lions Club Commemorative Coin Act; and H.R. 6186, to Require a study of community-based flood insurance options.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 557–559. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted "yes" on all three votes.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF PETTY OF-  
FICER 3RD CLASS CLAYTON R.  
BEAUCHAMP

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Petty Officer 3rd Class Clayton R. Beauchamp who was killed on August 7, 2012 in Helmand Province, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Petty Officer Beauchamp was serving with the 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6, based at Camp Pendleton, California.

Petty Officer Beauchamp was from Weatherford, TX. He graduated from Weatherford High School in 2009 and enlisted in the Navy that July. Petty Officer Beauchamp is one of three siblings who have all chosen to serve in the United States Navy. His brother, Christopher Beauchamp, is a six-year Navy corpsman serving his third tour overseas, and his younger sister, Cheyenne Beauchamp, is in the Navy Security Forces, stationed in Virginia. According to friends, Clay always knew he wanted to serve after high school, and he signed up at the first possible opportunity on his 17th birthday, Jan. 16, 2008, more than a year before graduation.

Petty Officer Beauchamp, a medical corpsman, had earned a Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Navy Good Conduct Medal, Navy Expert ribbons in rifle and pistol and the Fleet Marine Force Enlisted Warfare Specialist device, and was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Clayton R. Beauchamp was a true patriot and made the

ultimate sacrifice defending his country. I wish to extend my condolences to Petty Officer Beauchamp's parents, Jack and Diana, and his sister Cheyenne and brothers Christopher, Brian and Timothy, and hope that they continue to find solace in his lasting impact on this grateful nation, his fellow soldiers, and our community.

HONORING SONIA GUTIERREZ ON  
40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE  
CARLOS ROSARIO INTERNATIONAL  
PUBLIC CHARTER  
SCHOOL

**HON. ED PASTOR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the many achievements of Ms. Sonia Gutierrez who is celebrating 40 years of service as President and Founder of the Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School in Washington, DC.

Since 1972, Ms. Gutierrez has dedicated her life to educating and empowering diverse immigrant communities in our nation's capital. In her capacity as Director of the Program of English Instruction for Latin Americans (PEILA), Ms. Gutierrez transformed the small, under-funded English as a Second Language (ESL) program into a comprehensive adult education program, known today as the Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School.

At the school, Ms. Gutierrez has led a highly qualified, diverse, and dedicated team of faculty and staff to improve the lives of over 60,000 adult immigrants. Ms. Gutierrez's passion and tenacity are evident in her unwavering dedication to these individuals, giving them a chance to transform their lives.

Ms. Gutierrez's service has not only impacted the students at Carlos Rosario, but the DC public at-large. Her ongoing leadership and inspired vision provide opportunities for the DC immigrant population to become invested, productive citizens and members of American society who give back to family and community.

Ms. Gutierrez has received recognition from the District of Columbia, the DC Board of Education, national and local Latino organizations, and from organizations in the African-American and the Asian communities. In 2001 she was one of the first four inductees to the Hall of Fame of the National Charter Schools. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a Master's degree in Adult Education specializing in Supervision and Administration of Adult Education Programs. Ms. Gutierrez established the Council of Latino Agencies in 1977 and together with Jose Gutierrez and other community leaders was instrumental in creating the mayor's Office of Latino Affairs.

Ms. Gutierrez continues to make transformative contributions to immigrant and non-immigrant communities alike in DC and nationwide. She is presently focused on ensuring the growth and long term sustainability of the Carlos Rosario School's award-winning model. In 2013, a new workforce development satellite site, located in northeast DC, will be dedicated to Ms. Gutierrez—the Sonia Gutierrez Campus.

Mr. Speaker, in light of all Ms. Sonia Gutierrez has done for the community of Washington, DC, it is only fitting that she be honored for her many years of dedication. Her tireless passion as a principal, counselor, advocate, and organizer has contributed immensely to the betterment of the immigrant community and our community as a whole. I ask that you join me in recognizing Ms. Gutierrez and her continued service.

MOON MAN NEIL ARMSTRONG

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, years ago, a view of Earth from 238,900 miles away seemed impossible until Neil Armstrong became the first human to reach the unreachable. On July 20, 1969, Armstrong landed Apollo 11 running on fumes and set foot on the moon, where he left a foot imprint of a little less than an inch deep. "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed," were the words he radioed in the moment he achieved a national goal and changed the course of space exploration.

In the 2 hours and 19 minutes of the moonwalk, Armstrong became one of the most significant American heroes. His out-of-this-world accomplishment drew the attention of our ambitious nation and people worldwide. Six hundred million viewers watched and listened to his historical landing that day. As he said, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." I watched live Armstrong's first steps on the moon on an old black and white T.V. in Texas.

Armstrong was described as a man who "cherished his privacy and always appreciated the expressions of good will from people around the world and all walks of life." Two weeks ago, we lost this man who, in turn, made a national dream come true and inspired people around the world and all walks of life.

He was born August 5, 1939 in Wapakoneta, Ohio. When he was 6, he climbed into a plane for his first ride. His talent was born at a young age when he began crafting model airplanes and had impressively collected enough books for a well-stocked aviation library. His above-average intellect was noticeable in his performance in his high school math and science classes. After his graduation, he attended Purdue University but only stayed two years to go on and fly combat missions in the Korean War as a Navy Pilot. Eight years later, he went back to the university and graduated with a degree in aeronautical engineering. Then, he joined the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics, later becoming NASA, where he started his path to his historical leap into space. Armstrong made a name for himself during his seven years at a NACA high speed flight station at Edwards Airforce Base in California. His immeasurable accomplishments were rewarded in September of 1962, when NASA chose him to be an astronaut. Little did they know, they also selected the man who would later become the first human to set foot on the moon.

Armstrong thought of himself as a "nerdy" engineer. His family thought of him as a "lov-

ing husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend." His colleagues thought of him as a "daring, yet humble person" and the world thinks of him as one of the greatest heroes of all time.

He left his mark in space and on earth. Whether or not "someone goes up there and cleans up his footprints" like he had hoped, he'll never be forgotten.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE 11TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

**HON. DAN BENISHEK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the 11th anniversary of the September 11 attacks to commemorate those who perished as well as the first responders, volunteers and bystanders who acted so valiantly on that day we will never forget.

Eleven years later, the events of that tragic day are still vivid. It was a day marked by fire and ash. By dust and smoke. By tears and sorrow. But it was also a day that showed the world what type of people call America home.

While we witnessed the great evil which man is capable of producing, we also saw the great heroism and good nature of America's citizens. It showed the selflessness of our first responders who rushed into burning buildings to save the lives of people they never even met, or the countless people, including residents of Northern Michigan, who stood in long lines to give their own blood or donate their time or materials to rescue workers and the recovery effort.

There were certainly countless other acts of heroism and bravery on that day that the world will never know. Terrorists may have been able to knock down our biggest buildings, but they have never been able to diminish the kindness and generosity that the American people and millions of our neighbors around the globe have in our hearts. On that sad day, residents from all corners of our country reaffirmed what it means to be an American united with our neighbors across this vast land. It is my hope that all Americans can continue to represent the spirit of those who perished through our actions and conduct towards one another.

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan's First Congressional District, I wish to recognize the extraordinary actions of ordinary Americans on that fateful day and express my condolences for those who were lost on September 11, as well as those who lost their lives in the military conflicts that stemmed from this attack. Their heroism and sacrifices will never be forgotten.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROBERT  
ARTER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Lieutenant

General Robert Arter of Lansing, Kansas for receiving the Alexander Doniphan Community Service Award. Lieutenant General Arter exemplifies the attributes of General Alexander W. Doniphan, and has carried on Doniphan's legacy through a lifetime of service.

Lieutenant General Arter has distinguished himself as a military leader since he first received his commission in 1950. He has held numerous command and staff positions including command of the 1st Battalion, 506th Airborne Infantry, 101st Airborne Division (Airborne) and command of the First Brigade, 101st. His commitment to excellence in leadership and command has led to great recognition, including being named the Commanding General of the United States Army Military District of Washington and Commanding General of the Sixth United States Army. Even after his retirement, he continues to address the needs of both civilians and military as a member of the Governor's Military Affairs Coordinating Council.

Lieutenant General Arter has also been instrumental in the training and education of servicemembers. He has served as the Commanding General of the Third ROTC Region, Deputy Commanding General for the U.S. Training Center in Fort Ord, and as Deputy Commandant, for the U.S. Command and General Staff College. He went on to hold a position as the Superintendent of Wentworth Military Academy, and he maintains an active and vital role in the education of future leaders as Chairman of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College Foundation.

Lieutenant General Arter has also been committed to furthering business and economic development in his community. He has served as President and CEO of the Armed Forces Bank in Leavenworth, Kansas and remains a member of their board. He is currently Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee of the Greater Kansas City Area Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Business Executives for National Security.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in applauding Lieutenant General Robert Arter for his selfless acts of generosity through volunteerism. I know Lieutenant General Arter's colleagues, family and friends join with me in thanking him for his commitment to others and wishing him happiness and good health in his future endeavors.

THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
FEDERAL LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE PROGRAM

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program on its 10th anniversary. The Program was established by the Long-Term Care Security Act, and I am proud to have been the lead Democratic cosponsor of that legislation. The Program provides long term care coverage to active and retired federal and postal workers and uniformed servicemembers who participate in the program, and it covers care received at home, an assisted living facility, or a nursing home. Since the Program's implementation in 2002, it

has become the largest private long-term care insurance program in the nation with about 270,000 enrollees. Although it is an employer-sponsored program, 100% of its costs are funded by enrollees, not the federal government or taxpayers.

The Program has increased awareness in the federal community about long term care issues and needs, helped enrollees provide for the high cost of long term care, and provided participants with the opportunity to take control of their future long term care needs. Before we created the Program, long term care services were not covered by Medicare or the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. The Department of Veterans Affairs offered only limited benefits, while Medicaid provided coverage only to the very poor. Since 2002, the Program has paid out almost \$200 million in claims, with a claim approval rate of 97–98%.

As the American population, and the baby boom generation in particular, continues to age, there will be an increased need for vital long term care services in this country. In 2009, more than \$250 billion was spent nationwide on long term care services, including nursing home and other assisted-living services. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, at least 70% of people over age 65 will require some long term care services at some point in their lives.

I am very pleased to recognize the great achievements of the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program in assisting enrollees and their families in financing their future long term care needs and in shielding their retirement savings and assets from the increasing costs of long term care services. I look forward to the continued success of the Program as it begins its second decade of voluntary coverage for our dedicated federal community of civilian and postal workers and members of the armed services.

REMEMBERING IDA KEIPER

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said "everyone can be great because everyone can serve." I rise today to remember and honor the life of a model of service, Ida Keiper. I used to tease her and call her "Mama Keips" because I knew she was Italian and she reminded me so much of my Italian grandmother. She was born in Grindstone, Pennsylvania, in 1935 to the late Antonio and Emma Perazzola. She spent the majority of her adult life in the Mantua, Ohio, area. Her life cannot simply be measured by the number of years raising children, the good Italian meals prepared or the countless hours spent helping with homework. Her service went beyond the walls of her home and stretched across the community.

Ida was a member of numerous organizations such as the PTA, the Boy and Girl Scouts of America, and the Crestwood Band Patrons. She also served on the Democratic Central Executive Committee for over 20 years and was a member of the Federated Democratic Women of Portage County Ohio. In addition to her volunteer work she was also

an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ Kirtland Restoration Branch.

Ida left these thoughts to those she loves: "Goodbye to my family and friends. I hope that the paths we have traveled and passed were good ones. I pray that we will meet again in God's Kingdom. Make the most of and celebrate your gift of life. So grieve for me awhile, if grieve you must, then let your grief be comforted with trust. It's only for awhile that we must part, so bless the memories with your heart."

Ida Keiper passed away August 6, 2012 at the age of 76. Her legacy lives on through her family and the people she touched with her selflessness and generosity. She is survived by her husband, Charles W. Keiper and their four children, Charles W. Keiper II, Faith Keiper, Linda Pallotto and Cindy Iozzia, four grandchildren, Sara, Michael, Spencer, Nathan and Lauren, and five siblings, Pete Perazzola, Nick Perazzola, Stella Nixon, Lundy Fisco and Agnes Pinkney. I offer my condolences to the family and all those whose lives who have been touched by her gentleness and grace. Italian mothers and grandmothers are a special breed and Mama Keips was as special as they come. She will be missed.

COMMENDING THE KINGS MOUNTAIN CHAPTER OF THE SONS OF THE REVOLUTION FOR OBSERVING THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION ON SEPTEMBER 17

**HON. DAVID P. ROE**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Kings Mountain Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution for observing the 225th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution on September 17. I am proud of these men for remembering Tennessee's part in obtaining our independence.

The limited, constitutional government that we enjoy was made possible by the sacrifice of American patriots. At the Battle of Kings Mountain, the Overmountain Men from Sycamore Shoals, Tennessee defeated British forces, creating a turning point in the Revolutionary War. By taking up arms to free a nation from tyranny, these men exemplified Tennessee's volunteer spirit.

I sincerely thank the Kings Mountain Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution for observing this important day.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN ALAN G. POINDEXTER

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an American hero, Captain Alan G. Poindexter, United States Navy, simply known as "Dex" to those of us who were blessed to know and work with him. Captain Poindexter's deep sense of patriotism, selfless

dedication to others, jovial nature and innate leadership capabilities were evident in all facets of his life. Whether serving his Nation for 26 years as a combat-proven Naval Aviator, decorated Fighter Pilot, experienced Test Pilot, respected Astronaut and Space Shuttle Pilot, esteemed Dean of Students at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School or, for nearly 30 years, living out his enduring love and respect for his wife—Lisa—and his steadfast devotion to his beloved sons—Zachary and Samuel—“Dex” made a profound difference on our world that will never fade away.

Born on November 5, 1961 in Pasadena, CA, Alan Poindexter grew up in Rockville, MD and Coronado, CA. As a youngster, he served in the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts and fulfilled his interest in aviation by playing with model aircrafts and watching the Apollo flights. Following his graduation from Coronado High School in 1979, Alan attended junior colleges in both California and Florida.

While in Florida in 1981, Alan met Lisa A. Pfeiffer of Pensacola, FL. They married on December 23, 1983 while Alan was a midshipman in the Georgia Institute of Technology Navy ROTC program. Their son, Zach, was born on August 9, 1985. Alan earned a Bachelor of Aerospace Engineering degree in 1986, graduating with highest honors.

Following his commissioning in the U.S. Navy, and eventual designation as a Naval Aviator in 1988, Alan reported to Fighter Squadron 124 located at Naval Air Station Miramar, CA, for transition to the F-14 Tomcat. Following his initial training, Alan—whose call-sign was now “Dex”—was assigned to Fighter Squadron 211, also at Miramar, and made two deployments to the Arabian Gulf during Operations Desert Storm and Southern Watch. During this time, Alan, his wife, Lisa, and their son, Zach, welcomed a second son, Samuel, on October 30, 1989.

While on his second deployment in 1993, Dex was selected to attend the Naval Postgraduate School/U.S. Naval Test Pilot School Cooperative Program. Following graduation in December 1995, he was assigned as a Test Pilot and Project Officer at the Naval Strike Aircraft Test Squadron (NSATS), Naval Air Station Patuxent River, MD. Dex was with Fighter Squadron 32, NAS Oceana, VA, when he was selected for Astronaut training in June 1998. As a Naval Aviator, Dex logged over 4,000 hours in more than 30 aircraft types with over 450 carrier landings.

Alan reported for Astronaut training in August 1998 and initially served in the Astronaut Office Shuttle Operations Branch performing duties as the lead support astronaut at Kennedy Space Center. He later served as a Capsule Communicator (CAPCOM) for several missions and was a veteran of two space flights—he served as Pilot on STS-122 aboard Atlantis from February 7–20, 2008 and from April 5–20, 2010 he was the Commander of STS-131 aboard Discovery. During his NASA career, Alan logged over 669 hours in space. After his retirement from NASA in December 2010, Dex returned to the Navy and was assigned to the Naval Postgraduate School as the Dean of Students until his untimely death.

Alan’s many decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Legions of Merit, NASA Outstanding Leadership Award, NASA Aviation Safety Award, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with

Combat V and various other service awards. Always active, Alan’s recreational interests included motorcycling, cycling, photography, running, weightlifting, boating, hunting, fishing, and spending quality time with family and friends.

But a man is not measured alone by the awards he earned or the medals he wore, nor even for his personal interests, sense of humor and honor, his courage and compassion. It is all of that and more.

Alan’s wife, Lisa, and his two loving sons, Zach and Sam, will always remember Alan for his unflinching willingness to be the one who “slept on the rock” at the campsite, so that they could take the more comfortable places. He became fondly, and gratefully, known to them over the years as the “guy who slept on the rock.” Nothing greater could be said, with more love, of any man.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I speak on behalf of the entire House, when I offer the Nation’s deepest sympathies to Alan’s wife, Lisa, his sons Zach and Sam, and to their entire extended family. Captain Alan Poindexter, loving husband and father, fighter pilot, astronaut, and friend, demonstrated for all of us the qualities that characterize the greatness of America.

RECOGNIZING AMTRAK AND ITS  
IMPORTANT ROLE ON SEP-  
TEMBER 11, 2001

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on this day of remembrance of the tragic events of September 11, 2001, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Amtrak and its employees for its efforts in the minutes, days and weeks following the attacks.

On this very day 11 years ago, Amtrak and its employees worked around the clock to provide one of the only travel options in many parts of this country. Within minutes of the incident, Amtrak jumped into action. It mobilized and established a command center; evacuated a number of stations for inspections of trains and infrastructure; and dispatched police officers and staff throughout Amtrak facilities to patrol and conduct ongoing inspections.

On the Northeast Corridor, Amtrak added about 30 percent more seating capacity to fill the travel gap. Over 1,600 daily seats were added to long-distance trains and another 300 seats to West Coast trains.

Amtrak also provided transportation to New York City for families and friends of victims, firefighters, police, medical teams, military and other public officials, and even airline crew members. In partnership with the American Red Cross, Amtrak transported thousands of emergency relief kits to New York City. In fact, with the airlines grounded, the U.S. Postal Service turned to Amtrak to carry mail.

Mr. Speaker, on the anniversary of September 11, it is important we reflect on the important role of Amtrak and its employees and it is essential that we maintain our vigilance of the security of all modes of transportation.

LAMENTING THE FACT THAT H.R.  
2362 DID NOT PASS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to submit an article printed in the July 27th issue of *The Hill* that came to my attention. Entitled “Native American tribal leaders: Indian Country shouldn’t be hostage to far-off conflicts” and written by Native American tribal leaders Eric Bruguier and Lloyd Irvine, the authors lament the fact that the Indian Tribal Trade and Investment Demonstration Project Act (H.R. 2362) failed to secure the necessary votes to pass under a suspension of the rules.

As a cosponsor of this measure, I am also disappointed this measure failed to pass. With the unemployment rate on American Indian reservations averaging between 40 percent and 50 percent, with poverty that transcends generations and incomes and educational attainment all well below the national average, this bill would have enabled foreign investors to partner with Native Americans on reservations to create new businesses and generate income where little to none exists today.

NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBAL LEADERS: INDIAN  
COUNTRY SHOULDN’T BE HOSTAGE TO FAR-  
OFF CONFLICTS

(By Eric Bruguier and Lloyd Irvine)

Being able to conduct business easily internationally is the lifeblood of the American economy. Trade provides new markets for American products and know-how, providing choices to foreign consumers and growth and prosperity at home. Yet apparently Congress does not feel that Native Americans deserve to participate.

This week, the House voted on H.R. 2362, a simple yet important piece of legislation that would have allowed Native Americans to do business with foreign companies from any of the 155 countries that are members of the World Trade Organization.

Despite earning the support of 58 percent of House members—and the backing of the National American Indian Housing Council, the National Congress of American Indians, and the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development—the bill failed to meet the two-thirds majority needed to pass under the expedited process known as suspension. It failed not because of any substantive arguments against the bill’s merits but because of pressure from two ethnic lobbies with a history of grievances against Turkey. And once again, Native Americans are left to suffer.

Current regulations and red tape prevent Native Americans from taking control of their own economic development. If a business wants to lease property to open a store or a factory, that business must first go through a multilayer, multiyear review process required by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, a process that can take up to six years—six years to complete paperwork that takes a week to complete in the rest of the country. Business cannot operate under these conditions. This bill would have changed that.

Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.), the only Native American member of Congress, introduced this legislation with the sole intention of creating economic sovereignty for Native Americans. He has firsthand experience of the challenges faced by tribes. Native Americans suffer from the highest poverty and unemployment rates in the country. Compared with the rest of the United States, they are

more likely to suffer from drug and alcohol addiction and have less access to quality healthcare.

It was a shock to see a positive and seemingly noncontroversial bill fall short. After all, the bill would provide a clear avenue for foreign investment in Indian Country, streamline archaic and incredibly inefficient regulations that add years of delays to potential business deals, and for the first time allow tribes to enter into business deals as sovereign entities, much like every state in the country can already do. It would do all of these things at no additional cost to the federal government.

H.R. 2362 was also designed to complement H.R. 205, the HEARTH Act, which easily passed the House and Senate and will soon be signed into law. The bills are complementary but different. H.R. 205 was specifically designed to address housing needs on tribal lands but makes no mention of investment from foreign companies. H.R. 2362 invites companies from all 155 WTO countries to invest in Indian Country. It establishes a demonstration project that will help us learn best practices for future business deals. Once we work the kinks out, we would open it up to all tribes.

So why the opposition? One word: Turkey. Turkey and Turkish Americans helped bring this bill to fruition through years of business exchanges and negotiations on how to best facilitate trade and investment with Indian Country. Turkey was the first and only country to send an official delegation to the Reservation Economic Summit, the premiere tribal business conference. Turkey is the only WTO country that has demonstrated an active economic interest in tribal lands. Turkey was mentioned in the text of H.R. 2362 in recognition of these efforts.

But the word "Turkey" in a tribal economic development bill turned into a call to action for special interests. Rather than focusing on the bill's many economic benefits for tribes and all WTO countries, these communities focused on the word "Turkey". In the process, they hijacked a bill that has nothing to do with their centuries-old grievances and put an end to promising new economic opportunities for some of the most impoverished people living within America.

Native Americans have too few—not too many—tools for economic development. We need to give them as many options as we can. Tribes should have the power to choose which tools they wish to use to grow their economies.

H.R. 2362 is a good bill that would have spurred economic development on tribal lands. Instead, it was killed by special interests that chose this opportunity to advance their own agenda. An agenda that has nothing to do with tribal sovereignty.

(Eric Bruguier is the chairman of economic development for the Fort Peck Tribes. Lloyd Irvine is a councilman for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.)

AMERICA'S CAMP PENTAGON  
EXHIBIT

**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to an art exhibit on display at the Pentagon.

Over the course of ten years, for one week each summer, a camp in the Berkshires of Massachusetts became "America's Camp." This camp welcomed children whose parents

or relatives were killed in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and on American Airlines Flight 93. America's Camp was a place for these children to experience a traditional recreational summer camp—swimming, canoeing, and singing camp songs. But more importantly, it provided a peer-supported environment where these children could memorialize their lost loved-ones among other children who experienced similar losses. It was a place where the kids could be kids, without the label of being a "9/11 kid," as was the case in so many other aspects of their lives.

I am extremely proud of an organization in my district—The Center for Grieving Children—for the contribution they made to this special camp. The Center, based in Portland, Maine, has provided loving support to children and families during times of loss through peer support, outreach, and education. It has done so for 25 years and has provided its services free of charge for as long as families have needed them. The Center for Grieving Children has played a role in America's Camp since its founding. Each year, the Center sent staff and volunteers to camp where they provided "Buddy Central," a drop-in center where grief facilitators offered support to campers.

An annual art project offered children the opportunity to express their grief as well as their hope at camp. There was a quilt project, a tapestry of loss and love, anger and joy; a "Sky Project," with stars from each child with their own tributes to loved ones; and the amazing "Feathers of the Phoenix," with feathers made by the children with images of a person they wished to honor. A collection of these and other art projects has been on display for the past year or so at the Pentagon.

I encourage my colleagues to view this exhibit if given an opportunity to do so. The strength and hope shared by these children hold great power for moving us toward a more peaceful world.

FLORIDA PATRIOT GUARD RIDERS—STANDING FOR THOSE WHO STOOD FOR US

**HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on this, the somber anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on our nation, I rise to say thank you to the more than 7,000 members of the Florida Patriot Guard Riders who have provided invaluable support to the families of the fallen and injured servicemembers in the ongoing war against terrorism.

With the motto of "Standing for Those Who Stood for Us", the Patriot Guard Riders provide motorcycle escorts for our fallen as they take them to their final resting places. They provide escorts for our injured servicemembers as they return home. And they provide color guard support for hundreds of ceremonies throughout our state of Florida and our Nation as we honor those who wear and who have worn the uniform throughout our history.

In the past month alone, hundreds of Patriot Guard Riders joined as we escorted Staff Sergeant Matthew Sitton of Largo, Florida, home to his final resting place. Staff Sergeant Sitton

paid the ultimate price for freedom when he was killed by an IED blast in Afghanistan. Thousands and thousands of Matthew's friends and neighbors, and thousands more who had never met Matthew or his family, lined the streets of Tampa and Pinellas County to say thank you to him and his family as hundreds of Patriot Guard Riders provided a mile long escort to honor this American hero and his equally heroic family.

The Patriot Guard Riders were with us when we opened a Clearwater, Florida exhibit to remind us to never forget the lessons of the Holocaust. They lined the exhibit area with American flags as a tribute to those who served our nation during World War II, "The Greatest Generation" who restored freedom to Europe and freed the Nazi concentration camps.

The Patriot Guard Riders were also with us last week when we opened the new USO Lounge at the Tampa International Airport, to provide a place to support the thousands of troops who pass through Tampa annually, and to support their families when they come to await their return from their deployment and from their hospitalizations. Again, the Patriot Guard Riders lined the halls to show their thanks and their respect for our veterans of all generations as we dedicated this new facility.

Mr. Speaker, the Florida Patriot Guard Riders are led by State Captain Mike Donohoe, and Assistant State Captains Thomas "T-Man" Brown, Al Kaufman, Dave "Buzzard" Clark, Terry Hanifin, and Doug Horton. If space permitted, I would list the names of all 7,000 of the Florida riders who served our nation in uniform and who continue to serve their brothers and sisters in uniform.

The mission of the Patriot Guard Riders throughout our nation is to, "show our sincere respect for our fallen heroes, their families, and their communities." It is also to, "shield the mourning family and their friends from interruptions created by any protestor or group of protestors." Both of these missions are critical to our troops and their families. Throughout our nation's war against terrorism, my wife Beverly and I have been asked by the injured Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, and Coast Guardsmen at our military and veterans hospitals if the American people continue to support their mission. The Patriot Guard Riders make sure that when these American heroes return home, they know they are loved and appreciated by the people of their hometowns.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that my colleagues will stop and say a word of thanks every time they see a Patriot Guard Rider back home in their communities. These men and women do not serve and ride for their own personal recognition. They ride and they stand in formation as a group to say thank you from a grateful nation and to do as their motto states, to "Stand for Those Who Stood for Us."

THE 11TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 ATTACKS ON  
THE UNITED STATES

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, today we mark the 11th Anniversary of the September 11

attacks on the United States. While we have moved more than a decade beyond that tragedy, the attacks remain an indelible part of our memory. Truly, no one who lived through that day will ever forget it—the horrendous loss of life, the bravery of our first responders, the sense of unity that followed—and it falls to us to ensure that future generations understand the magnitude of the event.

This is particularly so as other events impact our view of how we have reacted to 9/11. The capture and killing of Osama Bin Laden and the removal of our troops from Iraq can be seen as turn-the-corner moments in the war on terror, but the daily hard work of our military and intelligence community must continue—we must remain vigilant. I remember feeling that day and the days that followed that we were in uncharted territory as a nation. As a country and a society, we are learning as we go, adjusting and adapting to the new realities that 9/11 brought upon us and that have ensued since, such as the Arab Spring.

This process can be bumpy, and is ever changing, as we continue to weigh the appropriate balance in our security and foreign policy decisions. What is clear is that we continue to owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our troops, who risk all in Afghanistan and elsewhere to protect our freedom, and our intelligence professionals, who are also on the front lines of our defense, making critical decisions that keep us safe every day.

More than anything, 11 years later, 9/11 underscores what it means to be an American, where we come together during even the toughest times, weather the storm and move forward. That is what 9/11 means to me, and that is the lesson that will endure for the ages, for all to see.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS  
OF LYNNE YOSHIKO NAKASONE

**HON. COLLEEN W. HANABUSA**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lynne Yoshiko Nakasone of Honolulu, Hawaii. The National Endowment for the Arts has named Sensei Nakasone a 2012 National Heritage Fellow for her contributions to the folk and traditional arts. This prestigious lifetime achievement award honors Sensei Nakasone's lifetime commitment to Okinawan classical dance—which is also referred to as Ryukyu dance—and embodies her accomplishments by identifying her as one of our country's Living Treasures.

Sensei Nakasone is originally from Naha, Okinawa but has resided in Hawai'i since her marriage to her loving husband, Clarence, in 1955. At age 6, Sensei Nakasone began to master the techniques of Ryukyuan dance—which dates back to the time of the Ryukyu Kingdom—under the mentorship of Ryosho Kin, a renowned figure in the Okinawan performing arts. In 1956, Sensei Nakasone founded the Hoge Ryu Hana Nizi no Kai Nakasone Dance Academy in Honolulu and for over five decades has been teaching, performing, and choreographing creative dances. Sensei Nakasone's performance skills are second to none but it is her Aloha Spirit that endures the test of time as her passion, knowledge, and

kindness have touched countless individuals over the years. There is no doubt in my mind that Sensei Nakasone is deserving of this award for she has dedicated her life towards preserving Okinawan culture while positively impacting others and contributing to the diversity and uniqueness of culture in the United States of America.

Sensei Nakasone has been recognized numerous times in the past, being awarded the Individual Artist Fellowship from the State of Hawai'i, a Legacy Award from the Hawai'i United Okinawa Association, a certificate of commendation from the government of Japan, and a Living Treasure Award by the Hawai'i Buddhist Association. With her award from the National Endowment of the Arts, Sensei Nakasone has deservedly been recognized at every level possible. Her tremendous contributions to the humanities and to us all cannot be underscored and it is truly an honor for us to be able to recognize Sensei Nakasone for sharing her gifts with the world.

On behalf of the First Congressional District of Hawai'i—as well as the entire State of Hawai'i—I would like to extend my warmest aloha and congratulations to Lynne Yoshiko Nakasone, her husband Clarence, and her entire family for being named a 2012 National Heritage Fellow.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I missed a series of votes yesterday. If I had been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 557; "yea" on rollcall No. 558; and "yea" on rollcall No. 559.

REMEMBERING 9/11

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today our nation pauses to remember another September morning very much like this one, bright and sunny, which began as usual for most of us but ended with nearly 3000 of our citizens dead and our nation once again at war. As we do every year at this time, we remember with sorrow and sympathy the lives lost, the families shattered, and the sense of vulnerability many still feel. But we also remember the heroism of the first responders in New York City, Virginia and Pennsylvania, and we remember the heroism of the passengers of Flight 93, who saved countless others by overpowering the hijackers of their plane before it could cause more tragedy in Washington, DC.

We also remember the determination and unity of purpose we all felt in the days and weeks immediately after those attacks, a determination that has led to the effective dismantlement of Al Qaeda and the imprisonment or death of those responsible for the 9/11 attacks. Our determination to remember can be seen in the National September 11 Memorial and Museum, which is located on the former

site of the Twin Towers and which we dedicated last year. Our determination to rebuild can be seen in the Freedom Tower, now known as One World Trade Center, that is steadily rising above the Manhattan skyline right next to the memorial and museum.

There are no words that I or anyone else could ever speak that will assuage the grief and sense of loss sustained by so many, including 700 in my district alone. What we can and must do is remember those lost and rededicate ourselves to rebuilding the country they loved, which in the end is the greatest tribute we could give them.

Each of us may never confront a vicious hijacker, but each of us can confront bigotry and division even in our own communities that destroy our commonality of purpose. Let us hope and pray that we can find within each of us the kind of courage as those Americans showed that day.

WE MUST CONTINUE TO FUND  
NASA'S "VOYAGER"

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the men and women of NASA and Caltech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, who designed and flew the *Voyager* spacecraft, which have been exploring our solar system for thirty-five years and which are on the cusp of entering interstellar space. Even now, more than thirty-five years after launch, the *Voyagers* are still transmitting valuable scientific data through NASA's Deep Space Network, which is also managed by JPL.

*Voyager 2*, which was launched on August 20, 1977 and its twin, *Voyager 1*, which followed on September 5, 1977, were designed to take advantage of a rare alignment of the outer planets that allowed for a "grand tour" of the four gas giants that lie beyond the asteroid belt. The *Voyager* flybys of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune built on the earlier missions of *Pioneer 10* and *11* and revolutionized our understanding of the solar system and particularly the complex Jovian and Saturnian systems with their many and diverse moons. *Galileo*, *Cassini* and other subsequent missions to the outer planets have deepened our knowledge of our planetary neighbors, but they would not have been possible without the path breaking work of the *Voyager* team, many of whose members have devoted decades of their lives and careers to this one program.

Now, *Voyager 1* is poised to become the first manmade object to leave the solar system and venture into the great void of space after completing its primary mission of exploring Jupiter and Saturn in 1980. *Voyager 2*, which went on to Uranus in 1986 and Neptune three years later, is not far behind. Both craft carry a gold "record album" containing sounds and images of Earth if either spacecraft is found by an alien civilization.

*Voyager* was among many spectaculars of NASA's planetary science program, which has contributed so much to our understanding of our celestial neighborhood and of ourselves. We were recently reminded of this when *Curiosity*, the Mars Science Laboratory, landed on

the Red Planet last month. But these missions are not cheap and they take years to design, test and fly. They also require highly specialized teams of engineers and scientists to make them work and to interpret the data they return to Earth. And without missions to work on, this talent pool cannot survive.

That is why I am committed to ensuring that funding for NASA includes sufficient resources for a robust planetary exploration program that will provide for continued investigation of Mars, while also allowing us to visit the many other fascinating places in the solar system, like Jupiter's moon, Europa, which was photographed in detail by *Voyager 2* in July 1979.

We cannot cede our leadership in space exploration and the incredible advances that come with it. I will continue to use my seat on the Appropriations committee to argue for a planetary exploration program that secures our continued place at the head of the table of space-faring nations.

TODAY WE REMEMBER  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, it has been eleven years and we shall never forget the impact that September 11, 2001 made on every American.

Today, eleven years since tragedy struck the shores of America at the hands of Osama bin Laden and his followers, we should all pause for a moment and reflect upon not only the solemnity of this day, but also the strength of American ideals to overcome adversity and persevere.

Today, we should all remember the thousands of people needlessly murdered in New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia on that faithful day; the brave first responders who rushed into harm's way without concern for the consequences; the thousands of brave men and women that have made the ultimate sacrifice in the course of the war of terror; and the thousands of security, intelligence, and law enforcement officials that continue to work tirelessly to keep our Nation safe and secure.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
BISHOP NORMAN N. QUICK

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of our dear beloved spiritual leader, Bishop Norman N. Quick who passed away on Wednesday, August 1, 2012. The celebration will begin on Tuesday, August 7, as the local Jurisdiction of the Church of God In Christ presided by Bishop Frank O. White, General Board Member and Interim Jurisdictional Prelate will host the first Celebration of Life Service; and on Wednesday, August 8, the National Jurisdiction of the Church of God In Christ, presided by Bishop Charles E. Blake will host the final Celebration of Life Service. Bishop Quick will lie in state for viewing at

Childs Memorial Temple Church of God In Christ, where both celebration services will be held.

It is with great sorrow that my wife Alma and I join Harlem and the Church of God In Christ Worldwide Ministry in mourning the death of our beloved Bishop Norman N. Quick who left an unforgettable and indelible mark in all of our spiritual hearts and minds. I am truly thankful for his decades of service to our community, and for the many personal memories that I will cherish forever. Bishop Norman N. Quick was a renowned and outspoken evangelist of the word of Christ, who grew his ministry nationwide and internationally, mentoring young pastors from as far as Africa, Asia and throughout the Caribbean, creating a legacy of evangelists and educators whose ministry will live through his teachings forever. Great men like our beloved Bishop are precious gifts we temporarily have in this world, but their assistance and contributions are far remembered and everlasting. Although he will be missed, his legacy now lives through his flock and through his children and that is a great comfort to all who knew this amazing servant of God.

Bishop Norman N. Quick was installed as Senior Pastor of Faith Temple Church of God In Christ in October 1973, after the death of another historic renowned Evangelist, Bishop Dr. Alvin Alexander Childs, who passed away on Saturday, August 11th of that same year. In 1974, Bishop Quick renamed the church to Childs Memorial Temple Church of God In Christ in honor of Bishop Dr. Alvin Alexander Childs, who also left an unforgettable and indelible mark on Harlem and in all of our spiritual hearts and minds.

Under the leadership of Bishop Quick and First Lady Sister Verline Quick, Childs Memorial Temple grew larger in its spiritual teachings and ministerial work throughout the West Harlem and "Sugar Hill" community. Childs Memorial Temple offered spiritual and compassionate support through its religious services and social programs. In 1976, Bishop and Sister Quick founded The Childs Memorial Temple Bible Institute for the purpose of promoting their study of the Bible, training Christian Workers and carrying the Gospel to the unsaved.

In 1982, they also established the Childs Memorial Temple Christian Academy, which has, and continues to provide a wholesome and religious education for hundreds of children in the community. Within the cathedral, the United Homeless Organization provides social services such as housing, job placement, and nutritious meals to individuals in need and rejected by society. Childs Memorial Temple houses Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops that serve both the community and the church.

At a time when drugs, housing abandonment and despair ravaged throughout the neighborhood and community at large, Bishop Quick was one of the founding pastors and churches to form Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement in 1986, where he actively served on the Board of Directors. His success was as much a result of his enormous charming personality and character, as it was of his spiritual work ethic. Bishop Quick's incredible hospitality and personable nature was symbolic of Harlem's rich collective composition that will be remembered forever.

The history of Childs Memorial Temple Church of God In Christ began with the Faith

Temple Church of God In Christ under the leadership of Bishop Alvin A. Childs, which was one of the faster growing Pentecostal Churches in New York with over 3,000 members. Thousands of people received spiritual, financial and healing blessings under the dynamic ministry of Bishop Alvin A. Childs and the Faith Temple Church of God In Christ Family. Faith Temple was noted for its 11:00 p.m. radio broadcast where many people started gathering at 10:00 p.m. to hear the radio choir, many outstanding artists, Preachers and the voice of the Bishop, who was matchless as an orator and master 'pulpititeer.' In 1965, at the time of Malcolm X's death, none of Harlem's gaping Cathedrals would open the doors for his funeral. A fearless Bishop A. A. Childs dared to allow Malcolm X's slim body with bullet holes in the chest to be rolled into Faith Temple. Thousands of people lined the streets in front of the church as hundreds squeezed into the 600 seat Temple where actor Ossie Davis delivered the Eulogy. Faith Temple was a friend to all classes of people, Mayors and Governors, rich and poor and the rejected of society.

Mr. Speaker, the Village of Harlem and a very grateful nation extend our sincere and heartfelt support, love, and sympathy to the Church of God In Christ family as we celebrate the life of our beloved Bishop Norman N. Quick, who now takes his place alongside our other renowned Freedom Fighters, who have contributed and dedicated their entire lives to uplifting the spiritual morality, civil rights, social justice and education equality for all Americans despite race, color or creed.

WHITE MEADOW TEMPLE 60TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Congregation of White Meadow Temple of Rockaway Township, Morris County, New Jersey for the celebration of its 60th Anniversary this year.

Initially a popular vacation spot for Jews from New York City and Newark in the 1940s, White Meadow Temple was founded in 1952 as a result of an increasing suburban Jewish population in Rockaway Township. Worship quickly commenced, beginning in 1953. In the years spanning 1955 and 1989, Rabbi Jacob Weitman served as the temple's spiritual leader, overseeing an era blossoming in both membership and dedication.

In 1964 the temple's building at 153 White Meadow Road underwent major renovations to accommodate for an increasing membership. Nearly 20 years later, White Meadow Temple renovated again in 1985, this time building a new sanctuary, two kitchens and additional Hebrew school classrooms.

Strengthening the foundation that Rabbi Weitman and the succeeding Rabbi Ralph Dalin laid, today, White Meadow Temple maintains its Jewish vision and principles while also expanding its involvement in the community. The conservative temple takes pride in its reputation and as a warm, active and egalitarian congregation.

In addition to services, which occur on Shabbat, weekday evenings, and Sunday

mornings, the congregation also partakes in the Synagogue's educational and social endeavors. Encouraging participating of younger generations on a spiritual level, the Temple also holds a Junior Congregation and Tot Shabbat services. Ranging from a Nursery School and Kindergarten to Youth groups, Senior Group, and a Women's league, White Meadow Temple offers everyone a chance to get involved and find their niche both in and out of the Jewish community.

After 60 years of passionate leadership, White Meadow Temple is currently overseen by President Marc Levine and services are lead by Rabbi Benjamin Adler. May that clear commitment and involvement of the congregation in the community uphold the mission of the White Meadow Temple and continue to inspire future generations!

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating The White Meadow Temple of Rockaway Township, Morris County, New Jersey, on reaching their 60th Anniversary.

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### TRIBUTE TO MITLA CAFÉ

#### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask Congress to pay tribute to an outstanding business in San Bernardino, California—Mitla Café. This September, Mitla Café will be celebrating its 75th year as their family restaurant serving the people of Southern California.

Mitla Café is the oldest continually operating restaurant in San Bernardino, and one of the oldest Mexican restaurants in Southern California. Mitla Café serves standard Mexican fare—tacos, burritos, and fresh tortillas. They pride themselves in fresh food, which keeps the locals coming back for more. Today, the restaurant remains in its original location, off historic Route 66 in San Bernardino.

This family owned business was founded in 1937, by Lucia and Salvador Rodriguez. Until her passing in 1981, Lucia ran the restaurant with the help of her daughters Theresa, Helen, and Vera. After the death of her mother, Vera continued to manage the restaurant with the same understanding and passion for the community that her mother held. After Vera passed away in 1984, Lucia and Salvador's youngest son, Frank Montano, and his wife Irene continued the family business. Today, Mitla Café is managed by the founders' great-grandson, Steven Oquendo. The family restaurant atmosphere and exceptional food keeps residents coming to Mitla Café even after they have moved out of the area. From my own personal experience, my family and I have always enjoyed dining at Mitla Café.

To celebrate their 75th year anniversary, Mitla Café hosted an event on Saturday September 8th, which featured live music by the Scott Martin Latin Soul Band. Earlier this June, Mitla Café also hosted an anniversary event, featuring Bruce Conte and the Jazz Junkies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating San Bernardino's oldest restaurant, Mitla Café for their 75th anniversary.

### HONORING PEGGY COMBS' PROMOTION TO BRIGADIER GENERAL IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

#### HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peggy Combs on her promotion to Brigadier General in the United States Army.

Brigadier General Combs is the commandant of the U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear School at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. The change of command ceremony was streamed live to her hometown American Legion, R.K. Parkhurst Post 1448 in Oriskany, NY, where both she and her parents are members. Approximately 1,400 members of the community gathered to watch the ceremony.

Brigadier General Combs is the first female general officer to hail from the upstate New York community, and is the first general with ties to Oriskany since Gen. Nicholas Herkimer, who led local militia during the famed battle of Oriskany during the Revolutionary War.

Brigadier General Combs is the eldest of Jack and Pat Huther's four children and is a 1981 graduate of Oriskany Central School. Brigadier General Combs was the first member of her family to go to college. In 1985, she graduated from the esteemed Syracuse University and received her direct commission as a second lieutenant through the university's Army ROTC program, where she was a distinguished military graduate. Together with her husband Brad, they have raised three grown children. Brigadier General Combs stands as a role model for women and female soldiers throughout the United States of America. Only in America can a young girl from rural upstate New York climb the ranks of the best Army in the world.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I would like to recognize Brigadier General Peggy Combs on her promotion in the United States Army. Brigadier General Combs has been an asset not only to the United States Army but to the people of New York State and certainly Oneida County and her hometown of Oriskany. It is an honor and a privilege to applaud Brigadier General Combs' promotion and I wish her great success as she continues her upward journey in the United States Army.

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### CONSTITUTION DAY 2012 CELEBRATION—MIAMI

#### HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, next week, Monday, September 17th is Constitution Day.

This day marks the 225th anniversary of the adoption of the United States Constitution by our Founding Fathers.

On that day in 1787 the members of the Constitutional Convention of Philadelphia reached a watershed moment, collectively adopting the Constitution that embodies the ideals of a new nation and a free people.

Over the course of this upcoming week, Americans from all walks of life will gather to commemorate this sacred document by collectively reading the Constitution in Constitution Day events nationwide.

Tomorrow, at 5:30 p.m. at the Miami History Museum on West Flagler Street, local law firm Higer, Lichter & Givner, in conjunction with History Miami, will host students, veterans, business and community leaders, and all who wish to join, as they gather together to read and honor the Constitution.

This is a wonderful tradition, and I strongly encourage everyone to take part in this important event.

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H. RES. 484 AND H.R. 1410

#### HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the two bills before us on human rights in Vietnam. These bills will enhance U.S. efforts to promote media and religious freedom in Vietnam, while communicating our concern and desire to protect the courageous advocates for freedom who risk everything to change their country for the better. I urge my colleagues to support both.

H. Res. 484 condemns the increasing repression by Vietnam's government of community organizers, bloggers, and democracy activists. Across the world, social media has empowered people to push for the rights that should be inherent in their citizenship. It has been like a wind filling the sails of movements pushing for more freedom, stronger accountability, and greater commitment to justice.

But we cannot forget that behind these social media are courageous individuals who risk everything to achieve those goals. This bill will make it clear to the government of Vietnam that their use of vague national security provisions in the penal code has been noted, and that the U.S. Congress will continue to press for freedom for people who are swept into prison under such shameful circumstances.

People like Nguyen Quoc Quan, a peaceful democracy activist and a U.S. citizen, who was arrested while visiting his home country. Recently, his prison sentence under one article has been extended four months under another. He was charged with terrorism under Article 88, and then the prosecutor rescinded that judgment and extended his jail term for "attempting to overthrow the government" under Article 79. We call this what it is: arbitrary, cruel, and unfair, and with this bill we call on the Vietnamese authorities to release all political prisoners, especially activists, writers, and bloggers who have been imprisoned under these provisions of the Vietnamese criminal code.

H.R. 1410 emphasizes that, while the United States will continue to work together with the Government of Vietnam on important issues of mutual concern, we will not increase our commitment of assistance until and unless they make substantial progress on media and religious freedoms, minority rights, access to U.S. refugee programs, and ending trafficking in persons.

This bill will bring hope to Vietnam's courageous democracy advocates that the United

States values their efforts and will keep human rights at the center of our relationship.

The United States has taken important steps to demonstrate that that we hope to build a common future with Vietnam built on cooperation, development, and peace. In recent years, we have maintained a robust program of bilateral aid to Vietnam because it is in our national interest and it is in the interest of the people of Vietnam.

But Vietnam cannot reach its potential as a nation if its people are denied basic rights. And sadly, the government of Vietnam is taking the country backwards in terms of human freedom. These two bills make clear that a good relationship requires progress on this critical issue.

CELEBRATING 90TH BIRTHDAY OF  
ALVAR "AL" EDWIN SPERRING

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of a beloved veteran, Alvar "Al" Edwin Sperring on his 90th birthday. Alvar was born in San Francisco, California on September 18, 1922. He is the youngest of five brothers, born to John Edward Sperring and Anna Emily Sperring.

Mr. Sperring's parents moved to Sonoma, California during his early childhood, where he attended local schools and graduated from Sonoma Valley Union High School in 1940. Upon graduation, he went to work for the Pacific Telephone Company in San Francisco as a lineman working throughout Northern California and Nevada.

Alvar was drafted into the United States Army on January 30, 1943, in San Francisco, California. He applied and was accepted for the Aviation Cadet School. He graduated from Pilot School on May 22, 1944, with the rank of Second Lieutenant at Stockton Field, Stockton, California, Class 44-E.

On May 28, 1944, he married his high school sweetheart, Alyda Bernadette Picchi, at St. Edward's Church in San Francisco, California. Together, they raised four sons: Roger, Robert, Ronald, and Randall. He is proud of his six grandsons and six great-grandchildren.

Mr. Sperring's first Air Force assignment was at Muroc Army Air Base in Lancaster, California for B-24 Liberator Bomber Pilot training. In 1945, he served overseas with the 38th Bombardment Squadron stationed in Guam in the Pacific Theater. He was honorably discharged on April 3, 1946, with the rank of First Lieutenant and remained in the U.S. Army Air Force Reserves until November 1963.

Alvar returned to his former employment with Pacific Telephone Company in San Francisco and was promoted to Line Foreman. In 1950, he was transferred to Lodi, California. Lodi had transitioned to a dial system, and he was instrumental in achieving that endeavor. He retired in 1983 with 42 years of loyal and dedicated service in various supervisory capacities.

Alvar is a sixty-year member of The American Legion, active member of International Order of Odd Fellows, Telephone Pioneers, Past Big Sir of Branch 18 Sons in Retirement and one of the early founders of the Lodi Boys and Girls Club. He is a long-time member of the Woodbridge Golf and Country Club, where he plays golf three times a week.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honouring Alvar E. Sperring and expressing our congratulations on his 90th birthday. Best wishes to him and his family for continued success, happiness, and good health in years to come.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF  
SEPTEMBER 11TH

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, today, we remember those lost eleven years ago on September 11, 2001. We also remember the extraordinary acts of bravery and heroism performed by courageous passengers and crew on United Flight 93, by the first responders who rushed into burning buildings, and by the thousands of nameless volunteers who provided assistance on that terrible day.

We think, too, of our troops around the world who stand in harm's way, many of whom enlisted in the days and weeks that followed the attack on our country. And of those troops we have lost, and who paid the ultimate price for our liberty.

For millions of Americans, September 11th serves a day of solemn reflection. For others, it has become a day of community—gathering together in remembrance and in service. No matter how we choose to remember, ours is a tribute that is a deeply personal one.

We lost a great deal on that tragic day, but America also revealed herself to be resilient, and more unified and determined than ever.