

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROHNERT PARK

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a city in my District on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of its establishment. Incorporated in 1962, Rohnert Park has become an integral part of Sonoma County's historical and cultural heritage.

The land that would become Rohnert Park was known as Rancho Cotate when it was granted by General Mariano Vallejo to one of his soldiers in 1844. During the next century, the land would change ownership many times and experience much development.

After World War II, when Sonoma County experienced a surge in growth, the City of Rohnert Park was conceived and developed by two Sonoma County lawyers, Paul Golis and Maurice Fredericks, who had a vision of a vibrant planned community in the heart of the valley. Their concept stressed the importance of "neighborhood units", groups of houses centered around schools and parks, in order to provide ample recreation to city-dwellers.

Through collaboration and hard work, Rohnert Park was established in 1962. Today it is proud to serve its residents with many recreational amenities and attractions. Rohnert Park is home to two municipal swimming pools, an 18-hole golf course, and bike, hiking, and equestrian trails. The city also contains Sonoma State University and the Green Music Center.

Mr. Speaker, Rohnert Park is an important city in the heart of Sonoma County. Please join me in honoring Rohnert Park on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

PEACE CORPS DIRECTOR AARON
WILLIAMS

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank Director Aaron Williams for his invaluable service to the Peace Corps and our nation. As the Director throughout the past three years, Mr. Williams undeniably impacted the Peace Corps legacy. It is important that we recognize the importance of his contributions and the unique role the Peace Corps has played in our national and global community throughout his tenure.

Mr. Williams championed the ideals of the Peace Corps by bridging alliances with Minority Serving Institutions, enhancing the safety and security for the nine thousand volunteers serving abroad, and as President Obama noted, was essential in reforming and modern-

izing the agency. Sharing core American values with some of the world's most impoverished populations, his leadership these past three years reflects his service to the underrepresented and underprivileged.

Despite a complex, changing global climate, Mr. Williams dedicated tireless efforts to ensure the safety of the Peace Corps volunteers. I was proud to work closely with the Director to pass the Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act. This act expanded the Peace Corps' safety precautions by providing further protection for female volunteers who are particularly vulnerable while living in foreign countries. It also increased government accountability in responding to sexual assault through a Sexual Assault Advisory Council and protects the anonymity of volunteers who report sexual assault.

Mr. Williams understood that a better Peace Corps is a bigger Peace Corps, and he therefore fought for the necessary increase in volunteers. He successfully expanded programs throughout Colombia, Indonesia, and Sierra Leone. And I was proud to work in the Appropriations Committee to help the agency obtain the largest funding in its history.

Whether it was collaborative efforts with RCPV/W or promoting fundamental principles that make the Peace Corps and our country exceptional, Mr. Williams never wavered from his commitment to enhancing Peace Corps' outreach and capacity to serve diverse communities. Having served in the Peace Corps, I know firsthand the positive impacts that result from our Peace Corps programs and volunteers. Due to Mr. Williams' vision and leadership, the Peace Corps continues to lead the cause for peace, prosperity, and progress, and it has been strengthened for future generations. Again, I thank Mr. Williams. I am immensely grateful for his service, and most of all, his friendship.

RECOGNIZING SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OR MORAGA, CALIFORNIA

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleague Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI to recognize and congratulate Saint Mary's College of Moraga, California, upon its 150th year of academic excellence in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Saint Mary's College was founded in 1863 in San Francisco as a liberal arts institution reflecting the life and work of the founder of the Christian Brothers, John Baptist de La Salle. The College was founded to serve some of California's earliest denizens, many of whom were immigrants with few resources and the first in their families to attend college. In 1928, after establishing a brief presence in Oakland, the college moved to its current location in Moraga, California.

Saint Mary's is a Lasallian Catholic College with a strong history of service to our country. In the 1940s, Saint Mary's joined the war effort in becoming the West Coast naval aviation training center. Lieutenant Gerald R. Ford of Michigan, who would later become President of the United States, was stationed at Saint Mary's for three years as he trained young pilots for duty in the Pacific Theatre. After the Second World War, Saint Mary's welcomed returning veterans studying on the G.I. Bill and continues to support our Veterans today through the Yellow Ribbon program.

St. Mary's rightfully boasts of a faculty composed of scholars at the top of their field with a devotion to teaching students to be engaged global citizens. Nearly 45,000 alumni have earned degrees at Saint Mary's, leading to every imaginable career path. The Graduate Business programs have produced scores of corporate leaders in businesses around the world, while the School of Education has produced world-class teachers who are in turn educating millions of students around the globe.

Saint Mary's is also proud of its extra-curricular programs. The athletic department has brought national and international attention to Northern California through athletic excellence in basketball, baseball, softball, crew, soccer, golf, and rugby. Furthermore, world-renowned artists, authors, scholars, musicians and political leaders share their unique talents not only with the student community, but with all of Northern California.

I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing Saint Mary's College of Moraga, the faculty, staff, alumni and students as they celebrate 150 years of extraordinary success as an educational leader in the State of California.

SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF
THE GEORGIA AQUARIUM

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the wonderful work being done by the Georgia Aquarium, which is located in the heart of downtown Atlanta. With more than 10 million gallons of water, the Georgia Aquarium is the world's largest with more aquatic life than any other aquarium, and six distinct galleries that portray diverse aquatic habitats, ranging from arctic to tropical waters. Since opening its doors in 2005, Georgia Aquarium has established itself as a leader in aquatic animal conservation and research. The results of this research are shared with the global zoological community for the enhancement of animals everywhere, thus showcasing Georgia as a global center of animal study.

Currently, Georgia Aquarium is one of only six accredited facilities in North America that is capable of providing care for beluga whales, a

• 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.

species which is presently listed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature as “near-threatened” in its indigenous Arctic and sub-Arctic environment. In June 2012, the aquarium applied for a permit to import 18 beluga whales to the United States with the purpose of conducting research which must be done in human care, for the continued edification of aquarium guests, and to secure the sustainability of the population in North American zoological parks and aquariums. Applying this important research can help the scientific community better understand the growing problems beluga whales face in their natural habitats. This application is corroborated by a five-year research study, authenticated by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, validating that the acquisition of beluga whales will have no damaging impact to the beluga population of origin.

Mr. Speaker, the extraordinary work the Georgia Aquarium has done in pursuing research and educating citizens is highly commendable. The aquarium’s recent efforts to study beluga whales will undoubtedly improve our scientific understanding of this threatened species. Therefore, I enthusiastically support Georgia Aquarium in its endeavor to increase the North American beluga population to help to maintain a sustainable population of whales in human care in certified facilities.

COMMEMORATING NORTHWESTERN
COLLEGE’S 110TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Northwestern College, which is celebrating its 110th year of preparing America’s students for success.

Since 1902, Northwestern College has honored the goals of its founder, J.F. Fish, to create employment opportunities by providing career-focused education. This distinguished institution is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission as well as several programmatic agencies, and it operates three outstanding campuses in the greater Chicago area, serving more than 2,100 students.

Offering Associate degrees in health sciences, legal studies, commerce and technology, and nursing—Northwestern College prepares students for a rewarding career in their chosen fields.

I am pleased to congratulate Northwestern College on its 110th Anniversary, and for its ongoing commitment to educating students in Chicago and around the country.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF VICTOR
CASCIO

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Victor Cascio, Sr. His warmhearted connection with those who were fortunate to know him and his steadfast involvement in the Monroe, La. community will always be remembered.

Throughout his lifetime, Victor was a vibrant presence in the area. He won the hearts of many as a child star on KNOE-TV’s “Happiness Exchange,” and his family has graced Monroe with their superb ability as restaurateurs since World War II. The family venture began with his late mother Josephine’s “Spaghetti Garden” and culminating with The Chateau, a Louisville Avenue institution, where Victor hosted such celebrities as Liberace, Elvis, Donna Douglas of *Elly May Clampett* fame, Danny Thomas, and every Louisiana Governor from Big John McKeithen to Bobby Jindal.

Much of Victor’s life was spent in the public eye as a phenomenal host, friend, and role model for all, and when he finally closed the doors of The Chateau amid an outpouring of support in March of this year, it was with the goal of savoring a private life with his wife of 50 years, Marie.

Undeniably, the mark he made on our community will never fade. He had a gift for putting people at ease and creating an atmosphere that is not easily duplicated. In the letter of Saint Paul the Apostle to Timothy, (2 Timothy 2:8–13), Paul says “If we have died with him, we shall also live with him; if we persevere, we shall also reign with him.” As we fondly remember the life and accomplishments of Victor, he lived in the faith in which he believed.

To say that he left his fingerprint on the world would be an understatement. Victor Cascio brought joy to so many, and he will live in our hearts forever.

TRIBUTE TO BARNEY UHART

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American and a great Alaskan. Barney Uhart, a devoted father and President Emeritus of Chugach Alaska Corporation, passed away on Saturday, September 8th after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Barney’s career with Chugach Alaska Corporation began in 1993, and in 2000, he became President and CEO. During his tenure, the company grew phenomenally, rising in revenue from \$19 million in 1993 to over \$1 billion in 2009. He was not only a charismatic leader and hard worker, but a close friend to many who worked with him over the years. His hard work and total commitment helped provide real, tangible, and ongoing benefits to the Native Shareholders of Chugach as he strove tirelessly to help fulfill the promises of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. His contributions to making the SBA 8(a) program a resounding success, not only for Chugach, but for all Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Native American Tribes, are truly outstanding, and we are all grateful to him for his achievements.

On July 6, 2012, Barney announced his retirement from Chugach to focus on his health and spend time with his family. The Board of Directors of Chugach Alaska Corporation appointed Barney “President Emeritus” in honor of his 19 years of service, dedication, and leadership.

Barney’s career with Chugach began when he joined Chugach Development Corporation (CDC) as Operations Manager. With a background in Engineering and Business Administration, his project experience in managing Base Operation Services (BOS) contracts in extremely remote locations began 33 years ago when he went to work on his first BOS contract in 1979 on Wake Island.

Barney told of his Wake Island initiation by saying, “I was living in Hawaii and one day I was helping a friend deliver office furniture to a place called Kentron International. I had no idea what they did, but it sounded like an exotic and exciting place to work where you would get to travel. The next day I put together a resume and slid it under the door. Then I had an interview, and after about 45 minutes, I thought the interview was over and I got up to leave when the manager said, ‘When can you leave?’ The following Tuesday I was on a plane to Wake Island in the mid-Pacific and I still didn’t know what Kentron International did.” Clearly, Barney never shied away from a new opportunity.

Born in Fresno, California in 1952, Barney moved to Hawaii in 1970 after high school and his father’s passing. During this time, the Vietnam War was still raging. Barney’s brother had already done two tours in Vietnam, and he expected to be drafted at any time. Regardless, he enrolled in the University of Hawaii and played baseball. Barney then worked general construction until he decided it wasn’t the area he wanted to pursue, and instead seized opportunity by the hand when he went to Wake on his first federal contract job.

In 1985 Barney spent a winter in Greenland on the Defense Early Warning (DEW) Line and was then offered a job as Superintendent of Administration for the DEW line, but declined because he didn’t want to spend another year in the Arctic. As a result, he left to work for his first SBA 8(a) company in Hampton, Virginia where he helped grow the company in revenue from \$200,000 to \$6 million a year.

In early 1988, Barney was offered a job with an SBA 8(a) company in Louisville, Kentucky, and was promoted to Vice-President of Operations. He moved into the Company’s new offices in Panama City, Florida. Later, he received a call from Mike Brown (Chugach’s President and CEO from 1992 to 1999) who was working at that time for PMC, a subsidiary of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation.

Mr. Brown received Barney’s name from someone who worked with him at Wake Island years before. Based on that recommendation, Mike wanted Barney to become the BOS contract Project Manager at Amchitka Island, on the Aleutian Chain. Not wanting to move to Amchitka Island, Barney declined the offer and went back to Florida. Five months later, Mr. Brown called him again and offered him a job as Manager of Special Projects in Anchorage.

Years later, Barney recalled with a laugh, “This time the position was in Anchorage, so I accepted, and one of the first jobs as Manager of Special Projects in Anchorage was to go out to Amchitka Island and evaluate the contract. So he kinda suckered me in with that one.”

While at PMC, the team he worked with received a Coast Guard contract, the Wake Island contract, and the contract to run Midway Island. By then he was Vice-President of Operations for PMC, when Mr. Brown, who had

gone to work for Chugach, along with Dusty Kaser (Chugach's President and CEO from mid to late 1999), recruited him again. His early work with Chugach Development Corporation (CDC) took him to Valdez for six months, and then to King Salmon for a year, and then to Adak, Alaska.

Barney recently recalled, "During that time, the Chugach management team started marketing the Wake Island contract and we took it away from PMC in 1996. So you can see that Wake has been in my blood for a while, then we received a contract for the Army Housing and Maintenance at Fort Richardson/Fort Wainwright in 1995."

By 1996, Barney became the Ops Manager for CDC and would often travel to the contract locations and oversee the start-ups. When he left to oversee the start-up of Wake for CAC, he returned full circle to the site from where he started 16 years earlier.

Barney later explained, "By then I had become the BOS Ops Manager for CAC working for Dusty Kaser and the team started getting more and more contracts. Then I was promoted to Vice-President of Ops for CAC, and when I came back from starting up MacDill in late 1999, I was offered the job as president of CAC." In May 2000, the Board of Directors of Chugach promoted Barney to the position of President/CEO and he served as both until 2009 when the position was split to select a qualified Chugach shareholder to lead as CEO.

Mr. Speaker, Chugach has become a shining example of an Alaskan Native Corporation that has succeeded and thrived, and one that has provided tremendous benefits to its Native Shareholders and employees. Barney deserves his full share of credit for this success.

There can be no clearer expression of the excellence that Barney, and Chugach, have achieved over the years, than the words of Barney himself. And so Mr. Speaker, I close with an additional quote from Barney Uhart, a leader, a friend, and a champion of doing the right thing, and of doing things right. He will be deeply missed and his memory will stay with us forever.

"How have we gotten to where we are today? The reason is simple—the people. All the people associated with Chugach are responsible for this success. From the wisdom and direction of the Board of Directors; the patience of the shareholders; the vision and perseverance of management; and the dedication and drive of all the employees, this is what has allowed us to succeed."

Mr. Speaker, May God bless and hold Barney Uhart and may He bless his family.

IN HONOR OF DIXON SAULS

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, in small towns across America, many special events are happening all the time, including high school football. On August 25, 2012, a special event happened in my small town of Farmville, North Carolina. The "R. Dixon Sauls Athletic Field"

at Farmville Central High School was dedicated to Coach Dixon Sauls. Coach Sauls, a Farmville native, coached football at the school from 1984 to 2007. Honor, integrity and class are the three words Athletic Director Larry Williford used to describe Coach Sauls, and in his usual humble way he accepted the honor and then began talking about everyone else who meant something to the Jaguar program.

I have known Dixon Sauls since his youth. I have followed his journey of life and sports. He graduated Valedictorian from Farmville High School in 1966 where he was an outstanding Red Devil football player who played quarterback and safety under Coach Elbert Moyer. He graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1970. He was the first of two sons, born in 1948 to Meta King Moore Sauls of Farmville, and Roland Dixon Sauls, a World War II veteran from Wayne County. His father died suddenly in 1956 when Dixon was just 8 years old and his brother, Fred, was just 5 years old. Dixon and Fred have been my close friends for many years, and I am grateful for their friendship. Today Coach Sauls is the devoted husband to Kathryn Finklea Sauls and father to beautiful daughters, Lindsay and Robyn.

In 1984, Coach Sauls came back home to coach. The Jaguars won 11 football conference championships during his tenure, and the 2003 squad was a state runner-up. He was the track coach for 19 years and the athletic director for eight years. He touched many lives during that time with his strong Christian faith, his stellar character and his faithfulness to his team and school. He instilled courage, compassion, respect and a hard work ethic in the young men he coached. Coach Sauls was a major father figure for many of the players. There is no question he left his mark on his players and his hometown for a lifetime.

It is teachers and coaches across our Nation like Dixon Sauls who are helping to build a better America because of their hard work and dedication. I remember one statement I read many years ago—"If you want to touch the past, touch a rock; if you want to touch the present, touch a flower; if you want to touch the future, touch a child." Dixon Sauls, because of your commitment to young people, you have earned this recognition. Your community, your family and friends join in celebration of a job well done. Congratulations.

HONORING TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan as their day of National Celebration, October 10, 2012, approaches. This special day recognizes the founding of the country.

I would also like to highlight the economic success of the Republic of China on Taiwan over the last century. Beginning with very little economic activity just a few decades ago, the Republic of China on Taiwan has seen a pro-

found increase and now has a dynamic economy which is quickly becoming the envy of Asia.

Moreover, Taiwan has been a fair trading partner. Total trade with the United States reached an all-time high in 2011, and Taiwan is now our 10th largest goods-trading partner. Our relationship with Taiwan is a model for fair trade between countries which benefits both sides, a model we should highlight here today.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan on their economic success and thanking them for their continued efforts to work with the United States to foster economic growth in our country. On the day of National Celebration the people of both the United States and the Republic of China on Taiwan have much to celebrate. We look forward to our continued relationship with Taiwan, and wish them the very best.

NATIONAL OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of women's health and in recognition of September as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. This year, it is estimated that 22,280 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer and that 15,500 women, including 620 from Illinois, will die from it. If ovarian cancer is diagnosed and treated before the cancer spreads outside of the ovary, the five-year survival rate is 93 percent. Unfortunately, only 15 percent of ovarian cancers are found at that stage.

Too many women are losing their lives to ovarian cancer, the deadliest of the gynecologic cancers. Because no screening or early detection tests exist today, many women are unaware that they are living with this disease until it is too late. We need to increase public education about the early warning signs because, as organizations such as the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance stress, "until there's a test, awareness is best." Treating this disease before it has spread beyond the ovary significantly increases the survival rate. At the same time, we need more than awareness—we need to continue the medical research required to develop the screening tests that will save women's lives.

Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month helps increase awareness of ovarian cancer and focus attention on the continued need for innovative research efforts to identify screening and early detection tests for ovarian cancer.

I commend the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance, including their Partner Member groups CCare Lynch Syndrome, Bright Pink, and FORCE of Chicago, for their steadfast commitment to making women aware of the risk factors, signs, and symptoms of ovarian cancer and for their advocacy on behalf of women and families touched by this devastating disease. I urge my colleagues to help make women aware of the potential warning signs of this disease and to continue to support ovarian cancer research efforts.

IN HONOR OF THE HONORABLE
JUDGE DONNA CONGENI FITZ-
SIMMONS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Honorable Judge Donna Congeni Fitzsimmons, who is the recipient of Recovery Resources' Community Challenge 2012 Exemplar Award.

Recovery Resources is a community-based nonprofit organization with a mission of helping people triumph over mental illness, alcoholism, drug and other addictions. The Exemplar Award, established in 2006, celebrates members of the local community who have demonstrated a long and distinguished record of exemplary service and support for Recovery Resources' Community Challenge program.

Judge Fitzsimmons graduated with a bachelor's degree from Boston College and earned her law degree from George Washington University in 1976. She began her career in public service in 1977 as an Assistant Cuyahoga County Prosecutor. In 1980, she became the first woman to be appointed as Special Attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice, Organized Crime Strike Force in Cleveland. During her tenure as Special Attorney, Judge Fitzsimmons served as the lead prosecutor in the U.S. v. Lonardo, Gallo, et al case, in which she successfully convicted the former Cleveland Mafia boss, Angelo Lonardo in 1983. In 1984, she was appointed Deputy Counsel to President Reagan's commission on Organized Crime in Washington, DC and served in this position until 1985 when she entered private practice at the law firm of Atter & Hadden.

On January 1, 1994, Judge Fitzsimmons assumed the role of Judge of the Rocky River Municipal Court and has been serving on the bench since. In 1997, she was appointed Chair of the Cuyahoga County Violence Against Women Act Committee and as the Municipal Court representative to the Cuyahoga County Criminal Justice Supervisory Services Board. As her career continued, Judge Fitzsimmons would be appointed to the Ohio Supreme Court's Court Security Committee, Criminal Procedure Committee and Jury Service Committee.

In addition to her career, Judge Fitzsimmons is an active member of the Northeast Ohio community. She has served on Fairview Hospital's Community Advisory Board, as a trustee for Community Challenge, charter member of the Fairview High School Alumni Hall of Fame and an honorary chair for the Center for Prevention of Domestic Violence's Annual Break the Silence Luncheon. She also established the Stalking Victim Support Group and was a member of the Board of Trustees for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Throughout her career, Judge Fitzsimmons has been recognized numerous times. She has been named Cleveland's Italian Heritage Committee Public Service Honoree 2011, "Gem of Cleveland" by the Junior League of Cleveland, and has received the Columbian Award from the Federation of Italian-American Societies of Northern Ohio. She has also been recognized by the Women's Center of Greater Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Recovery Resources' Com-

munity Challenge 2012 Exemplar Award winner, the Honorable Judge Donna Congeni Fitzsimmons.

RECOGNIZING MIKE FLYNN, RE-
CIPIENT OF THE WASHING-
TONIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mike Flynn on being honored with the Washingtonian of the Year award from the Association of Washington Generals. This annual award is given to a citizen of Washington State for outstanding community service.

Mr. Flynn worked for 24 years as the editor and publisher of the Puget Sound Business Journal. In that position, he was widely recognized throughout the region's business community. He led the newspaper with a vision of not only reporting on the business sector, but using the print medium to foster valuable relationships throughout the community.

In 2006, Mr. Flynn retired from the Puget Sound Business Journal and turned his focus to community and non-profit causes. In that time, he has served on the boards of various community organizations. He continues to be dedicated to building relationships, helping start-up entrepreneurs, and expanding opportunities in rural areas.

Each year, the Association of Washington Generals awards the Washingtonian of the Year award to someone who has shown special dedication to serving Washington State. The Association is proud of the unique characteristics of Washington State—ranging from our State's outstanding physical beauty to the people who strive to make Washington a better place to call home. The Washingtonian of the Year embodies the Association's devotion to improving our State's communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Mike Flynn. His dedication to serving our community is an inspiration to others.

CONGRATULATING ANNETTE
STASSI

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate Annette Stassi for being selected Queen Evangeline of the International Acadian Festival in Iberville Parish. Annette is a 17-year-old senior at St. John High School in Plaquemine, La.

The International Acadian Festival is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council #970 of Plaquemine, which is the third oldest Council in Louisiana.

It is always outstanding to see the diligence with which the young students of Louisiana work to give back and better their communities. I have the highest confidence that Annette will succeed in whatever endeavors she pursues.

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

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 585, I was unavoidably detained and could not be present for last night's rollcall vote on H.R. 5044, the Andrew P. Carpenter Tax Act. I am a cosponsor and strong supporter of this legislation, which would provide tax relief from any amounts of private educational loans forgiven for service members who lost their lives in the line of duty since the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom in October of 2001. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN SUPPORT OF WORKERS AND
THE SERVICES THEY PROVIDE
TO MEDICARE PATIENTS

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend America's home healthcare workers who provide services to millions of patients, including many Medicare beneficiaries, who are homebound and require skilled care. These skilled and dedicated workers are among the unsung heroes in the effort to contain the cost of healthcare without sacrificing the quality of service provided to patients. Today, there are more than 40 million seniors in the United States, 12 percent of the population. In 20 years, that number will increase to 70 million, or 20 percent of the population. More than 27 million of these individuals are over age 70, and more than 1 million are over the age of 80. Further, more than 43 million people in the United States, 19 percent of the population, provide care for an elderly family member or friend.

Mr. Speaker, many healthcare treatments that were once offered only in a hospital or a physician's office can now be safely, effectively, and efficiently provided in patients' homes by skilled clinicians. Home healthcare is generally less expensive, more convenient, and as effective as care provided in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. Home healthcare can serve as an intermediate level of care for patients who have difficulty accessing outpatient care or who need intensive assistance with an acute or chronic health problem.

Skilled home healthcare services funded under Medicare Part A and B are safe, effective, affordable, clinically advanced, and patient preferred.

A case study conducted by the Veterans' Administration (VA) illustrates the benefits of home healthcare. The VA has provided comprehensive primary care services to veterans in their homes since 1972 in an effort to keep patients in their homes and reduce inpatient hospital days. The program was specifically

designed to target patients with complex chronic diseases through an interdisciplinary team of health professionals. This program showed a reduction in inpatient hospital days by 62 percent, and a reduction in nursing home bed days by 88 percent. This translated into a reduction in the cost of care from \$38,000 to \$29,000 per patient per year for patients enrolled in the program (a 24 percent reduction).

The Medicare program continues to increase in importance in my home state of California, where our senior population is increasing dramatically. The percentage of Californians age 60 and older is expected to grow from 6.4 percent in 2010 to 11.5 percent by 2030, according to the California Department of Aging. In my district, there are currently 63,053 Medicare recipients. I am committed to preserving benefits for current recipients and those nearing retirement, while guaranteeing the program's solvency for future generations of Americans.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of Medicare's Skilled Home Healthcare Services act.

A TRIBUTE TO LYNETTE M.
BROWN-SOW

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lynette M. Brown-Sow for her dedication in the field of healthcare and service to the city of Philadelphia. Lynette is a great example how one can use their expertise to achieve success while also contributing to the community.

As Vice President for Marketing and Government Relations at Community College of Philadelphia, a position she has held since 1995, Lynette has engaged communities, businesses, and governments in constructing frameworks that promote progress and prosperity. Her outstanding work was rewarded in 2009 when she was named Communicator of the Year. Lynette has done significant work in the behavioral healthcare field. She serves on the board of Directors of the Consortium, which named its newest service center the Lynette M. Brown center of hope.

In 1991, Philadelphia Mayor Edward G. Rendell appointed Lynette Deputy Mayor of Administration. In 2007, Lynette co-chaired Philadelphia Mayor Michael A. Nutter's transition team and was appointed as vice-chair of the Philadelphia Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Lynette is the founder and chairman of the Hardy Williams Education Fund, a nonprofit organization that provides support for educational endeavors and scholarships for people interested in careers in law, government, or social action; and founder of L.M. Brown Management Group, a certified minority/female-owned consultant firm.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring Lynette M. Brown-Sow for her successful endeavors and major contributions to the city of Philadelphia.

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW KENSINGTON AREA ROTARY CLUB

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the New Kensington Area Rotary Club on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. Since its inception, this great international service organization has operated according to its motto of "service above self," providing support to our troops and to laudable philanthropic causes in southwestern Pennsylvania and throughout the world.

In addition to providing support to local chapters of Meals on Wheels, the Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity and the YMCA, the New Kensington Area Rotary Club has sponsored efforts to promote literacy at local elementary schools, held Santa breakfasts for local needy children, sent clothing, shoes and other needed materials to needy communities in Appalachia and provided computers to St. Joseph's Indian School on the Cheyenne Indian Reservation in South Dakota. It has also worked to improve lives in disadvantaged and medically underserved communities abroad, performing water projects in Uganda, supporting the effort to eliminate the global Polio epidemic and participating in national immunization days in India, Venezuela and elsewhere.

To honor the selfless efforts its members have made to promote peace and prosperity throughout the world over the last 75 years, the New Kensington Area Rotary Club will hold an Anniversary Gala on October 23rd at the Oakmont Country Club in Oakmont, Pennsylvania. It is my most sincere hope that this event brings pride and fulfillment to all those who have had a hand in making the New Kensington Area Rotary club one of Southwestern Pennsylvania's most successful community service organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud to represent the members of the New Kensington Area Rotary Club in Congress; everyone should attempt to emulate their abiding generosity and kindness. I have every expectation that their great organization will continue to accomplish charitable feats of international significance for years to come.

IN SUPPORT OF FUNDING FOR THE ORAL HEALTH CARE PROVISIONS IN HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because we can no longer afford to treat oral health as separate from general health.

The mouth is a part of the body, and dental care must be part of comprehensive care. Oral diseases and disorders can cause severe pain, malnutrition, and even death if left untreated.

But because oral care has long been excluded from comprehensive care, thousands of families and children are left without dental

care. Twenty-two percent of all out-of-pocket spending in the U.S. is spent on dental care, and dental decay is the most common chronic childhood disease.

Our workforce loses 164 million work hours each year due to dental problems, and close to half of military recruits in 2008 were ineligible for deployment due to dental issues.

This is unacceptable. We can, and must, do better than this.

We must preserve funding for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, and fully fund the many oral health care provisions in Health Care Reform. The mouth is part of the body, and must be treated as such.

RECOGNIZING UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL OF UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY FOR BEING NAMED A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Union County Vocational-Technical High School of Union County, New Jersey for being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

The Department of Education acknowledges schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. Union County Vocational-Technical High School is proud example of academic excellence where students have high levels of performance, stellar student achievement, and where educators facilitate a strong learning environment.

This is a prestigious award to receive and Union County Vocational-Technical High School is proud example of academic excellence and worthy of this national distinction.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, on September 19, 2012, I missed rollcall vote No. 585. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Rollcall No. 585, "aye."

FREE SPEECH, UNJUSTIFIED VIOLENCE AND HYPOCRISY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the recent death of several American diplomats is an outrageous example of wholly unjustified violence that must be unconditionally condemned. The fact that some people were angry because of what other people put into a movie does not begin to be a justification for violence, even against those who made the movie, and it is certainly, not remotely in any

logical world, an excuse for the murder of people wholly uninvolved in this.

The question of the judgment of the people who made that terrible movie must be kept entirely separate from the question of whether or not there was any justification for any of the violence that it caused. The answer is, without any doubt, that there was not.

It is bad enough when some leaders of the Muslim world suggest that there was some justification for killing people because someone felt that their religion was insulted. This error is compounded by the extraordinary hypocrisy involved when many of those who declaim what they found insulting are themselves guilty of equal vituperation of other religions and ethnic groups.

In an extraordinary, eloquent and thoughtful column in the *New York Times* for September 19th, Thomas L. Friedman, a balanced commentator on the Middle East who has often been very sympathetic to the legitimate concerns of Muslim people, wrote an excellent column on the essentiality of free speech, the absolutely unjustified nature of violence, and the hypocrisy to which I just alluded—and to which, to be honest, I was not paying enough attention until I read Mr. Friedman's column.

As Mr. Friedman says, "an insult—even one as stupid and ugly as the anti-Islam video on YouTube that started all of this—does not entitle people to go out and attack embassies and kill innocent diplomats. That is not how a proper self-governing people behave. There is no excuse for it. It is shameful." Mr. Friedman goes on to note, with regard to some in the Muslim community who have been demanding that America apologize for this, said "they might to look at the chauvinistic bile that is pumped out by some of their own media . . . insulting Shiites, Jews, Christians, Sufis and anyone else who is not a Sunni, or Fundamentalist, Muslim."

Thomas Friedman's column should be very widely read, both because he has earned the right to be taken very seriously on the crisis in the Middle East, and because of its wisdom and eloquence.

[From the *New York Times*, Sept. 18, 2012]

LOOK IN YOUR MIRROR

(By Thomas Friedman)

On Monday, David D. Kirkpatrick, the Cairo bureau chief for *The Times*, quoted one of the Egyptian demonstrators outside the American Embassy, Khaled Ali, as justifying last week's violent protests by declaring: "We never insult any prophet—not Moses, not Jesus—so why can't we demand that Muhammad be respected?" Mr. Ali, a 39-year-old textile worker, was holding up a handwritten sign in English that read: "Shut Up America." "Obama is the president, so he should have to apologize!"

I read several such comments from the rioters in the press last week, and I have a big problem with them. I don't like to see anyone's faith insulted, but we need to make two things very clear—more clear than President Obama's team has made them. One is that an insult—even one as stupid and ugly as the anti-Islam video on YouTube that started all of this—does not entitle people to go out and attack embassies and kill innocent diplomats. That is not how a proper self-governing people behave. There is no excuse for it. It is shameful. And, second, before demanding an apology from our president, Mr. Ali and the young Egyptians,

Tunisians, Libyans, Yemenis, Pakistanis, Afghans and Sudanese who have been taking to the streets might want to look in the mirror—or just turn on their own televisions. They might want to look at the chauvinistic bile that is pumped out by some of their own media on satellite television stations and Web sites or sold in sidewalk bookstores outside of mosques—insulting Shiites, Jews, Christians, Sufis and anyone else who is not a Sunni, or fundamentalist, Muslim. There are people in their countries for whom hating "the other" has become a source of identity and a collective excuse for failing to realize their own potential.

The Middle East Media Research Institute, or Memri, was founded in 1998 in Washington by Yigal Carmon, a former Israeli government adviser on counterterrorism, "to bridge the language gap between the Middle East and the West by monitoring, translating and studying Arab, Iranian, Urdu and Pashtu media, schoolbooks, and religious sermons." What I respect about Memri is that it translates not only the ugly stuff but the courageous liberal, reformist Arab commentators as well. I asked Memri for a sampler of the hate-filled videos that appear regularly on Arab/Muslim mass media. Here are some:

ON CHRISTIANS Hasan Rahimpur Azghadi of the Iranian Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution: Christianity is "a reeking corpse, on which you have to constantly pour eau de cologne and perfume, and wash it in order to keep it clean." <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/1528.htm>—July 20, 2007.

Sheik Al-Khatib al-Baghdadi: It is permissible to spill the blood of the Iraqi Christians—and a duty to wage jihad against them. <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/5200.htm>—April 14, 2011.

Abd al-Aziz Fawzan al-Fawzan, a Saudi professor of Islamic law, calls for "positive hatred" of Christians. Al-Majd TV (Saudi Arabia), <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en1992.htm>—Dec. 16, 2005.

ON SHIITES The Egyptian Cleric Muhammad Hussein Yaaqub: "Muslim Brotherhood Presidential Candidate Mohamed Morsi told me that the Shiites are more dangerous to Islam than the Jews." www.memritv.org/clip/en13466.htm—June 13, 2012.

The Egyptian Cleric Mazen al-Sirsawi: "If Allah had not created the Shiites as human beings, they would have been donkeys." <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en13101.htm>—Aug. 7, 2011.

The Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan video series: "The Shiite is a Nasl [Race/Offspring] of Jews." <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/51/6208.htm>—March 21, 2012.

ON JEWS Article on the Muslim Brotherhood's Web site praises jihad against America and the Jews: "The Descendants of Apes and Pigs." <http://www.memri.org/report/en10/0/0/0/51/6656.htm>—Sept. 7, 2012.

The Pakistani cleric Muhammad Raza Saqib Mustafai: "When the Jews are wiped out, the world would be purified and the sun of peace would rise on the entire world." <http://www.menuiorg/report/en/0/0/0/0/51/6557.htm>—Aug. 1, 2012.

Dr. Ismail Ali Muhammad, a senior Al-Azhar scholar: The Jews, "a source of evil and harm in all human societies." <http://www.memri.org/report/en10/0/0/0/51/6086.htm>—Feb. 14, 2012.

ON SUFIS A shrine venerating a Sufi Muslim saint in Libya has been partly destroyed, the latest in a series of attacks blamed on ultraconservative Salafi Islamists. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-19380083>—Aug. 26, 2012.

As a Jew who has lived and worked in the Muslim world, I know that these expressions of intolerance are only one side of the story and that there are deeply tolerant views and strains of Islam espoused and practiced there as well. Theirs are complex societies.

That's the point. America is a complex society, too. But let's cut the nonsense that this is just our problem and the only issue is how we clean up our act. That Cairo protester is right: We should respect the faiths and prophets of others. But that runs both ways. Our president and major newspapers consistently condemn hate speech against other religions. How about yours?

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAUL MINTZ

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Mr. Saul Mintz, whose ardent presence as a family man, business man, and philanthropist in Monroe, La., will be sorely missed.

Mr. Mintz was brilliant in business, opening the very successful Strauss Interests with his wife, Jean, many years ago, but he will be remembered more for his community philanthropy than his genius for the market. A family man and mentor by nature, many of his crowning philanthropic works bettered the lives of children in 12 parishes in our area.

The Children's Coalition for Northeast Louisiana received their first donation 15 years ago from the Mintz family, and Mr. Mintz was with the Coalition every step of the way thereafter, lending not only financial, but also social and philosophical support. Similarly, he and his wife were steadfast supporters of the Strauss Theatre and were integral to the establishment of a children's theatre, among many other institutions.

In reflecting on his life, Mr. Mintz said "I don't think too many people have been submitted to so many opportunities as I. So, it would be irresponsible if I didn't take advantage of what God [has] given me to try to leave a better future for others." His grateful spirit and humble generosity have won him a spot in the hearts of everyone who knew him, and he serves as a reminder of the responsibility that we all have to give what we can and take care of one another in our families and communities.

When we look back on Mr. Mintz's life, we see a life of giving. Not only did he personally do everything he could to better our community, he also preached about the joy of giving generously and helping others to anyone who would listen. For his three children, 10 grandchildren, one great grandchild, and for all of us, the way in which Mr. Mintz led his life should be emulated. We are all grateful to have known him and will never forget what a beautiful and civic-minded person he was.

To say Mr. Mintz left his fingerprint on the world would be an understatement. Countless lives have been changed for the better by his efforts, and he will stay in the hearts of Louisianians forever.

RECOGNIZING TERRE JONES ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE WOLF TRAP FOUNDATION FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with my colleagues, Rep. FRANK WOLF and Rep. JIM MORAN, to recognize and commend Terrence D. "Terre" Jones on the occasion of his retirement after 17 years of distinguished service as President and CEO of the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts. Terre's career in the performing arts spans more than 40 years, and he leaves a rich legacy both on and off the stage that will benefit the arts community and Northern Virginia for years to come.

During his tenure, Terre helped fulfill and then expand Wolf Trap's mission of providing a world-class platform for aspiring and accomplished artists alike at the majestic Filene Center and the 18th century Barns at Wolf Trap. Thanks to his innovative spirit, the Foundation continues to set new attendance and fundraising records. As the guiding force behind America's only National Park for the Performing Arts, Terre has positioned Wolf Trap as a leader not only in the arts, but also in connecting education, technology and environmental stewardship through the arts and inspiring passion for those pursuits in a new generation. And though its artistic scope is on the national and global stages, Terre has made sure that Wolf Trap also is a resource for our local communities.

In 2003, Terre helped lead the fund-raising effort to establish a National Center for Education on the Wolf Trap campus. Wolf Trap's education programs focus on early childhood arts education and also serve as a resource for the entire community, particularly local school children. More recently, Wolf Trap received a competitively awarded grant from the U.S. Department of Education to demonstrate the effectiveness of the arts in advancing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) learning for young children.

Terre also has strengthened Wolf Trap's connection to its environmental roots. In 2007, he launched the Foundation's "Go Green" program with the stretch goal of making Wolf Trap carbon neutral. To date, the program has decreased the park's carbon footprint by 20% and cut landfill waste in half. Wolf Trap has been designated as a Climate Friendly Park by the EPA and National Park service. Terre also led the effort to establish the National Council on the Arts and Environment and a partnership with the Aspen Institute on a nationwide Summit on the Arts and the Environment.

Prior to taking the helm at Wolf Trap, Terre served as CEO and artistic Director of the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. He previously served as General Manager of Clowes Memorial Hall in Indianapolis, Assistant Dean of the College of Fine Arts at Butler University, and he also founded the Bradford Repertory Theater in Vermont.

Throughout his distinguished career, Terre has received local and national recognition.

He received the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from his alma mater, the University of Kansas, was named Washingtonian of the Year in 2006 by Washingtonian Magazine, and was recognized by his peers with the Fan Taylor Distinguished Service Award from the Association of Performing Arts Presenters. During his tenure as Foundation president, Wolf Trap also has received numerous awards and accolades.

Beyond these accomplishments, we want to recognize Terre's exemplary role not just as an arts advocate and executive, but also as an individual. When asked in an interview what he loves most about his job, he said: "People—I don't think you could do this job if you didn't enjoy people and didn't like being around people." We can all recognize and appreciate Terre's unequivocal commitment to his craft and our community.

Mr. Speaker, Terre Jones has left a tangible, lasting imprint on the rich history of our National Park for the Performing Arts, and his legacy will continue to inspire a new generation of artists. We wish Terre, his wife, Polly, and their family the continued success as he enters this next act of his life, and we ask our colleagues to join us in expressing our appreciation for his tremendous contributions to the arts, our nation and the Northern Virginia community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained and missed the following votes:

1. H.R. 5044, the Andrew Carpenter Tax Act, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this bill.

2. H.R. 5912, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the use of public funds for political party conventions, and to provide for the return of previously distributed funds for deficit reduction, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this bill.

IN HONOR OF ARMENIAN STATEHOOD DAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Armenian Statehood Day. As the Armenian community in Greater Cleveland gathers to celebrate, I join them in appreciation of their rich history and culture.

September 21, 1991, marks the day that Armenia restored its independence by becoming the first republic proclaiming independence from the Soviet Union. Armenia was originally established by the Artashisian Dynasty in 189 BC. Following hundreds of years of invasions, the last Armenian kingdom fell at the onset of the 14th century. The first Armenian democratic republic was not established until 1918, which followed the Armenian Genocide in

1915. Unfortunately, just two years later, in 1920, the Armenians were occupied by the Soviet Union until they declared sovereignty in 1991.

Cleveland is home to a strong Armenian community which has succeeded in preserving their heritage while wholeheartedly supporting American society, thereby contributing to the unique richness and diversity of our national culture.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of Armenian Statehood Day. May every American of Armenian heritage hold memories of their past forever in their hearts, remembering the day that their forbears gained their freedom.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT MICHAEL HUNTER

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Master Sergeant Michael S. Hunter of the 1st Special Forces Group from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, who has received the Silver Star and the Bronze Star with Valor. These medals were awarded by Major General Jeffrey Buchanan, 1 Corps Deputy Commanding General on September 12, 2012.

Master Sergeant Hunter performed many heroic acts during his deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He helped execute a joint raid with 28 Afghan commandos and three other American special operators. Master Sergeant Hunter put himself in danger to protect others and led the way for the U.S. and Afghan special operators. In June 2010, he delivered medical assistance to two injured soldiers during a long 16 hour firefight.

His courageous actions earned him the Silver Star and Bronze Star with Valor. The Silver Star is the Nation's third highest medal for combat valor and ranked fifth in military awards. Master Sergeant Hunter's award is also the highest for combat valor that is not unique to a specific service branch.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Master Sergeant Hunter for receiving the Silver Star and the Bronze Star. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our great appreciation for his dedication to protect and serve our country.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE UNVEILING OF A STATUE OF FREDERICK DOUGLAS IN THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an important milestone for our nation's Capitol. The statue of abolitionist leader, Frederick Douglass, will soon grace the halls of the United States Capitol. This effigy will serve as a reminder of the hard work of this great American and civil rights leader

who was committed to the freedom and equal rights of all Americans.

Frederick Douglass is often called the father of the civil rights movement. Born a slave in Maryland around 1818, he taught himself how to read and write at a young age despite the ban forbidding slaves to be literate. It was by reading newspapers and political writings that Douglass developed his ideology on the opposition of slavery.

Douglass attempted to escape from slavery twice before he succeeded on his third attempt with the help of his future wife, Anna Murray. After they married in 1838 and settled in New Bedford, Massachusetts, Douglass became a regular lecturer in opposition of slavery. He also spoke out in support of women's rights. With the help of his bestselling autobiographies, Frederick Douglass quickly became one of the most famous African Americans in the country.

During the Civil War, Douglass gave council to President Abraham Lincoln and President Andrew Johnson on the treatment of black soldiers and the importance of black suffrage. After the war, he was appointed to several political positions and, as Victoria Woodhull's running mate on the Equal Rights Party ticket in 1872, became the first African American nominated for the office of Vice President of the United States. Douglass continued to fight for the rights of African-Americans, women, and minority groups until his death in 1895.

To honor the life and accomplishments of this abolitionist, human rights and women's rights activist, orator, author, journalist, publisher, and social reformer, the United States Congress has approved a bill that would allow the District of Columbia to display his statue in our Capitol. The statue, designed and completed by architect Steven Weitzman, was commissioned by D.C. to present to the Capitol as a gift.

Frederick Douglass had said, "If there is no struggle, there is no progress." Despite his many struggles in the bonds of slavery, he rose to prominence through his determination and fervor. His vision for America was that all Americans would be equal and free of discrimination and he worked tirelessly to share this vision with others and to help it become a reality. The progress we have made as a nation would not have been possible without the leadership and influence of great leaders like Frederick Douglass.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Second Congressional District of Georgia, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to a strong leader and inspiring visionary, Frederick Douglass. It is my hope that all the visitors to our Capitol will see his statue and remember all the valuable contributions made to our nation by this great human rights advocate.

CELEBRATING THE NEW JERSEY
COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the forty years of service that the New Jersey Council for the Humanities has provided for my constituents in the

twelfth congressional district and for residents throughout New Jersey. It is only appropriate that I take time in advance of October, National Arts and Humanities Month, to honor the important work that the Council does to engage New Jerseyans in discussions of history, literature, and culture that help residents reflect on our past and think critically about our future.

When Congress and President Johnson created the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in 1965, they laid the groundwork for improving the study of the diverse heritage, traditions, and history of our nation. Indeed, the NEH has opened many doors for scholars and cultural institutions such as museums, libraries, and archives to further their research and share their findings. Since its founding, the NEH has helped Americans better understand America.

Yet, upon signing the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, President Johnson remarked wisely ". . . these actions, and others soon to follow, cannot alone achieve our goals. To produce true and lasting results, our States and municipalities, our schools and our great private foundations, must join forces with us." In 1972, Congress heeded President Johnson's insight, and amended the Arts and Humanities Act to establish state Councils that would facilitate public programming unique to each state.

The New Jersey Council for the Humanities began its efforts in 1972 to provide an endless stream of programming that invites New Jerseyans to consider the past and think creatively about our future. By providing financial support for conferences, documentaries, publications, lectures, and forums, the Council offers the opportunity to learn more about our shared history and the traditions of others without cost to New Jersey residents. The New Jersey Council for the Humanities enables New Jerseyans to become consumers of history, informed commentators on our present, and architects of our future.

As a former educator, I am grateful for the New Jersey Council for the Humanities' dedication to enhancing history education in our schools. In an age of narrowing school curriculum across our country, arts, foreign language, history and other subjects have been pushed aside by the intense focus on tests and tested subjects. To help keep history alive in our classrooms, the Council offers an annual seminar known as the "Teacher Institute" for New Jersey primary and secondary school teachers to refresh and deepen their knowledge on key moments and themes of our past. The Teacher Institute has helped over 3,700 educators gain exposure to rich new content and benefit their students by bringing their knowledge back to the classroom. Thanks to the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, we are graduating more well-rounded and historically aware students.

In addition to enhancing the appreciation of humanities in the classroom, the Council promotes lifelong learning in public and private life. The New Jersey Council for the Humanities' extensive programming not only benefits school teachers and their students, but also writers, publishers, hospitals, libraries, civics groups, and colleges and universities in every corner of New Jersey.

I have heard from many of my constituents who inform me that the Council makes our community a better place to live. One resident

in Monroe who works with senior citizens, for example, expressed to me that the state humanities councils advance "the mental and intellectual well-being of our seniors." A local middle school teacher shared with me that despite having served on the faculty of a major research university, her knowledge to share with students "was deepened" by the Council's Teacher Institute. Others have conveyed the depth and strength of the Council's Horizon Speaker's Bureau, which provides educational lectures on topics ranging from the legendary Jersey Devil to Shakespeare's Hamlet, and to the U.S. Constitution for thousands of New Jerseyans every year. Simply put by a constituent from Lawrence, "the state [C]ouncil is the neighborhood face of the humanities."

My own experiences with the New Jersey Council for the Humanities have paralleled the positive testimonials constituents have shared with me. Each year, I eagerly await the Council's announcement of the Book, Teacher of the Year, and Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities Awards. By honoring the recipients of these distinctions, the New Jersey Council recognizes exemplary work in the public humanities that has made a significant and lasting difference in the lives of New Jerseyans. Previous award winners include Dr. Kwame Anthony Appiah in 2011 for his book *The Honor Code: How Moral Revolutions Happen*, Sylvia Nasar in 1999 for *A Beautiful Mind*, and Neil Baldwin in 1996 for *Edison: Inventing the Century*. I am proud to display in my Congressional office a collection of many of the past New Jersey Council for the Humanities Award winners, including works by twelfth congressional district constituents such as historian James McPherson, novelist Joyce Carol Oates, and the late poet and translator Robert Fagles.

The New Jersey Council has been dedicated for forty years to promoting public knowledge and love of New Jersey's rich history and culture. I look forward to the years to come when the New Jersey Council for the Humanities will continue to build upon its activities of the past forty years and continue to support and foster the exchange of ideas that creates a thoughtful and engaged society.

HONORING CITY OF CORAL
SPRINGS

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember September 11 alongside the City of Coral Springs, Florida as they host a memorial service to honor the victims of September 11th. Though eleven years have passed since this horrific attack on our nation, the attack is no less devastating today.

Each year since the attacks, dedicated members of the Coral Springs community have worked to plan memorial services to remember those lost and honor their memory. It is truly an honor to recognize the community and this important initiative on this day. Seeing communities across the country come together to remember the victims is one of the few bright developments to rise out of this great tragedy.

In collaboration with generous donors and volunteers, members of the Coral Springs community built the September 11th Memorial at the Coral Springs NW Regional Library in 2001. This memorial was dedicated to those lost in New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, and honors the residents who lost their immediate family members.

I applaud the efforts of the City of Coral Springs in commemorating the September 11th tragedy, and feel blessed to have been able to participate in the 5K Inaugural Walk to Remember in the City of Coral Springs this year. I thank the community for their dedication. My family and I join with the families in Coral Springs and throughout the country to remember those we lost on September 11, 2001.

IN HONOR OF MR. JOSEPH
HAMMELL

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Joseph Hammell, a retiring veteran who has served in three separate branches of the U.S. Military.

Mr. Hammell began his career with the United States Marine Corps in 1969 when he was 17 years old. After training, he was stationed at Camp Pendleton, California before being deployed to Okinawa, Japan, the Philippines, and Vietnam. After his service with the Marine Corps ended in 1974, Mr. Hammell joined the U.S. Army. During his time in the Army, Mr. Hammell was stationed at Fort Dix, New Jersey where he worked as an instructor at the base's truck driving school. In 1977, he left the Army, but came back after 14 years to join the New Jersey Air National Guard. In the Air National Guard he was a member of the 170th Air Refueling Wing. Within the Wing he served as an equipment operator for the 170th Civil Engineering Squadron. After the 170th Air Refueling Wing disbanded, he was absorbed into the 108th Air Refueling Wing where he continued his service as an equipment operator. He served within the 108th Air Refueling Wing as a member of the 108th Civil Engineering Squadron until 2007 as a work controller. He then moved to the 108th Safety Office where he finished out his career as the 108th Ground Safety Manager.

In addition to his service, Mr. Hammell is an active member of the American Legion and the Marine Corps League where he is a tireless advocate for homeless veterans. Specifically, he has worked with and supported the Stand Down for Homeless Veterans for 16 years, a nonprofit organization that assists male veterans who are struggling due to mental and/or physical ailments, addictions, homelessness and/or other personal issues. It helps veterans regain their lives through a multi-tiered program, transitional living, and collaborative efforts.

Mr. Speaker, the extraordinary commitment of this New Jersey veteran should not go unrecognized. I join all of South Jersey in expressing our profound gratitude and thanks for Mr. Hammell as he retires from his more than 42 years of remarkable service to our country.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
ADMIRAL KIRKLAND DONALD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my friend and fellow co-chair of the bipartisan House Shipbuilding Caucus, Representative ROB WITTMAN of Virginia, to honor Admiral Kirkland Donald, U.S. Navy, as he prepares to retire upon completion of more than 37 years of faithful service to our Nation.

Admiral Donald has held the position of Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program (Naval Reactors), for the last eight years. During his illustrious career, he played a pivotal role in ensuring that nuclear-powered warships continued to meet our global commitments in defense of our Nation's security.

Throughout his many years of service, Admiral Donald distinguished himself at the tip of the Navy's spear. He served as the Commanding Officer of the nuclear-powered attack submarine, USS *Key West*, Commander of the elite Submarine Development Squadron Twelve, and Commander of NATO's Submarine Forces in Europe. Other highlights include tours at the Bureau of Naval Personnel, the Joint Staff, and as Commander of all US Submarine Forces.

As his time in Washington has shown, Admiral Donald's accomplishments do not end with his excellence as an undersea commander. Nuclear-powered warships have safely steamed over 150 million miles, and operated for more than 6,400 reactor years without a reactor accident. The last 20 million miles and 800 reactor-years have been achieved under Admiral Donald's superb leadership overseeing more than 100 operational nuclear reactors.

Admiral Donald has been particularly passionate about our submarine force and the investment in our current and future undersea programs. At a time when submarines are playing an increasingly vital role in our national security, Admiral Donald has been at the forefront of making the case for the need for robust construction of new *Virginia* class submarines—and has kept a steady hand on this crucial program at a time when a cooperative effort between the Navy and our shipbuilding reduced the cost and construction schedule of each new submarine. At a time when every corner of our government is challenged to find savings to ensure the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars, Admiral Donald has helped to guide this shining example of acquisition excellence.

Today, these incredible submarines are deployed worldwide, from the arctic to the equator, protecting Americans and our values. Their missions would not be possible without the ships' nuclear propulsion plants, impeccably designed and built by Admiral Donald and his team. I can speak from personal experience about the passion that Admiral Donald brings to this incredible responsibility.

When I first came to Congress in 2007 as a new member of the House Armed Services Committee, Admiral Donald and his team were among the first in my office in those early days to help educate me on the importance of our nuclear powered submarines and the value they bring to our nation. In particular, he

invited me to join an "Ice Expedition" on board the USS *Alexandria*—a two day voyage under the Arctic ice which was an opportunity to see firsthand the capability of these extraordinary vessels.

Further, Admiral Donald oversaw the final design and construction of the nuclear propulsion plant for the Nation's next-generation aircraft carrier class—the first new aircraft carrier design in over 40 years. Owing much to his leadership, the USS *Gerald R. Ford* propulsion plant will triple the electrical power available for transformational technology, reduce reactor compartment manning by nearly 50 percent, and increase ship operational availability by nearly 25 percent.

As Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, Admiral Donald's commitment to environmental stewardship and public health and safety helped foster the highest degree of public trust. He worked tirelessly to develop and implement a robust process of preparing the nation's spent naval nuclear fuel to be stored safely for centuries. His foresight and execution give the American people great confidence that the nuclear Navy will continue to be safe and environmentally responsible for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, Admiral Donald has been a thoughtful, forward-looking and hands-on leader for our nation's Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, and his stewardship of this highly effective, responsive and world-class organization has set an example for all our nation's civilian and military leaders. Along with Representative WITTMAN and my colleagues in the House of Representatives, I wish him "Fair Winds and Following Seas" as he completes his honorable and distinguished service in the U.S. Navy, and wish he and his wife Diane the best as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BLACK
SHIELD POLICE ASSOCIATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Black Shield Police Association, BSPA, an organization of dedicated minority police officers that are committed to serving our communities throughout the Greater Cleveland area.

The BSPA was originally founded in 1946 as the Shield Club, which was designed to assist black officers in maintaining and strengthening self-esteem within an atmosphere of indifference. The Shield Club was a social club for black officers who were, at the time, prohibited from joining organizations that were for white police officers. In 1969, the Shield Club was officially chartered as a non-profit organization and was the third oldest black police organization in the U.S. The Shield Club officially became the Black Shield Police Association in 1978. By 2000, the National Black Police Association expanded to an international organization with members in the United Kingdom, Canada and the Bahamas. The BSPA supports the philosophy of community policing, the calls for a true and cooperative partnership between the community and the police for safer communities.

The Black Shield Police Association's Annual Dinner and Dance Scholarship Awards Banquet is being held at Cleveland's Doubletree Hotel on October 13, 2012. The theme of this year's event is "Still moving FORWARD while celebrating 66 years of Unity." Special tributes will be made to retirees Lieutenant John Cole, Sergeant Hughleam Medlea, Sergeant Andre Douglas, Sergeant Randall Bergeon, Police Officer Eugene Preston, Police Officer Arthur Fantroy, Police Officer Sandra Robertson, Police Officer Kevin Martin and Police Officer Paul Jones.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Black Shield Police Association and its important role in the Greater Cleveland community.

RECOGNIZING THE SEATTLE CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN PROFESSIONALS

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Seattle, Washington chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP—Seattle) for being named the Chapter of the Year. The NAAAP—Seattle chapter bested twenty-seven others from across the United States and Canada to receive the honor.

This is the first time NAAAP—Seattle has been named Chapter of the Year. The organization stood out among the other chapters and associate chapters for its exceptional organizational involvement, membership development, and programs.

The NAAAP was established in 1979 and is now the largest and fastest growing Asian American professional non-profit organization in North America. Members are not required to be pan-Asian and come from all parts of the professional community.

The NAAAP works to empower leaders and connect professionals in the same region. In addition, members volunteer in the community. NAAAP—Seattle has hosted many charitable events, including a dragonboat racing fundraiser to benefit the Northwest Lions Foundation for Sight & Hearing, an event at Seattle Symphony to raise money for children's literacy programs, volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, a Walk for Rice fundraiser for the Asian Counseling & Referral Service, and many others. NAAAP—Seattle also hosts career fairs and professional development seminars throughout the Puget Sound.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the Seattle chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals. The organization's work to make meaningful contributions to government, education, business and society inspires leaders throughout the business community.

HONORING CHAIRMAN STANLEY CROOKS, SHAKOPEE MDEWAKANTON SIOUX COMMUNITY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the life of Chairman Stanley Crooks of the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community. With the passing of Chairman Crooks on Saturday, August 25, the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community, Minnesota and America lost a transformative and highly respected leader.

Chairman Crooks lived his life serving our nation, the residents of Minnesota and the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community. A proud veteran of the United States Navy, Chairman Crooks was first elected chairman of the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community in 1992. During his decades of leadership, he earned national renown for his eloquent and effective defense of tribal sovereignty.

Chairman Crooks never missed an opportunity to reach out to less fortunate communities or to speak out on their behalf. He touched lives in a way that provided hope, opportunity, and dignity to Native American families and communities in need. He was a visionary and a proud leader, and his mentorship inspired a generation that will continue his work for Indian country. Those who knew him well share a tremendous appreciation, respect and fondness for him. I am grateful that he was always ready to lend a hand and to share with me his experience and wisdom regarding tribal issues.

Mr. Speaker, the entire Congressional delegation from Minnesota extends our deepest sympathies to Chairman Crooks' family, including Cheryl, his wife of 48 years, as well as the entire Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community, and all who encountered his generosity and profound spirit. Please join us in honoring the life of this great leader.

HONORING CITY MANAGER MARIA DADIAN

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maria Dadian and her 18 years of public service to the people of Southern California.

Maria's devotion to public service is longstanding. In 1975, Maria began her career in municipal government working for the City of South El Monte. She later accepted the position of Parks and Recreation Director with the City of Hawaiian Gardens, and after four years was promoted to Assistant to the City Administrator. Following her 11 years of continuous service to Hawaiian Gardens, she was named interim Executive Director of the Coalition for Youth Development, the city's newly established non-profit organization. During her municipal career she has been contracted by both public entities and private businesses to organize and implement public safety and recreation programs.

Since joining the City of Artesia management team in 1994, Maria has worked tirelessly to ensure Artesia remains safe for its residents and economically vibrant for its business community. During her time as Assistant City Manager, Maria oversaw the City's Public Safety programs, Capital Projects, Community Development projects, and grant program. On top of that, Maria also steered Artesia's Parks and Recreation and Public Works departments. On November 20, 2000, she was appointed City Manager, and redoubled her efforts to serve the citizens and businesses of Artesia.

Over the years, Maria never stopped working to improve Artesia through redevelopment, encouraging private sector investment, and diversifying and expanding Artesia's economic base. As a result, Artesia flourished under Maria's tenure. This includes an historic district renovation and restoration project, as well as numerous projects devoted to public infrastructure and facilities, downtown revitalization, and developmental and housing assistance. In short, Artesia has seen a renaissance with Maria as City Manager.

I commend Maria Dadian for her many years of outstanding public service and dedication to the City of Artesia and the community. We need more public servants like Maria Dadian. Artesia would not be the community it is today without her.

ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago this October, Congress directed the President to appoint a Special Representative for Trade Negotiations to lead the Administration's efforts to expand global trade. As a result, for the past 50 years, the U.S. Trade Representative has led the Executive Branch in aggressively opening markets to American-made goods and services and promoting economic growth and job creation through trade. USTR's leadership has contributed in significant ways to the tremendous economic growth that the United States enjoyed over the past 50 years and firmly established our global economic leadership.

Across Administrations, USTR has maintained an admirable bipartisan and close working relationship with Congress. I've always said that the very best people become the U.S. Trade Representative. The 50-year history of USTR demonstrates that the men and women who have served as the U.S. Trade Representative are strategic thinkers and tough negotiators—the kind of intelligent, can-do people who have demonstrated their ability to advance our trade agenda. And the dedicated USTR employees who serve with them also exhibit that intellectual rigor and high caliber. I'm proud of all that they have accomplished in opening markets and enforcing our rights under our trade agreements.

USTR is uniquely nimble, lean, and effective. In a world that has changed dramatically over the past 50 years, USTR's small size,

independence, and direct access to the President have been critical to its success. With these attributes intact, I am confident that USTR will continue to fulfill its mission effectively and commendably for the next 50 years.

Today, I honor USTR on its 50th anniversary, the 16 men and women who have served as the U.S. Trade Representative, and the thousands who have proudly served under them. I wish USTR the best for another 50 years.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JASON C.
YUAN

HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Taiwan's Ambassador to the United States, Jason C. Yuan, for his service in the United States and his recent appointment as Taiwan's National Security Advisor.

I also would like to wish Taiwan a happy anniversary for her upcoming anniversary on October 10th. Known as double ten day, this will mark Taiwan's 101st year.

With so much turmoil in the world today, the region along the Taiwan Strait is one of the important places where hostilities are decreasing. Taiwan has forged constructive partnerships with China, and there is a working peace between the two countries. Much of this can be credited to President Ma's leadership and the policies he has instilled.

Since President Ma became president, there have been numerous daily flights between the two countries, large increases in tourism between China and Taiwan, and a pooling of joint resources to reduce crime along the Taiwan Strait.

Happy anniversary to Taiwan, and thanks to President Ma for his part in maintaining peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT
OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 48 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial tomorrow in Washington, DC through Honor Flight of Oregon. On behalf of a grateful state and country, we welcome these heroes to the nation's capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are: Harry Barber, U.S. Army; Clarence Carnahan, U.S. Army; Elmer Hendricks, U.S. Army; Burl Jarrell, U.S. Army; Melvin McCoy, U.S. Army; Lowell Miller, U.S. Army; Walter Orum, U.S. Army; Wilburt Rathke, U.S. Army; Fred Riggs, U.S. Army; Willard Runion, U.S. Army; Dennison Thomas, U.S. Army; Frank Vaughan, U.S. Army; Harley Hess, U.S. Army Air Forces; Marion Kirkham, U.S. Army Air Forces; Urban Kluthe, U.S. Army Air Forces; Robert Mitchell, U.S. Army Air Forces; Roland Stewart, U.S. Army Air Forces; Francis Ellmers, U.S. Air Force; Jack Keeler, U.S. Air

Force; Milton Kelm, U.S. Air Force; John O'Brien, U.S. Air Force; Robert Stubblefield, U.S. Air Force; Walter Lowblad, U.S. Coast Guard; Billie Tracy, U.S. Coast Guard; Harvard Lewis, U.S. Marine Corps; William Sexton, U.S. Marine Corps; Muriel Yandle, U.S. Marine Corps; Douglas Smith, U.S. Merchant Marine; Adam Bachmann, U.S. Navy; James Bratton, U.S. Navy; Richard Davis, U.S. Navy; Joseph Doyon, U.S. Navy; James Dunn, U.S. Navy; Teddy Freeman, U.S. Navy; Thomas Gibbons, U.S. Navy; William Jordan, U.S. Navy; James Kohl, U.S. Navy; James Lancaster, Sr., U.S. Navy; William Matthias, U.S. Navy; Warren McCoy, U.S. Navy; Jerald Muck, U.S. Navy; Franklin Nolan, U.S. Navy; Leonard Premelaar, U.S. Navy; Vance Strunk, U.S. Navy; Leonard Swanzy, U.S. Navy; Walter Thompson, U.S. Navy; Frank Spiegel Jr., U.S. Navy; Richard Watson, U.S. Navy.

These 48 heroes join more than 100,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home states to Washington, DC, to reflect at the memorials built in their honor.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize and thank Dick and Erik Tobiason and Michael and Cindy Jensen for their tireless work with Honor Flight of Oregon.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MRS. RUTH
COYNE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mrs. Ruth Coyne, the former "first lady" of Brooklyn, Ohio.

Ruth was the wife of John M. Coyne, the former mayor of Brooklyn. She attended Rhodes High School and met John at a dance at Our Lady of Good Council. They were married at Old Pete's Wayside Inn on November 30, 1940. John went on to serve as mayor for an astounding 52 years, from 1947 to 1999. Ruth provided support for her husband throughout the years and came to be loved by the community. The couple was married for 72 years.

Ruth is remembered fondly by everyone she encountered. Councilwoman Kathleen Pucci has said that, "She exemplified grace, dignity and style. She genuinely cared about our community and its residents."

In addition to her role as "first lady", Ruth was a loving citizen and mother. She was the mother of four, grandmother of nine, and great-grandmother of fifteen. She always put her family first.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in memory of Mrs. Ruth Coyne, a woman who spent her long life working for others, and who

will be greatly missed by her family and the City of Brooklyn.

RECOGNIZING TALBOT HILL
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Talbot Hill Elementary School, located in Renton, Washington, for being named one of the "Coolest Schools in America" by Parent & Child magazine. The school was also named a Washington State Designated Innovative School.

Talbot Hill Elementary School is part of the national MicroSociety program. In this program, students participate in a fully-functioning society. Students apply for jobs, earn money, pay taxes, and participate in government.

Each fall, the Talbot Hill Elementary School community elects a Legislature, comprised of a president, vice president, at-large members and senators and representatives from each grade level. Students work on a newspaper, run a post office, start small businesses, and manage a recycling center.

This unique school is made possible by parent and community support. Parents get involved to invest in the school and in their children's education. This includes spreading the word to the community about the needs of the school. The community's involvement is essential to the success of Talbot Hill Elementary and helps to build a generation of successful and innovative students.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the students, teachers, administrators, parents, and staff of Talbot Hill Elementary School. The school's groundbreaking educational techniques prepare students to be life-long learners and engaged members of their communities.

NATIONAL DAY FOR THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on October 3, 2012, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office, located in Washington, DC, will be celebrating the 101st National Day of the Republic of China on Taiwan at the beautiful Twin Oaks Estate. I rise today in advance of this celebration to offer my continued praise and support of the U.S.-Taiwanese relationship and to acknowledge the good work of Jason Yuan, who after serving four years as Taiwan's Washington Representative is returning to Taiwan to continue his distinguished career by serving as Secretary General of the National Security Council. Mr. Yuan has worked tirelessly to further the mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and Taiwan.

As the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan celebrate the 101st anniversary of their nation's founding, I congratulate them on their National Day and would like to commend

them for more than 100 years of progress. As a good friend and ally of the United States, the Republic of China on Taiwan remains a peaceful and prosperous democracy, and is a model for nations around the world.

I would like to take a moment and recognize the 23 million citizens of Taiwan for their commitment to peace. As a symbol of this commitment, the Republic of China on Taiwan recently melted down artillery shells and used the metal to construct a "Peace Bell." President Ma Ying-jeou also proposed a peace initiative in the hope of easing the recent tensions in the East China Sea. The initiative calls on all parties concerned to show restraint, shelve controversies and settle disputes in a peaceful manner. It also urges all parties concerned to strive for a consensus on a code of conduct in the East China Sea, and to establish a mechanism for cooperation on exploring and developing resources in the region. We celebrate these efforts to maintain good relations with other countries, and the United States is proud to call the Republic of China on Taiwan a partner in peace.

In closing, I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking Ambassador Yuan for his service along with President Ma, Vice President Wu, and the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan for their continued commitment to peace and democracy on this anniversary of their National Day. Although I am retiring from the United States House of Representatives, please be assured that my support, commitment and friendship to Taiwan will remain strong, and will never die.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 585 regarding the "Andrew P. Carpenter Tax Act" (H.R. 5044). Had I been present, I would have voted "yes".

HONORING NANCY OSBORNE

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Osborne, an important public figure in the Central Valley news industry, on the occasion of her retirement.

Ms. Osborne graduated from Las Cruces High School in New Mexico and attended New Mexico State University for 3 years.

Following a five year break from her education, she returned to college in the valley at Fresno State University. She graduated in 1976 with a BA in Speech Communications and began work on a Master's degree.

After a year of graduate study, she accepted a reporting job at ABC30. As one of only a handful of women in the local broadcast industry, Nancy became a role model for many young women.

In the fall of 1977, Nancy joined the anchor team at KFSN-TV. In 1980, she produced and

anchored the valley's first locally produced news magazine show while continuing to co-anchor Action News.

In 1996, Nancy joined the Action News Management Team. While continuing her coverage of the valley's political scene and issues involving children and families, she was named Executive Producer—Special Projects. With this new assignment, she helped shape Action News around the clock.

In January 2004, after a short hiatus, Nancy returned to reporting full time, once again adding her experience and expertise to the expanding daily Action News coverage while continuing to co-anchor Action News Live at Five. She also wrote a popular blog, "The Red, White, and True", which focused on stories about the Central Valley's military personnel and families.

In 2005, Nancy was inducted into the prestigious Silver Circle by the Northern California chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for her commitment of over 25 years to the Fresno television market and broadcast news industry.

Nancy has reported on countless stories and events important to the people of Central California and she has given her time and effort to numerous non-profits and charities over the decades. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Osborne on her "award-winning and trailblazing television career," as she retires from ABC30 Action News.

IN RECOGNITION OF FORTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP FROM CLINTON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) as it celebrates 40 years of service to Southeast Michigan. Situated within Macomb and Oakland Counties and located in the heart of the Great Lakes region, the Clinton River watershed covers over 760 square miles that begins at the headwaters of the Clinton River in Springfield Township and stretches to its outlet into Lake St. Clair.

Water has long been an important part of our lives in Michigan and throughout the Great Lakes region—it was the means through which Michigan became a center of industry and innovation during the Industrial Revolution and remains a critical part of our economy. However, as an unintended consequence of our success, the Clinton River and its watershed became polluted by industrial runoff and untreated sewage, which threatened this important natural resource in Southeast Michigan. As a response to growing public concern, in 1972 the CRWC was founded with a mission to protect, enhance and celebrate the Clinton River, its watershed and Lake St. Clair.

In execution of its mission, the CRWC has created programs that have engaged all the sectors of the community in efforts to restore the watershed, while providing hands-on education which has instilled the value of good environmental stewardship. Among its programs is Adopt-a-Stream, which directly involves area residents in the water quality mon-

itoring process. It promotes annual events like Clinton River Day, which brings the community together in dozens of sites around the watershed to participate in projects that educate, clean and promote the importance of the Clinton River to our region. Over its 40 years, the CRWC has created a clear track record of leveraging strong partnerships with area stakeholders to remove the impairments caused by pollution.

The work of the CRWC has left a tangible impact on the communities of Southeast Michigan—riparian habitat has been restored, children have been educated on the healthy and active lifestyle that the watershed supports and recreational fishermen once again enjoy premier fisheries. Beyond these benefits to area residents, the CRWC's outreach to its stakeholders has created important synergies between local governments, institutes of higher education, area businesses and advocacy groups, that have strengthened the vitality of the Southeast Michigan region. The results have been, not just a healthier ecosystem, but also increased economic activity and increased quality-of-life for our families.

Mr. Speaker, as a proud supporter of the Great Lakes and the federal commitment Congress has made through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the CRWC for 40 years of leadership in protecting, enhancing and celebrating the Clinton River, its watershed and Lake St. Clair. While there is still a lot of work left to be done to fully restore and protect our important natural resources, we have seen great progress because of the work of the CRWC and its sister organizations across the Great Lakes region. I am confident that with the sustained dedication of the CRWC, its stakeholders and its supporters, that we will continue to see more progress made to fully restore the Clinton River Area of Concern.

RECOGNIZING THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADOPTION OF THE NORTHWEST ORDINANCE BY THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize that 225 years ago the Continental Congress of the United States enacted the Northwest Ordinance, which in 1787 established a system of government that made the territory north and west of the Ohio River the first commonwealth in the world whose organic law recognized every man as free and equal.

Encompassing 265,878 square miles, the Northwest Territory included the future states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, and part of Minnesota.

In addition to prohibiting slavery, the Northwest Ordinance guaranteed religious freedom and civil rights throughout the territory. This federal mandate preceded by several years the Bill of Rights—the first 10 Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The Northwest Ordinance was adopted by the Continental Congress on July 13, 1787.

The Continental Congress appointed Arthur St. Clair the first governor of the Northwest

Territory on October 5, 1787. Governor St. Clair was based in Losantville, a town he re-named Cincinnati on January 4, 1790.

The first delegate of the Northwest Territory to the U.S. House of Representatives was William Henry Harrison of Hamilton County, who served from March 4, 1799, to May 14, 1800. He successfully promoted the Harrison Land Act, which allowed people of modest means to buy land in the Northwest Territory directly from the federal government. This contributed to the rapid growth in Ohio's population.

The Northwest Ordinance established a process for new states to join the Union, and in 1803 Ohio became the first state formed out of the Northwest Territory.

The Northwest Ordinance also established the township form of government, which continues to be favored by many local communities in Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, Ohioans appreciate their state's history and their heritage of equality under the law.

Today, I want to recognize the 225th anniversary of the adoption of the Northwest Ordinance, which resulted in the great state of Ohio and ensured liberty for all its residents.

IN HONOR OF MR. GREGORY M.
SADLEK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor Mr. Gregory M. Sadlek who is being honored by the Polonia Foundation on October 7, 2012.

Born and raised in Northeast Ohio, Gregory is a graduate of Padua Franciscan High School in Parma, Ohio. In 1968, following his high school graduation, he moved to Quincy, Illinois to attend Quincy University and later attended the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Gregory holds several degrees including a bachelor's in philosophy and a master's and doctorate in English. He has pursued a career in academia, teaching at the University of Nantes, Hamilton College, Eastern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University and the University of Nebraska at Omaha in the English Department. Gregory is married to Françoise Rolland; together they have two sons, Jonathan and Benjamin.

In 2005, Gregory returned to his native Cleveland, Ohio and became the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at Cleveland State University (CSU). At CSU, he has worked tirelessly to establish a Polish Studies program and a partnership with the University of Warsaw.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Gregory M. Sadlek and congratulating him as he is recognized by the Polonia Foundation.

RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S
NATIONAL DAY

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to send my best wishes to President Ma Ying-

jeou and the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on their National Day this October 10th.

In the last four and a half years President Ma, along with other national leaders, has helped Taiwan's economy thrive. President Ma took a number of helpful steps to take Taiwan out of an economic slump, including guaranteeing bank deposits, lowering interest rates, distributing shopping vouchers and investing in domestic infrastructure. As a result, Taiwan's economy has been rapidly improving, alleviating the problems of unemployment and poverty.

President Ma has also excelled on promoting foreign policy. Apart from the signing of the mutually beneficial Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) with mainland China in 2010, President Ma's government is currently negotiating economic cooperation agreements with the governments of Singapore and New Zealand and paving the way for Taiwan to become a member of the multilateral Trans-Pacific Partnership.

President Ma has also significantly reduced tensions in the Taiwan Strait by pursuing a policy of diplomatic truce with the mainland and has ended the dangerous cycle of diplomatic warfare between the two sides.

Taiwan is currently enjoying a robust relationship with the United States. U.S.-Taiwan ties have been the most amicable in 30 years. Communication between our two countries is smooth and friendly. Much of this is due to the capable stewardship of Taiwan's top diplomat in the United States: Representative Jason Yuan. Yuan is a seasoned diplomat and has been working very hard to promote an open discussion between Taiwan and Congress on Capitol Hill.

Again, congratulations to the Republic of China on its National Day.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 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 \$16,012,971,761,294.54. We've added \$5,386,094,712,381.46 to our debt in 3.5 years. This is \$5.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

ON THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE ACHIEVABLE DREAM TEN-
NIS BALL

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate An Achievable Dream and the Rotary Club of the Virginia Peninsula, a longtime sponsor of the event, on the occasion of the 20th Annual Achievable Dream

Tennis Ball. An Achievable Dream, with the generous help of the Rotary Club of the Virginia Peninsula and other sponsors, offers an extraordinary education program in my home district which provides tremendous promise to young at-risk students.

The motto of An Achievable Dream is "Teaching Kids Winning Ways." The Achievable Dream program is structured to give young people the skills needed to succeed in life. Those skills are taught at An Achievable Dream on the tennis court, in the classroom, on field trips, and in sharing experiences with successful and caring adults in the community.

Often, young people don't think too much about the future, and don't realize that choices made today may limit those in the future. The staff, supporters and sponsors at An Achievable Dream have worked to ensure that their students have every opportunity to be successful in the future, setting and achieving a goal of graduating 100% of students on time in the past, and hope to send all graduating seniors off to college.

As a public-private partnership with Newport News Public Schools, the City of Newport News, the Newport News Sheriff's Department, the U.S. Army, the Rotary Club, Riverside Health System, and the College of William and Mary, An Achievable Dream has received national recognition as one of the most effective urban school programs in the country and has provided a model for integrating support from the business community to support quality educational opportunities for at-risk students. The Achievable Dream Tennis Ball seeks to highlight the community's dedication to these students and to An Achievable Dream.

I am pleased that I have been involved with An Achievable Dream as a supporter since its beginnings. As An Achievable Dream and our community gathers to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the An Achievable Dream Tennis Ball, the community can look forward to the continued success of An Achievable Dream and the programs that have been put in place at these schools. I would like to congratulate the staff, supporters and sponsors at An Achievable Dream on this monumental occasion, and hope to see continued success from An Achievable Dream in the future.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST JOSHUA
L. REED

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Army Specialist Joshua L. Reed, who died at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, on August 4.

Josh was born in Bellefontaine, Ohio, in 1990 to Lloyd and Tonja Reed. A 2009 graduate of Benjamin Logan High School, Josh participated in football and wrestling and also enjoyed skateboarding, snowboarding, and quad racing.

Enlisting in the Army in February 2010, Josh graduated from the Multiple Launch Rocket System Crewmember Advanced Individual Training Course at Fort Sill later that year. He was an ammunition specialist with Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 14th Field Artillery, and was

awarded the Army Certificate of Achievement and the Army Achievement Medal.

Josh is survived by a loving family, including his wife, Teosha Reed of Lawton, Oklahoma; his parents; two brothers, Nicholas Thompson and Tristan Reed; and grandparents Elva Karns and Lewis "Butch" and Judy Lenhart.

Josh courageously volunteered to serve in defense of his family, his community, his state, and his nation. Every American lives under the blanket of safety he helped provide. For this, we owe him and his family a great debt of gratitude.

Josh will be deeply missed. But the strength of his character and the courage he demonstrated through his service will live on.

IN HONOR OF LARRY WALTON
COLSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a great man and close friend, Larry Walton Colson. Mr. Colson passed away on September 18, 2012. Visitation will be held at Carson McLane Funeral Home at 11 a.m. on Thursday, September 20, 2012, and funeral services will be held on Friday, September 21, 2012.

Mr. Colson graduated from Valdosta High School in 1966. He attended Valdosta State University and graduated with a degree in Business Administration. Mr. Colson was an entrepreneur at heart. He was the owner and founder of Colson Business Systems, Inc. as well as the co-owner of Splash Zone.

Mr. Colson loved his community and actively served in various capacities. He served on the Guardian Bank Board of Advisors, the South Georgia Medical Center Foundation Board and the Valdosta State University Board of Trustees. He was also a Blazer Booster as well as an avid Florida Gator Booster.

A favorite pastime of Mr. Colson's was playing golf. He played as an amateur in the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. He was also an active member of Park Avenue United Methodist Church where he served as an usher.

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Mr. Colson went far in life because of his kindness and compassion for others.

Mr. Colson is preceded in death by his father, George Wallace Colson; his brother, Gordon Wallace Colson; and uncles, Carlton Thomas Adams and Kenneth Carmen Colson.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Louise Colson; children, Rachel (Steve) Blankenship, Allison (David) Gracey, and Hunter Colson; his mother Myrtice Adams Colson; brother Greg Colson (wife Cheryl); sister-in-law Valerie Colson; many loving nephews: Todd Hatcher, Brent Colson (wife Cara), Brad Colson, and Trace Colson; as well as many great nieces and nephews: Ellen, Cole, Julia and Tate Colson, Caroline and Davis Hatcher.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Mr.

Colson's wife Pat, their children and other family members during this difficult time. May they be consoled and comforted by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

IN HONOR OF MR. WALTER
BORKOWSKI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Walter Borkowski who is being honored by the Polonia Foundation on October 7, 2012.

Born September 11, 1969, Walter is a first generation American. He was raised in Parma, Ohio and attended Normandy High School before earning a degree in business administration from the University of Toledo. Following graduation, Walter began a career in financial services as a customer service representative with Transamerica Financial Services. Within two years, he was the Executive Branch Manager of the Canton, Ohio office. He briefly left Northeast Ohio for a job with Long Beach Mortgage Company, but returned when he launched Consumers Choice Mortgage Inc. Walter retired from Trust In Equity Mortgage Group, LLC in 2009, but continues to work as a part-time Mortgage Consultant.

Walter has been involved in the Polish-American community since he was a young child as a singer in the John Borkowski Orchestra. At the age of 24, he was elected to his first of two terms as the director of the Alliance of Poles of American. Currently, he is the Recording Secretary for the Cleveland Society of Poles and the Alternate National Director for the Polish American Congress.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Walter Borkowski and congratulating him as he is recognized by the Polonia Foundation.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING MS.
GENEVIEVE FLOREZ

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Miss Genevieve Florez, who organized a school-wide donation project to send care package to our troops.

At age 10, Genevieve is the youngest child of Susan and Steve Florez. She has attended Joshua Cowell Elementary School since kindergarten, where her mother is a teacher. The family lives in Twain Harte, and Genevieve and her mom commute to school daily—an hour and a half trip each way. While in the car she does her homework, reads, and talks with her mom about all of the things that fill the life of a 5th grader.

Despite all the time that Genevieve dedicates to her studies and long commute, she still finds the energy to help with a home garden, participate in summer drama productions, and take dance classes. She loves art and keeps a sketchbook of her own fashion de-

signs. Not only is Genevieve bright, happy, thoughtful, and creative, but she is a highly motivated self-starter ready to make a difference in the world. In fact, her goal is to be the future President of the United States.

The care package project was inspired by Genevieve's admiration for her school principal, Ms. Bennett. Genevieve sent her the following letter: You inspired me. I want to help and stop world hunger, no more bullies, say thanks to police, fire-fighters, and ladies and men in the military. I also want to say thanks to the teachers. I don't know how to help. That's why I ask you. This is money to help with anything. Miss Florez had enclosed \$20 dollars.

After speaking with Principal Bennett about a variety of ways to reach out to people, Genevieve decided to pursue the idea of sending packages to soldiers overseas. Bennett put Genevieve in touch with the family of Corporal Charles O. Palmer—a United States Marine, who lost his life in Iraq on May 5, 2007. Corporal Palmer's family met with Genevieve to help her coordinate services as she prepared to send personal care packages to the troops. After organizing three school meetings to share her idea about the project, Genevieve had successfully earned the support of 70 students who wanted to participate.

On September 11, 2012, a school assembly was held to remember those who lost their lives during the attacks and to honor the heroes that emerged who protect us every day. The Palmer Family spoke to the students about the collecting of items to send to the soldiers. They talked about the personal healing that the project brings to them, and they thanked the students for their efforts. They finished by letting the students know that they were all heroes for making a difference at that moment. After sorting through all of the donations, the Palmer Family, students, staff, and volunteers were able to send out 65 boxes to our very deserving troops.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in praising Genevieve Florez for the significant contributions she has made to the people of the local community and for her honorable and faithful dedication to our service men and women of the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF BISHOP GUILFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th anniversary of Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School in Altoona, Pennsylvania.

Bishop Guilfoyle has been dedicated to the education and development of Altoona's youth for nearly a century, and its commitment to excellence has helped the school to become a tremendously influential institution in our community. The school places a great emphasis on instilling a culture of goodness, discipline, and knowledge in its students, as evidenced by its valued presence in the Altoona area.

In 1922, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Altoona and Johnstown established Bishop

Guilfoyle Catholic High School, under its original name of Altoona Catholic High School. After the sudden death of Bishop Richard T. Guilfoyle in 1957, the school was renamed to honor his compassion for the Altoona Catholic students, and his enthusiasm for sports.

Since its establishment, the school has seen nearly 11,000 of its students receive diplomas, many of them matriculating to higher education. With this outstanding production, the school has had a profound importance in its students' lives, and has helped each of them to thrive in our community and beyond.

Bishop Guilfoyle has achieved numerous accolades, and has developed a prestigious academic reputation across the 12 Catholic parishes that it serves. The school has continued to add state-of-the-art facilities, and has implemented a rigorous academic curriculum, which holds its students to the highest of standards, both within the classroom and in the community.

Mr. Speaker, Bishop Guilfoyle's commitment to the education of our district's youth has not gone unnoticed. Its faculty's passion for cultivating the necessary values to succeed as productive, compassionate citizens has earned the school an exemplary reputation in Pennsylvania's 9th district. The many proud alumni that are spread throughout the world are a testament to the school's celebrated achievements and storied tradition as a first-class instructional institution.

As Congressman of the 9th District, I wish Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School all the best on what is sure to be another productive, successful 90 years of education and development.

HONORING WASHINGTON COUNTY,
COLORADO ON ITS 125TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Washington County, Colorado on its 125th Anniversary.

Washington County is distinctly different from the Washington I am standing in today. However, both did name their areas in honor of the first President of the United States, George Washington.

This past February marked their 125th anniversary of Washington County, and they have much to celebrate.

During the early 1880s, the Northeast section of Colorado experienced a boom in agricultural development and settlers flocked to the area for available and plentiful land to grow crops. In fact, my family sold farm equipment in Akron and Otis, something my family remains very proud of to this day.

The population expansion led the Colorado State Legislature to pass legislation that officially established Washington County in 1887, and declared Akron, Colorado as the county seat.

After some territorial disputes with the town of Yuma, the current boundaries were established in 1903.

Today, over 4,800 Coloradoans call Washington County home, and the county continues to promote Colorado's rich agricultural legacy.

I had the honor and privilege to represent Washington County when I served in the Colorado State Legislature, and it is again my honor and privilege to represent this great county in the United States Congress.

I am proud to recognize Washington County on their 125th Anniversary.

PROVIDING QUALITY HOME CARE
SERVICES

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the need for strategies to maintain and improve access to home-based medical and long-term care services.

As the Co-Chair of the Seniors Task Force, I am committed to ensuring seniors get the care that need in the setting that they prefer. Today, three and a half million Medicare beneficiaries get home health services, allowing them to live independently in their own homes while getting the medical care they need. Home healthcare provides skilled, safe and effective medical treatments that once were available only a hospital or doctor's office, allowing seniors and people with disabilities to receive necessary medical care without needing transportation to a doctor's office or admission to a hospital. Home health care is good for individuals and their families, and it also is good for taxpayers. Home healthcare services saved Medicare \$2.81 billion dollars between 2006 and 2009.

As we head into this fall's debate on sequestration and alternative budget proposals, I urge my colleagues to remember the importance of home health care to seniors and people with disabilities on Medicare and to avoid cuts that will threaten the services upon which they rely.

Twelve million adults—seniors and adults with disabilities—need long-term care services but Medicaid is currently unable to meet all their needs. The problem will become even more serious in the future, since it is estimated that 27 million Americans will need long-term services by 2050. Yet, our nation still lacks a comprehensive approach to meet current and future long-term care needs.

I have introduced H. Res. 759 to express support for a comprehensive approach to provide the home care workforce and long-term care services we need in order to ensure that seniors and people with disabilities are able to live at home and enjoy a dignified quality of life. It is time not just for a national discussion, but for national solutions.

We know that we have to address the cost of health and long-term care, but there is a right way to deal with those costs and a wrong way. The wrong answer would be to target vulnerable seniors and people with disabilities—denying them home healthcare and long-term care options or shifting the financial burdens to family caregivers. Large Medicare and Medicaid cuts, vouchers and block grants would do real harm to real people. Higher cost-sharing requirements will price essential services out of reach.

Instead, we need to look for ways to lower health care costs across-the-board by eliminating fraud and abuse, giving Medicare au-

thority to use its bargaining power to negotiate for lower drug prices as the VA does, encouraging greater efficiency in the delivery of care, and encouraging the use of cost-effective health care services, including home healthcare services.

As we undertake serious budget discussions this fall, we must carefully consider the real-life impacts of the choices before us. I will be working to make sure that we protect and improve our ability to meet the home healthcare and long-term care needs of seniors and people with disabilities.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JULIANNE
ELIZABETH MARKS ALLEN

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend of mine, Julianne Elizabeth Marks Allen, who passed away earlier this month. Julie, as she was called, had a heart of gold and was one of the most giving and loving people I've ever been fortunate enough to know. It was an honor and privilege for me to have her serve on my staff for nearly 19 years as a trusted advisor and liaison to the people of Sullivan County—the county she loved and called home for nearly her entire life.

Julie committed her life to her family and community. Through her volunteer efforts and public service, Julie touched countless lives in Roscoe and throughout Sullivan County, a beautiful, rural part of New York, where she was known by seemingly everyone. She was particularly interested in assisting young people and served as the Town of Rockland's Youth Committee Chairman for the Roscoe Central School District for several years. She was also a board member on the Sullivan County Community College Foundation Scholarship Committee. Julie worked diligently with me on a wide range of issues and was critical in helping me establish and steer the Sullivan-Wawarsing Rural Economic Area Partnership—an innovative regional community development initiative, for which Julie served on the Board of Directors for many years. Julie diligently advocated for those who sought assistance through our office and was widely respected for her tireless efforts to help others. Julie was also a distinguished and stalwart pillar of the Democratic Party, serving for the past 40 years as a member of the Sullivan County Democratic Committee and for the last 25 years as an elected member of the New York State Democratic Committee.

Julie had a profound impact on virtually everyone she met. To her, public and community service was a calling. Despite facing health challenges for the past 23 years, Julie's passion and determination to help others remained steadfast. In fact, Julie was recently honored with the Sullivan County Community College "2012 Women Who Make A Difference" award for her lifetime dedication of volunteerism to the county. She constantly put everyone else's needs before her own, and her reservoir of compassion and inner strength was an inspiration to me and others. Every conversation with Julie involved her asking how the other person was doing, how their

family was doing, and asking for stories and updates to make sure everything was alright. She felt like a family member because she cared so much about everyone.

While she had many jobs and significant responsibilities, the roles that Julie cherished more than any others were that of loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt. Julie loved her family with all of her heart—and it was one of the biggest hearts I've ever known. She spoke frequently and proudly about her family members' latest accomplishments. Nothing brought Julie more joy than spending time with her husband Don—her one and only true love and high school sweetheart to whom she was married for 47 years—and the rest of their family, including their children, Laurie and Michael, along with their spouses, Perry and Kori; and their grandchildren Elizabeth Julianne, Caden and Taylor. Despite all of the many great accomplishments throughout her life, there was no greater achievement in Julie's life than building this beautiful family.

Mr. Speaker, I add my voice to those honoring the life of Julianne Elizabeth Marks Allen. I offer my heartfelt condolences to her family and many friends. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have known and worked closely with Julie. The world is an emptier place without Julianne Elizabeth Marks Allen, but her legacy and impact on the lives of others will live on forever.

NATIONAL OVARIAN CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of the month of September being National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, I would like to express my deep support for the women and families who are affected by ovarian cancer. In 2012, over 22,000 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer in the United States, and we will lose more than 15,000 mothers, daughters, wives, sisters, and friends to this disease.

While great strides have been made in cancer research, education, and awareness, there is still much work to be done, especially on ovarian cancer. Though many other cancers have seen significant reductions in mortality rates due to improved prevention methods, screenings, and treatments, the mortality rate for ovarian cancer has remained nearly the same for the past 40 years.

I commend the many programs and organizations dedicated to ovarian cancer research, education, and awareness, including the National Cancer Institute, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Ovarian Cancer Control Initiative, the Department of Defense Ovarian Cancer Research Program, and the many advocacy, education, and awareness organizations.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing September as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, remembering the women who have lost the battle with this disease, and supporting research, education, and awareness efforts so that eventually, future generations will no longer feel the effects of ovarian cancer.

IN HONOR OF MRS. ALINA
CZERNEC

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor Mrs. Alina Czernek who is being honored by the Polonia Foundation on October 7, 2012.

Alina was born in pre-World War II Poland. During the war she was forced to spend five years of her life living in Polish refugee camps in Iran, India and Pakistan. Following the War, her family reunited in England in 1947 and immigrated to Cleveland, Ohio's Tremont neighborhood in 1952. After graduating from St. John Cantius High School, Alina was attending Fenn College and working for the Polish daily newspaper, *Wiadomosci Dodzienne*. In 1959, Alina married Steve Czernek and together they had three children, Lisa, Richard and Chris. Alina spent much of her time volunteering at local schools and nursing homes and eventually became the director of admissions at Broadview Nursing Home. She worked at Heights Drapery Company, which she and her daughter own, until her retirement in 2004.

Alina has been involved in the Polish-American community since she settled in the U.S. She has belonged to a number of organizations including Gmina 6, PNA and the Alliance of Poles. She is also an active member of the Polish American Cultural Center and has spent countless hours volunteering at St. John Cantius Church.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mrs. Alina Czernek and congratulating her as she is recognized by the Polonia Foundation.

A TRIBUTE TO HIS HONOR JUDGE
MICHAEL T. MCSPADDEN—TEXAS
JUDGE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, there are thousands of individuals who make it their life's work to make communities safer while holding criminals accountable for their actions. One of the best is Judge Michael T. McSpadden. I have known Judge McSpadden for what seems like forever. We served in the district attorney's office as prosecutors together. Judge McSpadden prosecuted criminals for 8 years in the Harris County district attorney's office under the leadership of District Attorney Carol Vance.

In 1982, Judge McSpadden became a Criminal District Court Judge in Harris County, Texas. He tried felony cases. Judges in Texas are elected on a partisan ballot and Judge McSpadden has been elected 8 consecutive times to the bench of the 209th Criminal District Court. We served as judges together and I witnessed his remarkable dedication to the law and justice. As a community, we are truly privileged to have such an extraordinary man answer the call to public service and as an individual, I am grateful to call Judge McSpadden a friend.

Judge McSpadden has served the citizens of Harris County, Texas for over 35 years. A graduate from the University of Oklahoma (though we don't hold it against him), he has worked diligently to rise through the ranks in Texas courts. He started his legal career in the Harris County District Attorney's office as an Assistant District Attorney, and then he became the Chief Prosecutor of the 209th District Court.

In 1982, Judge McSpadden was elected as a judge for the same court and, for the last 30 years, he has continued to preside over the 209th. His extensive knowledge of the justice system and his incredible work ethic have gained the respect of many in the law profession. Over his career, he has earned the respect and admiration among lawyers and judges within the legal community: he is always among the highest rated judges by members of the Houston Bar Association and was the highest rated judge in Harris County in the 2011 Houston Bar Association Judicial Qualification Poll. Our community has benefited greatly from the many, many years of service that he has dedicated. In addition, Judge McSpadden has been recognized by the Houston Police Officer's Association and Harris County Deputy Sheriffs Association. He has also been honored and named Champion of Crime Stoppers by the Bay Area Crime Stoppers. These organizations recognized that he has not only dedicated his professional time to helping others, but he has dedicated his personal time to helping the next generation as well. In 1994, Child Advocates honored him for his efforts to help children. He has been also honored by the Samaritan Center and the Assistance League of Houston for his work with inner city youth. Judge McSpadden is a positive mentor to young males at risk. In 2002, he was the first recipient of the Chuck Norris Team Spirit Award for his work with Kick Drugs Out of America. He continues to serve on the advisory boards of many non-profit organizations. By giving his time and lending his hands, Judge McSpadden has changed many lives, and I want you to know that our Nation is a better place because of his commitment to helping our communities become safer.

Prior to his three decades of public service in the courtroom, Judge McSpadden also served his country as a United States Marine. While enlisted, he even found time to win the Marine Corps Tennis Champion title. He is a 3-time Big 8 Conference Tennis Singles Champion and still enjoys playing at River Oaks Country Club.

The impact of Judge McSpadden's work is far reaching. He truly is an unsung hero whose efforts are felt in communities, neighborhoods and homes across Texas each and every day.

Judge McSpadden's achievements at the 209th and in the community far surpass these recognitions. His innovation, determination and compassion for serving others make him one of the best judges in the Nation. Judge McSpadden is a close personal friend, excellent lawyer, tremendous judge, and amazing public servant for Texas.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING MONTANA'S WORLD
WAR II VETERANS**HON. DENNY REHBERG**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, today it is my distinct privilege to welcome a very special group of men and women to our Nation's capital. And while it is incumbent upon us to honor them, the truth is, they honor us with their presence here.

On September 23, 2012, nearly 100 veterans of the Second World War will arrive in Washington, D.C. through the Honor Flight program. Since 2005, Honor Flight has worked to bring WWII veterans to visit their war memorial at the foot of the Washington Monument, and a few feet from the White House. In that first year, 137 veterans participated in the program. By last year, that total annual participation had swelled to 18,055.

And while each of the veterans who has participated deserves our thanks and our honor, this particular group is special because it marks the second time this year that Honor Flight has brought out a group of veterans from Montana.

You won't find a state that's more proud of our veterans than Montana. And we have a lot of them. In fact, you won't find many states that have more as a percentage of our population.

On December 7, 1941 the United States was pulled into the war and Montanans answered the call to service. Within the first year, 40,000 men and women from the Treasure State enlisted. By the end of the war, 57,000 had served—nearly 10 percent of the state's entire population at the time, one of the highest rates in the country.

They served in every branch and in every theater of the conflict. And too many of them never made it back to Montana, although I think that heaven must be a little something like a peaceful sunset over the Yellowstone River.

But Montana's veterans didn't sacrifice in vain. They bled and died to defeat the greatest threat to freedom the world has ever seen. They fought across the bloody islands of the Pacific and in the frozen forests of Europe. They fought in the air, land and sea. Some even fought below the waves. And they won.

Today, the men and women who fought and won that war are justifiably part of what is called the Greatest Generation. The sacrifices of men and women who arrive in Washington, D.C. are the reason for this honorable title. It is not something we gave to them, it's something they earned.

As they visit this city and reflect on what it stands for as a beacon of freedom to the world, I think the rest of us should remember that the reason liberty still exists is because good men stood up to tyranny. They are the greatest of the Greatest Generation, and on behalf of all Montanans, I want to thank them.

57,000 Montanans served during World War II. Just under 100 are here this week. Please join me in welcoming and honoring:

Lee Alderdice (Polson, MT); Milton Lyman Amsden (Broadus, MT); Harry A. Arvidson (Lincoln, MT); Peter N. "Bert" Bertram (Absarokee, MT); Leonard E. "Len" Bestrom (Laurel, MT); Warren Charles Bodecker

(Plains, MT); Ralph Floyd Brewington (Broadview, MT); James C. "Jim" Brook (Lewistown, MT); William Boner "Bill" Brown (Billings, MT); Jackson Lamar "Jack" Burger (Lavina, MT); Filmore Burton Canon (Broadus, MT); John M. Clark (Butte, MT); Harold Lee "Hal" Conrad (Lewistown, MT); Hollis E. Coon (Butte, MT); Gool Counts (Livingston, MT); Carley Rhein Cromwell (Missoula, MT); Leo Eckhardt (Billings, MT); James E. "Jim" Elander (Missoula, MT); James "Jim" Ellison (Billings, MT); Charles T. "Bosco" Eskro (Billings, MT); Frank D. Evans (Billings, MT); Alvin Oscar Fisher (Billings, MT); Samuel W. Frank (Laurel, MT); Durl J. Gibbs (Buffalo, MT); Raymond P. "Ray" Gregori (Hungry Horse, MT); Robert Glover Hall (Potomac, MT); Charles E. "Chuck" Halstead (Columbus, MT); Thomas A. "Tom" Hanel (Billings, MT); Russell LeRoy Hartse (Missoula, MT); James "Jim" Hasterlik (Great Falls, MT); Milam V. Hearron (Billings, MT); McDonald Watkins "Don" Held (Billings, MT); Lewis William "Louie" Holzheimer (Great Falls, MT); Bernard E. "Barney" Ilerston (Corvallis, MT); Earl T. Jackson (Deer Lodge, MT); Elwin M. Johnson (Laurel, MT); George L. Kimmel (Billings, MT); Vincent Leo "Vince" Koefeld (Laurel, MT); Vernon Lee "Vern" Koelzer (Billings, MT); Frank J. Kocilya (Lewistown, MT); Andre Rioul "Andy" Kukay (Great Falls, MT); Willard E. "Bud" LaCounte (Billings, MT); Albert Raymond "Al" Lasater (Ryegate, MT); Harold J. Lasater (Forsyth, MT); Gorvan J. "Duke" LeDuc (Laurel, MT); Oscar Lawrence "Lawrence" Lee (Shepherd, MT); Norman D. Leonard (Billings, MT); Joseph Biggs "Joe" Little (Bozeman, MT); Max E. Long (Laurel, MT); Robert W. Lubbers (Billings, MT); Leonard John "Pat" Mager (Harlowton, MT); James J. Marshall (Missoula, MT); William R. "Bill" Matthew (Anaconda, MT); Paul Messer (Billings, MT); Elizabeth Steele "Betty" Meyer (Paradise, MT); Geraldine E. "Gerry" Mihalic (Missoula, MT); Gerald Kenneth "Jerry" Nelson (Billings, MT); John H. "O'bie" O'Bannon (Stevensville, MT); Clarence Allan "Ole" Olson (Billings, MT); Eddie C. Olson (Vida, MT); Ray A. "Ole" Olson (Billings, MT); Thomas F. "Pat" Patterson (Stevensville, MT); Roy Louis "Pete" Peters (Roy, MT); John W. Porter (Deer Lodge, MT); Carl "Corky" Redding (Billings, MT); Michael Gene Rhodes (Billings, MT); Robert V. "Bob" Ryan (E. Helena, MT); Charles Franklin "Frank" Sandford (Missoula, MT); Dave Schledewitz (Townsend, MT); Lawrence Norbert Shipp (Miles City, MT); William James "Jim" Sivelle (Poison, MT); Anthony William "Bill" Skorupa (Bridger, MT); Charles E. "Chuck" Smith (Billings, MT); Donald E. Smith (Melville, MT); Kenneth C. "K.C." Smith (St. Regis, MT); Robert M. "Bob" Standerfer (Billings, MT); John R. "Jack" Stevenson (Missoula, MT); Frank Phillip Thatcher (Billings, MT); Clifford V. "Cliff" Thomsen (Billings, MT); Robert E. "Bob" Torgrimson (Billings, MT); Ronald Wilmar "Buck" Torstenson (Kalispell, MT); James Arthur "Jim" Vick (Billings, MT); Albert "Al" Wade (Billings, MT); James Forest "Jim" Walker (Billings, MT); Bernard Edgar Wanderaas (Vida, MT); Joseph A. "Joe" Weber (Deer Lodge, MT); Allen L. "Buster" Whittington (Billings, MT); Bryce Wood Williams (Billings, MT); Andrew R. "Pete" Winter (Ronan, MT).

WISHING THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN
A JOYOUS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION**HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations and best wishes to President Ma Ying-jeou on the occasion of Republic of China (Taiwan)'s National Day. This national holiday commemorates the 1911 Wu-ch'ang uprising that ended centuries of monarchy and led to the birth of the Republic of China.

Taiwan and the United States enjoy a robust relationship that reflects our two countries' historical, cultural and economic ties over the last century. Despite lack of formal relations between the two countries, the United States and Taiwan continue to be strong partners in trade, cultural and educational exchanges as well as cooperation in many other areas. Taiwan's cooperation with the United States in combating global terrorism has earned the trust of the American people and boosted exchanges and friendship between our two nations. Such relations also extend to discussions over Taiwan's military needs. A strong Taipei-Washington relationship is in both governments' best interests for the stability of East Asia. This year, we celebrated the 33rd anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations.

My additional congratulations to the people of Taiwan for their continued participation in the World Health Assembly meetings this May in Geneva. I hope Taiwan will also soon join the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

I join my fellow colleagues in wishing the people of Taiwan a joyous National Day celebration and look forward to expanding our strong relationship.

RECOGNIZING MR. ROBERT SMALL

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Mr. Robert W. Small for the time and energy he has dedicated to the Military Academy Nomination process by serving the constituents of the 19th Congressional District as a member of our Academy Selection Board.

Robert W. Small was born in Lordsburg, New Mexico on February 11, 1935. Mr. Small served his country in both the United States Marine Corps and the United States Army. While in the Marine Corps, he was called to duty on combat missions in both Korea and Vietnam; yet, his service went beyond combat. Mr. Small completed duty as a Marine Corps Drill Instructor and Marine Corps Recruiter in addition to assignments with Inspector Instructor Staff, Hawk Missile System, and Infantry and Tanks.

Beyond his work with the United States Marine Corps, Mr. Small has a distinguished career with the United States Army. As an Army

Recruiter, Mr. Small recruited for the Army National Guard. His hard work was recognized in 1981, when he was awarded as the Top Recruiter for the entire nation—having enlisted 139 soldiers in one fiscal year. This award is a testament to Mr. Small's impeccable work ethic.

Mr. Small's enthusiastic service to his country is demonstrated by his wide range of military work, including the California State Military Reserve. He served as Battalion Commander and Director of Recruiting State Wide and was assigned to the Commanding General's Staff as Staff Duty Officer. Mr. Small retired at the rank of Lt. Colonel. With forty years of military service, he serves as an example to all in his community.

Beyond the military, Mr. Small continues to exemplify true citizenship in his civilian life. He attended California State University, Fresno and West Coast Bible College. Mr. Small was a founding Pastor of Wahiiwa Church of God in Oahu, Hawaii and a Pastor of Pinole Church of God in Pinole, California. He currently serves as Senior Care Pastor at Northwest Church in Fresno, California. He is a member of the American Legion, VFW, and current Commandant of the Marine Corps League.

Robert served as Staff Assistant and Military Liaison to Congressman George Radanovich, former Representative of the 19th District of California. In addition, he served on the Academy Selection Board for both Congressman Radanovich and me.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Robert W. Small for his outstanding service to his country and community. His expertise as a member of the United States Armed Services and life experiences have made his time on the Academy Selection Board invaluable. He is a true public servant, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO CHAIRMAN PAUL F. OREFFICE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Chairman Paul F. Oreffice of The Dow Chemical Company for his distinguished life and career as he nears his 85th birthday. Mr. Oreffice is a true American success story, having immigrated to the United States from Venice when he was 12 years old to later becoming the CEO of one of the world's largest and most recognized corporations.

Paul joined The Dow Chemical Company in 1953, after graduating from Purdue University and serving two years in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He maintained a variety of international assignments early in his career before being named President and Chief Executive Officer in 1978. His adept business skills while head of the company helped him become the first person to receive both the Palladium medal and the Chemical Industry medal in the late 1980s. He was named Chairman of the Board in 1986, and served in that position until his retirement in 1992. Throughout his tenure, The Dow Chemical Company remained one of the largest and most well-respected manufacturing companies in the world.

It is because of the determination and success of individuals like Paul that America remains the land of opportunity for folks wishing to achieve great things through hard work and ingenuity. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District, I congratulate Paul for his remarkable life and career.

CRANE HERITAGE DAY HONOREE—
EVELYN STRODER

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a stalwart of our community, Evelyn Stroder, who is being recognized as this year's Crane Heritage Day honoree.

When I think of what it takes to make a strong community, I think of someone like Evelyn. Communities can be united in many aspects, but one central component found in strong communities is service. And service to our community has been at the core of Evelyn's life.

Evelyn's journey began in Corpus Christi where she graduated from high school and attended Del Mar Junior College before she went on to earn a B.A. in English and Journalism from Baylor University. Later she earned an M.A. in American Literature and Mass Communications from UTPB.

In 1955, Evelyn and her husband, Charles, moved from Corpus Christi to Crane. Once in Crane, Evelyn would use her education to give back. She served others as an educator for 28 years and continues to serve on the Crane School Board. While Evelyn no longer teaches, she still remains active in the Permian Historical Society and the Crane County Historical Commission. Her journalistic accomplishments include her presented papers and published work in a variety of publications throughout Texas, and currently she serves as the assistant editor of the Permian Historical Society Annual.

One would think that with such a busy schedule, Evelyn would not have time for much else in life. However, in between all these accomplishments, she has managed to raise three children, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren—a notable accomplishment in itself!

On behalf of the 11th District, it is an honor to recognize Evelyn because she is an example of those who have made our nation strong. Our nation did not become great from the top down, but from the bottom up—from the people in our neighborhoods willing to serve and make their community a better place for others and their children. Evelyn is one of these individuals. Through this award, she is rightly recognized for the time and sacrifice she has dedicated to others and it is an honor to represent her in the Halls of Congress.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COLONEL THEODORE C. "TC" WILLIAMS ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional officer in the United States Army, Colonel Theodore C. "TC" Williams. Throughout his 27 years of distinguished service, COL Williams has personified the Army values of duty, integrity and selfless service across the many missions that the Army provides in defense of our Nation. As the Chief of Programs Division in the Office of the Secretary of the Army, many of us on Capitol Hill have enjoyed the opportunity to work with COL Williams on a wide variety of Army issues and programs. It's my privilege to recognize COL Williams and his many accomplishments.

COL Williams, the son of the late Theodore C. Williams, Jr and Phyllis Kane Williams of Potomac, Maryland, attended Winston Church Hill Senior High School in Potomac, Maryland, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry in 1985 after graduating from The Citadel in South Carolina.

He served from 1986 to 1989 as a rifle platoon leader, company executive officer, and reconnaissance platoon leader in 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry "Wolfhounds" at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. From 1990 to 1993, he served as the battalion assistant operations officer then commander of Bravo Company in 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Cotton-Bailers during the Persian Gulf War and at Fort Stewart, Georgia. From 1993 to 1994, COL Williams served as a Senior Infantry Trainer in the 24th Infantry Division Resident Training Detachment assisting the 48th Brigade, Georgia National Guard. From 1995 to 1998, COL Williams was a small group instructor for the Infantry Officers Advanced Course and tactics team chief in the Tactics Department of the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia. From 1999 to 2001, he served as operations officer and then executive officer in 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry "Tomahawks" at Fort Lewis, Washington.

From 2001 to 2003, COL Williams was an Army Congressional liaison in the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison where he was principally responsible for overseeing the efficient operation of the division and managing the Army's legislative portfolio on the Chem-Bio Defense program.

In 2003, LTC Williams left OCLL to take command of the 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry "Gators" during Operation Iraqi Freedom and at Smith Barracks in Germany from June 2003 to June 2005. For twelve months, Force Gator conducted combat and stability operations in southeast Baghdad. In April 2004, while conducting transfer of authority to the follow-on unit, the tactical situation in Iraq deteriorated and the battalion task force was alerted to conduct combat operations in Najaf and Al Kut. Following decisive combat operations in south-central Iraq, the task force was extended in Iraq for three months to conduct combat and stability operations in the infamous "Triangle of Death." For operations conducted April to July 2004, the battalion received the Presidential Unit Citation as part of

the 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division. Upon redeploying to Germany after fifteen months in Iraq, the battalion conducted reset and full-spectrum operations training in preparation to deploy again in late 2005.

From 2005 to 2007, LTC Williams returned to the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison to serve as the Legislative Assistant to the Vice Chief of Staff, Army (VCSA). He stood out amongst his peers and made himself an indispensable part of the VCSA's personal staff.

From 2007 to 2009, he was promoted to Colonel and led the division within OCLL that develops the congressional engagement strategy for the Secretary, Chief of Staff, Under Secretary, Vice Chief of Staff, and Sergeant Major of the Army. He performed exceptionally. He personally improved the Army's strategic communication with the Congress, and developed the engagement strategy and legislative objectives for the Army's Senior Leadership.

From 2009 to 2012, COL Williams performed duties as the Chief of Programs. He expertly led the planning of the Army's congressional engagement strategies between senior Army Staff leaders and Members of Congress, leading directly to a defense authorization bill that enhanced the Army's ability to recruit, retain, and reset the world's premiere fighting force.

Through these varying assignments, COL Williams provided outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on critical issues of enduring importance to both the Army and Congress. On behalf of Congress, I thank COL Williams, his wife Helen, and his entire family for the commitment, sacrifices, and contribution they have made throughout his honorable military career. Congratulations on completing an exceptional and successful career.

IN HONOR OF MS. SYLVIA
RUCINSKI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Sylvia Rucinski who is being honored by the Polonia Foundation on October 7, 2012.

Born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, Sylvia attended Miles Elementary School and graduated from Holy Name High School. She later attended Cuyahoga Community College and John Carroll University. Before beginning her 22 year career at the Alliance of Poles of America, Sylvia held a number of different positions. She previously held jobs with Harris Seybold, Grabler Manufacturing and several school and public libraries.

Sylvia has been a long-time and active member of the Polish-American community. She has been the director for the Alliance of Poles Federal Credit Union and Ohio Division of the Polish American Congress. She also served as the recording secretary of Circle 9 of the Alliance of Poles. Because of her unwavering service, Sylvia has been acknowledged by the Alliance of Poles as the recipient of the 2004 Meritorious Service Medal and Award and named the 2003 Grand Lady of Pulaski by the Polonia Foundation.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mrs. Sylvia Rucinski and congratulating her as she is recognized by the Polonia Foundation.

HONORING MR. OLIVER SIEBERT
OF CHESTERFIELD, MISSOURI

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Oliver Siebert of Chesterfield, Missouri. The French government recently awarded Mr. Siebert the Legion of Honor for his part in the liberation of Strasbourg, France. The medal and the accompanying title of Knight of the Legion of Honor is the highest military award given by the French government.

Mr. Siebert, just twenty years old, was an acting second lieutenant leading the 324th infantry battalion and the 220th field artillery in November 1944. American forces, operating jointly with elements of the French Second Armored Division under the command of Captain Jean Penet, fought across the Vosges Mountains in the French Alps throughout October and November 1944. On 23 November 1944 elements of the French Army entered Strasbourg and liberated the city.

Mr. Siebert's service did not end with the liberation of Strasbourg. While conducting operations in support of the assault of Hangviller on 27 November 1944, Mr. Siebert and a small group of American soldiers were captured by German SS soldiers disguised as U.S. troops. Three days later, after overpowering two SS officers and commandeering their car, he was able to escape and return to his duties as an artillery forward observer.

On Christmas Day 1944 a German shell landed not far from his forward observation post and caused severe damage to his right leg. German strafing of the ambulance that evacuated him that night caused further damage that would require extensive surgery and lengthy convalescence to repair. After treatment at several American military hospitals, Mr. Siebert was honorably discharged on 18 August 1945.

Mr. Siebert returned to St. Louis, earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Washington University and in 1948 married Virginia Turner, his wife now for more than 63 years.

I am truly honored to have the opportunity to share this heroic story. This son of a truck driver for Anheuser-Busch, despite initially being rejected for military service because he was "clinically blind", did not give up his quest to do his part to defeat Nazi Germany. And now, almost seventy years later, I join the French government in honoring his sacrifice and service to the French people and these United States.

Mr. Siebert, thank you. And may God Bless you and your family.

CONGRATULATING MR. DEREK
CAVILLA FOR COMPLETING THE
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART'S
SUMMER TEACHER INSTITUTE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Derek Cavilla of Orlando, Florida, a teacher at Workforce Advantage Academy, upon his completion of the National Gallery of Art's Annual Summer Teacher Institute. During the National Gallery's six-day seminar, Mr. Cavilla intensively studied the foundation of twentieth-century art by examining the pioneering artists of French impressionism and post-impressionism.

In order for participants to be accepted in to the Gallery's Teacher Institute seminar, they must first complete a rigorous application process. Mr. Cavilla was one of only forty-five teachers from across the nation chosen to participate in this year's National Gallery of Art's Teacher Institute. From this seminar, teachers are able to return to their schools and students with new tools and ideas that will enhance education curriculum of all grade levels and subjects. The students of Central Florida are blessed to have such a dedicated educator as Mr. Cavilla.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to recognize and congratulate Mr. Derek Cavilla on his acceptance to and successful completion of the National Gallery of Art's Annual Summer Teacher Institute. May his dedication to our nation's educational institutions and students inspire others to follow in his footsteps.

FIRST ANNUAL AMERICA'S
FAMILY DAY

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on October 6, there will be an event taking place in Santa Monica, CA that I would like to highlight. This event will be the First Annual America's Family Day. The purpose of this event will be to celebrate families and to stress the importance of protecting and investing in our children.

On March 7, 2012, the Bi-Partisan Privacy Caucus, in which I serve as the co-Chairman, held a briefing to directly highlight H.R. 1895, the Do Not Track Kids Act of 2011. On our panel, we were joined by Nick Cannon, Spokesperson for Safe Communications, who shared the same passion of ensuring that our children are protected across all platforms. He graciously publicly endorsed H.R. 1895 and has decided to champion the cause by holding the very first America's Family Day.

I believe that Republicans and Democrats alike can agree that family is a sacred institution that deserves our time, energy, and devotion. I am blessed to have a loving wife, four wonderful children, two stepchildren, and five grandchildren. I want nothing more than to do my part to make sure they are secure, safe, and well protected. In this sentiment, I am

happy to offer my support for the First Annual America's Family Day.

HONORING STATE
REPRESENTATIVE PAUL ROAN

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man of determination, service, and integrity—State Representative Paul Roan of Tishomingo, Oklahoma.

Roan, a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, has served his district and state with distinction during the years of 2000 to 2012.

Paul's legislative work has been devoted to helping Oklahoma's brave veterans and emergency responders, protecting the state's natural resources and improving education for young people.

His personal career has been built on a foundation of public service. Roan proudly served our country as a member of the United States Air Force, he then spent time as an educator, a police officer and was elected Deputy Sheriff of Pontotoc County, followed by over 20 years of service as an Oklahoma Highway Patrol State Trooper.

Representative Roan has been a civic leader in the Oklahoma community for several years, serving as 1st Vice-President of the Oklahoma State Troopers Association, President of Tishomingo Lions Club, Master of Tishomingo Masonic Lodge #91, and a member of Johnston County Chamber of Commerce and American Legion Post 164.

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to acknowledge not only his successes in the Oklahoma legislature, but also as a devoted father and family man.

Paul Roan is the husband of Betty Roan and father of Chris, Brad, and Angela Roan. The 20th House District of Oklahoma is a better place because of the service of Paul Roan.

IN HONOR OF SEA OTTER
AWARENESS WEEK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the 10th Annual Sea Otter Awareness Week, September 23–29, 2012 sponsored by Friends of the Sea Otter located in my congressional district. This week-long event highlights one of the most iconic species in California and the integral role they play in the near-shore marine ecosystem and draws public attention to sea otters and the conservation issues they face.

We all know that sea otter recovery has been met with challenges and sea otter populations remain threatened. Each day, research is uncovering additional causes of sea otter population declines. As a keystone species, sea otters hold the entire kelp forest ecosystem together, and as a bellwether species, they are an important indicator of the health of the marine environment. The decline of south-

ern sea otters off of the California coast not only impacts the species itself, but also affects other marine populations and the surrounding ecosystems. The demise of sea otters allows their prey, sea urchins, to proliferate unchecked—leading to the alarming overgrazing of kelp beds, which function as critical nursery grounds for many marine animals, and also help to sequester CO₂. Recent research has shown that spreading kelp can absorb as much as 12 times the CO₂ from the atmosphere than would an urchin dominated system.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should be commended for their efforts in the recovery of the southern sea otter. Termination of the translocation program, allowing sea otters expansion into southern Californian waters, is a critical step along that path to recovery. I am concerned that language in the House version of the FY13 NDAA contains language that would impede the termination of this failed program and those flawed sections of the bill must be removed.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the many accomplishments of Friends of the Sea Otter and other non-profit environmental organizations that work on southern sea otter recovery in the Monterey Bay region. The Monterey Bay Aquarium, researchers, fishermen, state and federal agencies, schools, and many other institutions and individuals devote tremendous time and resources to protect and recover the southern California sea otter. Sea Otter Awareness Week is just one of their many activities geared towards honoring and saving this species, and I am proud to be associated with this vital work.

IN RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S
NATIONAL DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on its upcoming National Day.

During the last four and a half years, the Republic of China's President Ma has further strengthened the ties between Taiwan and the United States. One way Taiwan has accomplished this has been by reducing its trade surplus with the U.S. year after year. Additionally, Taiwan recently lifted its ban on U.S. beef imports. Taiwan's lifting will help our beef industry economically and Taiwan's example will encourage other countries to lift their bans against U.S. beef and beef products.

Taiwan is also known for being a champion of peace. In addition to reducing tensions across the Taiwan Strait, Taiwan has continued to assert itself as a proponent of peaceful solutions. For instance, in the most recent dispute over the Diaoyutai/Senkaku islands, Taiwan has urged all parties to exercise patience and to put aside their differences, instead of resorting to military threats.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Taiwan on its 101st National Day. I am confident that the friendship and close relationship that has been cultivated by the United States and Taiwan will continue for many years to come.

HONORING SENIOR MASTER
SERGEANT EMILIO HERNANDEZ

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor Senior Master Sergeant Emilio Hernandez, an exceptional individual who has most recently been awarded the 2012 Outstanding Airman of the Year award by the United States Air Force. This prestigious award is given to only 12 members of the Air Force each year for their superior leadership, job performance, community involvement, and personal achievements.

SMSGt Hernandez was born in Havana, Cuba but grew up in Miami, FL. He graduated from Hialeah High School in 1990 and began his military career in 1992, serving at both Sheppard AFB in Texas and K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base in Michigan. He was deployed to Incirlik Air Base in Turkey later that year in support of Operation PROVIDE COMFORT where he garnered two achievement medals, and was selected as a holiday phone call recipient from then President Bill Clinton. His decorated service history includes deployments to Kuwait in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH, and Baghdad in support of both Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM.

In 2008, SMSGt Hernandez was assigned to his current position in the 100th Civil Engineer Squadron as Superintendent Operations Flight at RAF Mildenhall in the United Kingdom. In 2009 he deployed to Ali Base Iraq, where he served as Electrical Superintendent of the 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron and received the Meritorious Service Medal. Later, he was selected as the 100th Civil Engineer Squadron's 2009 Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the year. In 2011 SMSGt Hernandez was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his service at Kandahar Airfield as the Operations Flight Chief of the 777th Expeditionary Prime BEEF Squadron.

In his current position, SMSGt Hernandez has led 52 people in 53 civil engineering projects at 163 forward operating bases in support of 85,000 warfighters. He orchestrated \$80,000 in repairs to nine Marine Corps aircraft hangers to safeguard \$300 million in assets in support of a vital ISR platform. He oversaw a project to upgrade an electrical grid on a dam which preserved water and power flow to 450,000 Afghans, and managed the construction of two tactical operations centers worth \$500,000, securing Afghanistan's key district of Panjwai.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Senior Master Sergeant Emilio Hernandez for his continued service to our nation, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual.

RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S
NATIONAL DAY

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Taiwan's National Day on October

10th, I believe it fitting to call to mind one of the basic elements of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) that has long guided America's worldwide relationships.

The TRA states in SEC 2(b)(4)

“. . . to consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States;”

The Taiwan Relations Act is monumental in the unique impact it has had in maintaining the Peace in the Pacific and our relationship with the nations of the Region.

Congratulations to Taiwan during this exciting time in your country's history and for helping to maintain peace in Southeast Asia.

CONGRATULATING HEALTH CENTRAL HOSPITAL ON 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the 60th anniversary of Health Central Hospital of Ocoee, Florida. Since 1952, the dedicated physicians and staff of Health Central Hospital have compassionately provided excellent healthcare services to residents across Central Florida.

West Orange Memorial Hospital, as it was originally named, moved from Winter Garden, Florida to Ocoee, Florida in 1993. Today, Health Central Hospital is an 85-acre medical facility, housing a 171-bed acute care hospital, physician offices, and a newly renovated 34-bed emergency center. Health Central's dedication to their patients is evident not only in their healthcare service, but also through their involvement in the community.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to congratulate and applaud Health Central Hospital, along with their physicians and staff, for their efforts to enrich the lives of their patients and the Central Florida community for the past 60 years. May their example of compassion and dedication inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

HONORING FAIR FAMILY FARMS OF MANN'S CHOICE, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fair Family Farms of Mann's Choice, Pennsylvania. On September 5, 2012, the farm marked its 200 years of continuous ownership and operation by the descendents of Lewis Turner.

In 1812, Lewis Turner of Loudon County, Virginia, purchased the 241-acres that would become the original farm from the Estate of George Woods and from Dr. John and Mary Anderson of Bedford County. Lewis and his wife, Anna Maria Beltz, raised their six children on the farm. Following Lewis' death, his

eldest son Fredrick Turner purchased the farm on April 24, 1838. Frederick and his wife, Susannah Mahala Exline, raised their seven children on the farm and constructed a gristmill on the property, remnants of which are still visible today.

Upon Frederick Turner's death, the farm was divided between three of his sons. One of the three, Andrew Turner, purchased the 95-acre Parent Parcel, a portion of the original land that has remained in the family's possession since the original 1812 survey. In 1865, Andrew and his wife Anna Mariah Hillegass constructed a barn and homestead in which they raised their eight children. The homestead remains in use to this day.

Following the death of Anna Maria, the farm passed to her daughter Mary M. Turner and her husband, John W. Fair, on December 20, 1912. On April 2, 1923, they transferred the property to one of their six children, Ralph A. Fair, and his wife, E. Mae Mowry. The farm changed hands again on February 12, 1959, when Ralph H. and Floyd A. Fair, two of Ralph and Mae's three sons, took possession of the property. Since 1979, Ralph and his wife, Geraldine V. Coughenour, have worked to acquire portions of the original land that had been subdivided and sold over the years, and now hold 226 of the original 241 acres. Throughout their 55 years of marriage, Ralph and Geraldine have always lived on the farm where Ralph was born and where they raised their six children, two of whom still live on the property.

After Floyd's death, full ownership of the farm passed to Ralph and Geraldine, on June 29, 2006. In 2008, Ralph and Geraldine created Fair Family Farms LLC to hold and preserve all the farm's land. They, as well as four of their children, are partners of the LLC, making them the 6th and 7th generation owners of the ancestral farm.

Since the farm's creation 200 years ago, it has remained an active dairy. Currently, Fair Family Farms is the only Pennsylvania Certified Organic dairy in Bedford County, producing milk, hay, corn and oats, as well as a significant poultry operation that produces million of eggs each year.

It is quite an accomplishment to keep a farm productive and in the same family for seven generations. Happy bicentennial, Fair Family Farms, and best wishes for many more!

RECOGNIZING AND THANKING CAPTAIN ROD W. STUBBLEFIELD

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Captain Rod W. Stubblefield for the time and energy he has dedicated to the Military Academy Nomination process by serving the constituents of the 19th Congressional District as a member of our Academy Selection Board.

Rod W. Stubblefield was born, raised, and schooled in Fresno, California. He graduated from California State University, Fresno (CSFU) with a Bachelor of the Arts and was a four-year letterman with the Fresno State Football Team. He returned to CSUF as a graduate student, where he earned his Mas-

ter's in Business Administration. For 51 years, he has been a Trustee and Board Member of the Bulldog Foundation at Fresno State University and is a devoted fan and supporter of Bulldog Football.

He has been married to Carol Stubblefield for 52 years, and their family has traveled extensively. They have been blessed with two sons, Tim and Curtis, and two grandchildren, Tori and Nicholas.

Captain Stubblefield entered the United States Navy as a Seaman Recruit in January, 1951. He was a member of the 12-1 Surface Division while he completed his undergraduate education. In August of 1954, Mr. Stubblefield was commissioned as an Ensign in U.S. Navy.

His professional schooling includes Department of Defense Graduate Studies, Boeing Aircraft Management Studies, National Security Management School, and studies at the Naval War College. Captain Stubblefield holds Active Duty Certification specialties in Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Master Deep Sea Diver, Scuba Diver, and Extensive Training in Atomic, Biological, and Nuclear Warfare and Terrorist Insurgency. In addition, he is a surface-qualified officer. He has served numerous tours at sea, including U.S.S. Laws DD 558, U.S.S. Renville APA 227, U.S.S. Estes LCC 12, along with many more.

Captain Stubblefield's major shore duties include Commanding officer: Naval Ammunition Depot, Hawthorne, Nevada; Officer in Charge: Naval Riverine Operations and Special Forces, Mare Island, California; Officer in Charge: Counterinsurgency Training with EOD, Unit 1, Hawaii; and Officer in Charge: US Navy Elk Hills, California, Petroleum Facility. Captain Stubblefield retired from the active service with the U.S. Navy on July 1, 1985.

Capstain Stubblefield continues to serve his country as a representative of the U.S. Naval Academy. In 1973, the Navy assigned Capt. Stubblefield as the Central California Blue and Gold Officer. He currently represents thirty schools in the Central Valley. He as served on five Congressional All Academy Nominating Committees and is currently assigned to the 19th Congressional District of California. Captain Stubblefield greatly helped me during my term in Congress and has served honorably for Congressmen Sisk, Krebs, Coehlo and Radanovich.

Beyond his significant military career, Captain Stubblefield has been employed by New York Life and NYLIFE Securities for 56 years as a Financial Planner and Agent. The Stubblefield Office specialized in Business, Personal and Estate Planning. Captain Stubblefield has been a Club Member for 45 years and also holds the Chartered Life Underwriter and Charter Financial Consultant designations. The Stubblefield Family has a combined service to New York Life for over 200 years. Captain Stubblefield has also been Life Member of the Million Dollar Round Table for 37 years.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Captain Rod W. Stubblefield for his outstanding service to his country and community. He has served the U.S. Navy for a total of 61 years, including 39 years at the Blue and Gold Officer to the United States Naval Academy. This service, along with his dedicated work as part of the Academy Selection Board, makes him an invaluable asset to his community. He is a true public servant, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH DENBIGH
150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a legacy of faith in Virginia's Third Congressional District. This year, First Baptist Church Denbigh in Newport News is celebrating its 150th anniversary, and I would like to take a moment to reflect on the history of this esteemed institution and its contributions to the greater Hampton Roads community.

The story of First Baptist Church Denbigh begins in July 1862 as the Civil War raged. A Recognizing Council was called to meet at the old Denbigh Baptist Church. They chose Rev. Peter Banks to lead the congregation. Rev. T. G. Wright became the second pastor, serving from 1863 to 1869. During his administration, the white community returned to claim their church building. Rev. Wright and congregation moved to the current location, building a small house of worship.

During the tenure of Rev. T. G. Nettles (1870–1881), a larger house was built to accommodate increased membership and the church was renamed to "First Baptist Church of Warwick County." Other ministers were Reverends Watt Talton (1882–1883), J. B. Whiting (1883–1887), Robert H. Nazareth (1887–1912), T. C. Williams (1912–13), A. A. Hudgins (1913–26), Isaac Daniel (1926–32), J. D. Atkins (1933–40), and Joseph H. Brown (1941–48), all of whom added to the church in both physical form and spiritual leadership. During this period, the church was renamed "First Baptist Church Denbigh."

For the next ten years, the church received sermons from Reverends B F. Burton and I. L. Buie along with other leaders. Later ministers were Reverends Samuel Fladger (1959–63), T. T. Brown (1963–67), and Albert L. Hill (1968–73), who initiated a bond sale to build a new air conditioned facility, with an indoor baptismal pool, which held its first services in 1972.

Rev. Herbert A. Hill, Jr. began his pastorate in 1974 and gave the church the strength to endure though a tragic fire in 1986 which destroyed the church edifice. For a time, services were held in schools and other places in the community. In 1987, Rev. Hill's tenure as pastor ended and associate pastors provided guidance to the flock.

In 1987, Edward Talton, a deacon for more than 40 years, was called into the ministry. Rev. Talton preached only two sermons from the pulpit before his death, but his life was a sermon in itself. In 1988, Rev. Haywood Barnes was voted to serve as interim pastor. Since 1988, Rev. Ivan T. Harris has led services, assuming the full-time pastorate in October 1991. Through Pastor Harris' efforts, the church's 25 year mortgage was burned on October 9, 1994—after only 6½ years.

Over the years, the First Baptist community has continued to flourish. Successful fund-raising has afforded the church handicap-accessible transportation, a new Church Bell, an Education Center, Child Development Center,

Family Life Center, and modern technologies. In addition to Sunday prayers, the church offers Summer Bible School, The Bible Institute, and GED, Homebound and Short Term Suspension programs. It provides over 30 ministries and is home to several choirs. The Church leads charitable causes including the The Hunt Food Locker, Food Mobile, Summer Feeding Program, an Outreach Center for women's transitional housing, a Clothes Closet, and the adoption of a low-income neighborhood.

Perhaps the most notable activity of the church is their African Village Adoption Project, initiated in 2005. Members have selected a native from Benin, Africa for adoption. The Church as a whole has provided a water well, microbanking program, motorcycles, books, a Christian School, and medical and worship facilities.

As First Baptist Church Denbigh gathers to celebrate this historic milestone, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on its future. I would like to congratulate Pastor Harris and all of the 2,500 members of First Baptist Church Denbigh on the occasion of their 150th Anniversary. I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the community.

**GARTH PATTERSON—FRIEND OF
THE FISHERMEN, FRIEND OF
MASSACHUSETTS, AND MY
GREAT FRIEND**

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have never had to learn more about an issue in my life than when I learned in 1992 that the City of New Bedford and its fishing industry was included in the new Congressional district that I have proudly represented. New Bedford is one of the most successful fishing ports in the county, and in fact for the 12th consecutive year New Bedford had the highest-valued catch of any port in the United States. Fishing is not only a vital part of the economy of the region, but an integral component of its culture and social makeup. I could not represent the needs of such a unique community without a talented staff, and I am honored that my long-time aide, Garth Patterson, is the recipient of the 2012 Friend of the Fisherman Award recognizing his exemplary work.

He received this award from the fishing community of New Bedford because of the high quality of the work he has done to provide the kind of first-rate public service and advocacy that is so essential to the continued survival of the fishing industry. In some cases, our advocacy can be uncomplicated, but there are also cases where mastering a very complex body of data is essential if we are to do our job right. Garth provided me with an extraordinary degree of technical expertise, practical knowledge, political savvy, and an ability to understand all viewpoints and articulate his own. He has been an enormous asset not only to me, but also to those concerned with the survival of the fishing industry.

Mr. Speaker, I join the fishermen in thanking Garth. He is a tireless advocate for the com-

munity, and his nearly quarter century of public service is the quintessential model of how constituent relations should be conducted. I am proud that he is receiving this award, proud of his hard work for the people of Massachusetts, and proud to call him my friend.

RECOGNIZING DR. PAT STROH

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, Congressman JERRY MCNERNEY, and Congressman PETE STARK to recognize Dr. Pat Stroh, the Director of the Family and Children's Services Program in Contra Costa County and congratulate her on her well-earned retirement.

Dr. Stroh earned her Master's Degree from Ball State University and her Doctorate in Education Early Childhood Focus from Walden University. Prior to coming to Contra Costa County in 1998, she served as Director of Head Start in Lexington, Kentucky and directed a U.S. Army Child Development Program in Europe.

Over the years, Dr. Stroh's outstanding work in public service has demonstrated her strong commitment to the children and families of Contra Costa County. Under her leadership, Contra Costa's Head Start Child Development Program's enrollment more than doubled and expanded from a part-day, part-year schedule to close to a full-day, full-year program. In addition, during very difficult economic times, Dr. Stroh was also able to more than double the program budget.

Dr. Stroh's interest and influence extends well beyond our county's borders. As a member of the Board of the National Head Start Association as well as the California Head Start Association, she has worked diligently to enhance and expand the collaborative efforts of these organizations. Pat has also served as Validator and Mentor with the National Association for the Education of Young Children. As a result, the United States Congress was quick to recognize Dr. Stroh as the 2008 California Head Start Association Administrator of the Year for Invaluable Service to the Community.

Our community and Dr. Stroh's colleagues have honored her numerous times, recognizing her passion for children and her ability to develop programs that improve their chance of success in the world. As we well recognize, the success of our children bodes well for the success of our families and our entire community.

Today, we invite our colleagues to join us in honoring Dr. Pat Stroh once again for her dedicated service to the families and children of Contra Costa County. We are pleased to join her family, colleagues and friends in congratulating her on a long and highly successful career and wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

VA MAJOR CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATION AND EXPIRING AUTHORITIES EXTENSION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this long overdue legislation. Among many worthy projects included in this legislation, this bill authorizes the uncompleted construction on the operating rooms at the Miami VA Medical Center.

Every month this construction is delayed, the VA has to pay an additional \$500,000 for a portable operating room. Since this was first brought to our attention in May, that will be over \$2.5 million as of the end of this month. That is \$2,500,000 that could better be spent on the veterans of Florida for their care and comfort.

This project is over 95 percent completed. This bill needs to be passed now.

I want to thank the Chairman of the Veterans' Committee, Mr. MILLER for his help in getting the issue included in a vehicle that could pass both the House and the Senate. There is a dire need for this Medical Center to be whole, with veterans from all over the State of Florida traveling there for treatment.

The original plan for this project was to divide the operating room in half and renovate it in stages. When I visited the Medical Center in June, I heard directly from the administrators of the facility about the project. The planners on the ground realized soon after the construction began that patients could have been put at risk due to contamination of the operating room by the construction on the other side of the room.

Veterans health was being put at risk, and rather than let that happen, it was decided, by those who know veterans health the best, those at the health facilities, to combine the projects into one and rent the portable operating rooms.

It is time for Congress to pass this bill and finish the construction in Miami that our veterans deserve through their service protecting the freedoms this nation hold so dear.

HONORING JOHN LOWRY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Rep. MIKE THOMPSON to recognize the outstanding career of John Lowry. John is retiring after 28 years of service with Burbank Housing. His inspirational leadership in providing affordable housing in Sonoma County, California has given thousands of disadvantaged and low-income Sonoma County residents a place they can call home.

Originally from New York City, John graduated from New York University and holds BA and MA degrees with majors in economics, politics and history. He later decided to obtain a general contractors license and build his

own home. This sparked his interest in self-help housing, which he would later incorporate into Burbank Housing's Homeownership Program.

John began his career of providing affordable housing to Sonoma County California as a project manager on Burbank's first two projects. He was their second employee. Under John's leadership, the non-profit has grown to 140 employees who build, manage and maintain 2,700 affordable rental units as well as helping another 750 families own their homes.

John's work has been lauded by his peers, including being named an Inspirational Non-Profit Leader. The Sonoma County Housing Coalition has honored him with both their Lifetime Achievement Award and their Housing Hero Award.

John also serves our community by working with the California Coalition for Rural Housing and the Home Builders Association of Northern California. He has served on the board of Nonprofit Housing Association of Northern California as well.

In retirement, John plans to continue working to influence state and local housing policies. Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we thank John Lowry for his many years of service on behalf of the people of Sonoma County. He has worked tirelessly to demonstrate his unwavering belief that low-income people of all ages, backgrounds and special needs deserve to live in decent, affordable housing. For this, he deserves our appreciation.

CONGRATULATING MAJOR
GENERAL PETER J. BOYLAN

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Major General Peter J. Boylan who is celebrating his twentieth year as President of Georgia Military College (GMC), and is the longest serving President of the college since its founding in 1879. General Boylan has worked wonders for GMC as he is responsible for restoring the reputation and financial stability of the school, which is now ranked one of the best community colleges in the nation. Through his unwavering determination, he planned and secured funding to rebuild and renovate every structure on the GMC-Milledgeville campus, made possible the addition of previously non-existent athletic fields and facilities, and renovated, relocated, or established-as-new every GMC distant learning and extension center in the state.

Not only is General Boylan a tireless leader and a staunch champion of the academics, he is also a distinguished military retiree himself. He served for more than thirty years in the United States Army which included two tours in the Republic of South Vietnam, and he also participated in the invasion of Grenada with the 82nd Airborne Division. General Boylan's devotion to his country led him to later work with the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon and eventually as Deputy Inspector General of the Army. His list of achievements is monumental, which is a testament to how blessed

the student body, staff, and faculty of GMC are to have him as President. Some of his most notable awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart amongst many others.

General Boylan's academic accomplishments are equally as impressive. He has a Masters degree in engineering from the University of Michigan as well as a Doctor of Laws from Flagler College. For much of his tenure at GMC, General Boylan has stressed that character building is an integral part of a good education. Having also served, I understand the importance of teaching our youth these traits, and couldn't be more supportive of General Boylan in his efforts. Moreover, General Boylan still finds the time to be an active community servant and a faithful family man. He has been honored with the Floyd Harrington Community Leadership Award, he served on the Committee for the Selection of White House Fellows (New York Region) and was appointed by the Governor of Georgia to the Board of Directors for the Department of Juvenile Justice. Most importantly, he and his wife, Kathleen, have five children and thirteen grandchildren.

I know that GMC, the entire state of Georgia, and this nation are forever grateful to General Boylan for his unwavering love for his country, his dutiful service within the military, and his constant willingness to give back to our nation's youth. I am honored to stand here today and congratulate him on twenty years as President of Georgia Military College.

IN TRIBUTE TO RUSSELL E. TRAIN

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, Russell E. Train, one of our country's most influential and accomplished environmentalists, who died on September 17, 2012 at age 92.

Russell Train was instrumental in developing our nation's environmental policies. He served under Presidents Nixon and Ford as the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Under his leadership, the nation made large strides in protecting our air, water, and wildlife, including the adoption of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Toxic Substance Control Act, the Clean Air Act, coastal zone management, national land-use policy, environmental impact statements and the Endangered Species Act. During his tenure, EPA banned four extremely toxic farm chemicals—aldrin, dieldrin, heptachlor and chlordane—and instituted automobile emission limits.

Mr. Train developed the concept and promoted the establishment of UNESCO's (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) World Heritage program, which provides vital protection to 730 cultural and natural sites around the world and builds on the American national park concept.

Mr. Train's passion and dedication for conservation and the environment were strengthened by travels with his wife Aileen to Africa. In 1961 he founded the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation and in 1965 he resigned as a United States Tax Court judge to become

president of the Conservation Foundation. He served as the Foundation's president until 1969, when he was appointed Under Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

Mr. Train then served as the first chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality from 1970–73 before leading the EPA from 1973–77.

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) was an important part of Mr. Train's life for over fifty years, from its founding in 1961 until his death. Mr. Train was the first vice-president of WWF–US and was Chairman of the Board of Directors of World Wildlife Fund and of the Conservation Foundation from 1985 until they merged as WWF in 1990. In 1994 Mr. Train was elected WWF Chairman Emeritus and served as Chairman of the WWF National Council from 1994–2001. Mr. Train led WWF–US through extraordinary growth from its inception to become the leading global conservation organization it is today. Mr. Train remained active on the WWF–US Board of Directors and was regularly seen at the WWF offices, encouraging staff and extolling the importance of the EPA. Carter S. Roberts, President & CEO of WWF–US, says of Mr. Train, "Russ was a true national treasure and an inspiration to all of us who embrace conservation as their life's work. He will be well remembered, and forever missed."

Mr. Train received many awards and recognitions, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Heinz Award and the Teddy Roosevelt International Conservation Award.

Russell E. Train was born in Jamestown, Rhode Island and grew up in Washington, DC. He graduated from Princeton University and Columbia University Law School. Mr. Train served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

Mr. Train believed that conservation and environmentalism weren't Democratic or Republican issues—they were national and international issues of importance to everyone who cared about the future of our planet. In 2003, Train published *Politics, Pollution and Pandas: An Environmental Memoir*, tracing his career and providing a history of the U.S. environmental movement. In his memoir, Mr. Train wrote, "I felt strongly that environmental issues needed a sharp, cutting edge in government, one that had high visibility to the public." Fortunately, he noted, "this view finally prevailed."

I hope we can return to a time when protecting our air, water, and the environment is a shared, bipartisan goal. I am proud to have counted Russell Train among my friends and am grateful for his support for our ongoing efforts to follow in former President Teddy Roosevelt's tradition of protecting and preserving our national heritage. At this time in our country's history, we need more Russell Trains. We will miss him dearly, but his legacy is all around us in the cleaner air we breathe, the safer water we drink, and the wildlife that he fought to preserve. When we think of Russell Train, we must block efforts to roll back the victories he won and fight to build upon his noble legacy.

I extend my deepest condolences to Russ Train's wife of 58 years, Aileen Bowdoin Train; to his four children, Emily Rowan, Nancy Smith Gustin, Charles B. Train and my grade-school classmate, Errol T. Giordano; and to his twelve grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Russell E. Train for his ex-

traordinary contributions to our country and our world.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEMOCRATIC AND PROSPEROUS REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Europe and Eurasia I have had the privilege of visiting Georgia twice in the past two years. Last year I led a bipartisan delegation that met with President Saakashvili, his cabinet, Members of Parliament and representatives of various opposition parties. Two weeks ago I briefly passed through Georgia, where I met with President Saakashvili, while traveling between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Georgia is a country in transition, the purpose of this resolution is not only to acknowledge this fact but to encourage this transition to continue. While serious challenges still remain, there is no doubt that Georgia is committed to developing a strong democratic government, a robust free market economy and joining key international institutions including NATO.

Democratic developments in Georgia range from high level reforms, such as changes to the constitution that strengthen the office of the Prime Minister as well as the Parliament, to lower level reforms, including the creation of "Public Service Halls" that provide essential government services, including passports and drivers licenses, through an efficient and transparent process. As we know, economic development follows political reform as investors seek stable places to grow their capital. Over the past ten years both the capital city, Tbilisi and the Black Sea port of Batumi have been transformed by investment into modern European cities. For Georgia's economy to continue to grow such investment must continue and reach outside the cities to embrace the country as a whole.

Georgia's commitment to NATO has been exemplary. While many alliance members and partners are winding down their commitments to ISAF in Afghanistan, Georgia is increasing its commitment to deploy the highest per capita troop level of any contributing nation. Georgian soldiers are deployed in the dangerous Helmand province where they serve side-by-side with U.S. soldiers and marines. Although participation in ISAF is not a prerequisite for NATO membership, alliance members should recognize that Georgia's commitment to Afghanistan as well as the country's commitment to democratic and defense reforms will make Georgia a model NATO member.

One major challenge that Georgia faces is Russia's continued occupation of two Georgian provinces; Abkhazia and South Ossetia, which is in violation of the August 2008 ceasefire agreement. As this resolution states, Russia has blocked the extension of OSCE and UN observation missions, and prohibits the EU mission from accessing the occupied territories. Last year I traveled to the boundary of Abkhazia from where one can plainly see

that the Russian Army is constructing permanent bases including apartment buildings to house its soldiers. This Congress must condemn this continued illegal occupation.

As we know from our own history, building a successful democracy is a challenge. In less than two weeks, on October 1st, Georgians will go to the polls for parliamentary elections. It is not for those of us in Washington or any other capital to influence the outcome of these elections. The Georgian people must pick their own leaders. However we must urge, as this resolution does, that the Georgian government, the independent election commission, and all political parties ensure that the Georgian people have their say. The success of the elections as a whole, not any one candidate or party, will ensure that Georgia's democratic transition continues.

This resolution, H. Res. 526, is representative of a bipartisan effort to recognize Georgia and the progress it has made and symbolizes U.S. support for a young, but growing democracy. I want to thank Rep. SHUSTER for his efforts and for introducing this resolution. I also want to thank Ranking Member MEEKS, Chairman ROS-LEHTINEN, and Ranking Member BERMAN and their staff for their support of this Subcommittee's efforts to move this resolution.

HONORING ALZHEIMER'S PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the First District of Michigan, I wish to recognize September as World Alzheimer's Month, and specifically today, September 21, 2012, as Alzheimer's Action Day.

Alzheimer's is a type of dementia that destroys brain cells causing problems with memory, judgment, and behavior. Alzheimer's is a serious disease, and is not a normal part of aging. In fact, while most Alzheimer's patients are over age 65, for as many as 5% of its victims, the disease first appeared in their 40s or 50s.

In the United States, an estimated 5.4 million people are living with Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's disease is the sixth-leading cause of death in the US, and it is the only cause of death among the top 10 in the United States that cannot be prevented, cured, or even slowed. It has been projected that as many as 16 million Americans may have Alzheimer's by the year 2050.

As a doctor who has treated patients for nearly 30 years in Northern Michigan, I understand the devastating impact Alzheimer's disease can have on patients and their caregivers. In addition to the physical toll Alzheimer's takes on patients, the disease also takes a heavy toll on families serving as caregivers through very difficult times. More than 15 million Americans provide unpaid care to a loved one with Alzheimer's. I am reminded of the words which former President Ronald Reagan shared in announcing his diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease 18 years ago: "Unfortunately, as Alzheimer's disease progresses, the family often bears a heavy burden." Very poignantly, Nancy Reagan referred to Alzheimer's as "the long goodbye."

In sharing his diagnosis, President Reagan also hoped to promote greater awareness of the disease. Although awareness of Alzheimer's has grown, we need to continue educating others about the disease. While there is still no cure or prevention for Alzheimer's, with early detection one can get the maximum benefit from available treatments that may provide some relief and help maintain independence longer. I encourage everyone to know the early warning signs and how they differ from typical age-related changes. For example, suffering from memory loss that disrupts daily life may be an early sign of Alzheimer's, but occasionally forgetting names or appointments, then remembering them later, is normal as we age.

Today, on Alzheimer's Action Day, I stand with the residents of Northern Michigan who are fighting "the long goodbye." I also wish to acknowledge and honor their dedicated caregivers. Thank you for the courage and perseverance you display every day.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH & SARAH
RAMSEY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two natives of southeastern Kentucky, Kenneth and Sarah Ramsey for their inspiring success, spanning more than 40 years in the making. Starting as young entrepreneurs from Artemus, Kentucky, Ken and Sarah now own one of the premier thoroughbred farms in the nation, the Ramsey Farm in Nicholasville, Kentucky.

Ken had a rough start in the horse racing industry in 1969 when he discovered his \$1,500 thoroughbred was blind in one eye and never started. Ken held a trainer's license briefly before becoming an executive in the trucking business. The Ramseys later dabbled in real estate before investing in cellular telephone franchises. It was the extra money from the cell phone business that enabled Ken and Sarah to return to their true love of horses.

The Ramseys bought the famed Almahurst Farm in 1994 after selling their cellular telephone business. Almahurst was the birthplace of the 1918 Kentucky Derby winner Exterminator and standardbred hero Greyhound. They changed the name of the farm, but continued its legendary success.

With their fierce competitive spirit and passion for horses, Ken and Sarah have become leading figures in the horse racing industry, earning Ramsey Farm the highest praise and most coveted awards. Their lofty honors include the 2011 and 2004 Eclipse Award for Outstanding Owners and the first recipients of the John Deere Outstanding Breeders of the 2011 Breeders' Cup Challenge series and the Breeders' Cup World Championships.

They have also won leading owner titles at Belmont, Keeneland, Saratoga, Gulfstream Park, Ellis Park, Turfway, and currently hold the record at Churchill Downs with the most owner titles won in the 135-year history of the track. The Ramseys also found success on the world stage when their thoroughbred, Roses in May won the Dubai World Cup in 2005.

The majority of their success came with homebreds by their 2004 champion turf mare, Kitten's Joy, a namesake of Ken's first love, Sarah whom he had nicknamed "Kitten" in 1954. Ken still enjoys sharing each win with his family and friends by inviting them to help him walk each horse into the winner's circle, whether it's a \$5,000 claimer or a Grade 1 stakes winner.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Kenneth and Sarah Ramsey, for their impressive careers and their continued support of projects in their rural hometown in southeastern Kentucky.

CELEBRATING BIENVENIDOS' 25TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bienvenidos, an organization dedicated to healing children, strengthening families and transforming communities in Los Angeles, on their 25th anniversary.

Bienvenidos opened its doors in June of 1987 to a young child, Miracle, to begin addressing the growing number of abused and neglected infants and toddlers in Los Angeles County. From the outset, they realized that children who do not have the care, guidance and support they need are less likely to grow into successful, self-sufficient and productive adolescents and adults.

Bienvenidos has spent the last 25 years developing comprehensive services for children and families and promoting long-term positive outcomes. The array of programs and services they provide are designed to heal children and families in crisis, as well as break generational cycles of abuse, neglect and other dysfunctional behaviors.

As a pillar in greater East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley, Bienvenidos has made it a priority to develop roots within the community by leading collaborative initiatives, engaging community residents to develop services and resources in response to their needs, and bringing funding into the area. Today, Bienvenidos serves more than 19,000 children and their families through the dedicated work of 200 professional staff at 12 locations.

Ultimately, what sets Bienvenidos apart is their ability to give hope to those who have all but lost it. Bienvenidos gives people the tools and coping skills they need to become self-sufficient, and through the love and support of their staff, they give them someone who believes in them.

I once again congratulate Bienvenidos on the celebration of their 25th anniversary. I thank them for their continued service to the children and families of Los Angeles and their dedication to making our community a better place to live.

NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION
DAY 2012

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe that September 21, 2012, is National POW/MIA Recognition Day, and remember those who have suffered in captivity in foreign lands, and the many who have never returned home from combat.

This day affords us an opportunity to pay tribute to those who experienced unimaginable hardship under enemy imprisonment in service to this great country, but who, through their strength and determination, gained their freedom and returned home as heroes. For those still missing, we continue our commitment to never rest until all are accounted for and their families have peace from the knowledge of learning what happened to their loved ones.

We can never repay the debt we owe to those who have devoted their lives in service to this country; we can only continue to demonstrate our gratitude and admiration by honoring and calling attention to their sacrifices. The haunting black and white flag honoring America's prisoners of war and those missing in action, which hangs outside my office, today will fly over the United States Capitol, the White House, the World War II Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, and many homes across the country. This flag reminds all Americans of our veterans' sacrifices, and that our mission is never complete until every man and woman who defended America in distant lands returns home.

On behalf of the constituents of Michigan's First District, I wish to thank all the veterans in Northern Michigan for their tremendous strength and bravery. And for the families of those who are still missing, we renew our promise to never rest until your loved ones arrive back under your care.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY
OF WEST CHESTER FISH,
GAME AND WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the West Chester Fish, Game and Wildlife Association of Chester County, Pennsylvania on its 75th anniversary.

Founded on September 21, 1937 by 107 local sportsmen, the West Chester Fish, Game and Wildlife Association has enjoyed a rich and storied history. Even prior to its date of founding, its members actively worked to address the problem of pollution in the Brandywine River caused by paper mills. These efforts led to, in some cases, the prosecution of the owners and operators of these mills.

Throughout its history, the Association has also operated a fish stocking program beginning in 1937 when 2,200 fingerling bass were released in the Brandywine. In 1941, these efforts expanded to purchasing and stocking trout in West Valley Creek. Later, in 1964, the

Association began raising its own trout at a location that is today one of the oldest, continuously operating Cooperative Trout Nurseries of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, raising and stocking over 3,000 trout annually.

Today, the West Chester Fish, Game and Wildlife Association is engaged in numerous enterprises, including conducting an annual Hunter and Trapper Safety Course, extensive stream restoration projects, fishing rodeos, establishing and maintaining a local nature center, and awarding the annual R. David Heller Scholarship to a local student. Through these efforts, the Association and its nearly 400 members, continues to be responsible stewards of the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the West Chester Fish, Game and Wildlife Association and its remarkable history on the occasion of its 75th anniversary and to extend best wishes on its continued prosperity and longevity.

BISHOP GEORGE EDWARD BATTLE,
JR.

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Bishop George Edward Battle, Jr. on his installment as Chair of the Board of Trustees for Livingstone College. Bishop Battle's lifelong leadership made to communities throughout North Carolina and to Livingstone College makes him uniquely qualified to serve in this capacity.

A native of Rocky Mount, NC, Bishop Battle is himself a graduate of Livingstone College, where he earned his bachelor's degree. He holds a Master of Divinity from Hood Theological Seminary, and earned a Doctor of Ministry from Howard University in Washington, DC.

By profession, Bishop Battle is a premier pastor within the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Presently, he serves as Senior Bishop of the A.M.E. Zion Church and as Presiding Prelate of the Piedmont Episcopal District, which includes several North Carolina jurisdictions. In addition, Bishop Battle is herald as a community advocate and leader in the fields of education, business, and public activism.

After more than 40 years of community service, Bishop Battle's accolades are too numerous to name. He has garnered dozens of awards for his tireless work with children, young people, and in grassroots political engagement. His management, educational leadership, and commitment to community will without question benefit the Livingstone College community.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons and more, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bishop George Edward Battle, Jr. on his appointment as Chair of Livingstone Board of Trustees.

H.R. 3409

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today the House is voting on H.R. 3409, the so-called "Stop the War on Coal" bill. I am strongly opposed to this legislation and joined many of my colleagues in voting against it, because it endangers our environment, the public's health, and the stability of the American auto industry.

While this bill is about much more than just coal, I want to take a moment to be clear about my position on coal: it is an energy source from our past, not for our future. We must reduce our reliance on coal for generating electricity at home and abroad. I have long been fighting to protect and strengthen the Clean Air Act.

Predictable enforcement of the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act helps protect our health, keep our air and water clean, and provides regulatory certainty to American businesses. As countries around the world strengthen their environmental protections, it is concerning to watch the United States move backwards. Not only does this bill restrict the Environmental Protection Agency's power to protect public health, but it changes the regulatory process to blatantly prioritize profits over human health. It also rolls back an industry-negotiated agreement to strengthen tailpipe emission standards.

I supported many of the attempts to improve this bill, including an amendment to implement a renewable energy standard, an amendment to require a study on the public health impacts of coal dust, and an amendment to allow the Environmental Protection Agency to take action under the Clean Air Act when such action would reduce our reliance on oil. Unfortunately, the Republican majority defeated all of these commonsense amendments.

We find ourselves in this debate due to the lack of comprehensive national policies on energy and global warming. The actions we should take now would help us move forward into the clean energy economy; instead of focusing on the past. We should lead by example and enforce the Clean Air Act against older, inefficient plants to make them clean up or shut down. We should enforce the Clean Water Act to restrict or shut down mountain top removal coal mining. When the economy strengthens, we should enact a carbon tax to discourage the production and export of our carbon pollution. And finally, we should fight for international action global greenhouse gas emissions so that emerging global economies do not destabilize the global climate.

While this bill is upsetting enough on its own, it is particularly frustrating given the work that Congress has failed to do this session. We have yet to address tax reform, the looming budget sequestration, or even the Farm Bill. Instead, Republican leadership has decided to spend this week to vote on policies that we have already voted on several times, and that have no chance of becoming law.

I offered an amendment to strike the language in H.R. 3409 and replace it with broadly supported, bipartisan language to extend the Production Tax Credit. This language would have helped protect tens of thousands of man-

ufacturing jobs across the country, and helped move the United States into the clean energy economy. I am frustrated that we did not have a chance to vote on that important amendment, which would have created jobs in Oregon, strengthened United States manufacturers, and improved our public health and our environment.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEMOCRATIC AND PROSPEROUS REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

SPEECH OF

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in favor of H. Res. 526.

The House consideration of H. Res. 526 this week coincides with the final weeks of preparation for the October 1st Parliamentary elections in Georgia. The international community is watching the election closely, and I would like to commend the Georgian government for facilitating both long and short term international election observers to ensure that both the pre-election environment and the election itself is conducted in accordance with international standards.

It is critical that all political parties in Georgia participate constructively in the election process, and that campaign and election laws are followed and applied fairly and transparently. I call on all political forces to accept the election results as legitimate, if deemed so by credible, international election observers.

I believe more must be done to ensure that smaller political parties have access to the main televised media platforms of both the ruling party and opposition. The 'must offer, must carry' provisions passed by the Georgian Parliament are a step in the right direction, and I urge the Parliament to consider making these provisions permanent.

I would like to commend the National Democratic Institute, the International Republican Institute and the OSCE for their work with both the Georgian government and opposition to ensure that peaceful, credible elections take place. It is crucial that the Georgian electorate and the international community has confidence in this process, in order for Georgia to continue on its path towards democratic and economic reforms, and continued Euro-Atlantic integration.

Georgia remains a critical ally, and one of the strongest pro-western countries which has proven itself immensely capable in Afghanistan and other conflict zones, currently as the largest non-NATO troop contributing nation to ISAF.

NATO allies agreed at the recent summit in Chicago to enhance Georgia's connectivity with the Alliance. Georgia's ability to build on reforms made to date to foster greater political competition, labor rights and judicial independence will be an opportunity for Georgia to prove itself when measured by international standards. Georgia's NATO aspirations will be facilitated by the ability to meet those standards and conduct free, fair and inclusive elections in 2012 and 2013.

I commend the Georgian government's progress on transparency and the fight against

corruption, as well as political, economic and judicial reforms, and encourage Georgia to continue this modernization process regardless of the election results.

I encourage my colleagues to support H. Res. 526 in order to strengthen U.S. engagement with the Republic of Georgia by helping Georgia to enhance its security and restore its territorial integrity through peaceful means, and supporting the Government of Georgia's commitment to a policy of peaceful and constructive engagement with the authorities in control of Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

STOP THE WAR ON COAL ACT
PRESS CONFERENCE

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, "When the work underground stops, everything above pays the price."

That solemn observation was made by a TV reporter one week ago in Boone County, West Virginia.

News was breaking that two local coal mines were soon going to be laying off workers—one preparing to layoff 116 miners in a matter of weeks.

On Tuesday this week, we learned of Alpha Natural Resources will be closing 8 mines and laying off 1200 workers.

I met with the Alpha CEO shortly after the announcement, and he lamented the administration's regulatory assault on coal.

Sadly, the list of layoffs goes on because of the administration's "all of the above, but nothing from below" energy policy.

Coal is the cornerstone of our economy—estimates suggest that every mining job creates an additional 3.5 jobs.

We are electricity independent—and we want to stay that way.

Coal is Abundant. Coal is Affordable. Coal is Reliable. Coal is Jobs.

Today, the House will stand up for jobs, families, and affordable energy.

We must Stop the War on Coal.

COMMEMORATING TAIWAN'S
COMMITMENT TO PEACE

HON. DAVID RIVERA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I rise today to draw attention to the increasing conflict in the East China Sea and to reiterate the necessity to remain involved in the region given the growing security threats and challenges to U.S. interests.

In light of the latest controversies in the East China Sea and the Diaoyutai Islands, President Ma Ying-jeou of the Republic of China (Taiwan) proposed the East China Sea Peace Initiative in August 2012, which calls on the People's Republic of China, Japan, and Taiwan to resolve the Diaoyutai dispute peacefully.

With respect to the Diaoyutai issue, the government of Taiwan has consistently affirmed

its position of "safeguarding sovereignty, shelving disputes, pursuing peace and reciprocity, and promoting joint exploration and development."

The Diaoyutai Islands are located in the East China Sea, which is an important air and sea transportation hub in the western Pacific, and therefore have clear significance for security and peace in the Asia-Pacific region.

In order to foster regional peace and stability, economic prosperity and the sustainable development of the marine environment, as well as to seek out a path to coexistence and mutual prosperity, the government of Taiwan proposes the East China Sea Peace Initiative and calls on all parties concerned to:

1. Refrain from taking any antagonistic actions;
2. Shelve controversies and not abandon dialogue;
3. Observe international law and resolve disputes through peaceful means;
4. Seek consensus on a code of conduct in the East China Sea;
5. Establish a mechanism for cooperation on exploring and developing resources in the East China Sea.

I believe we must stand with Taiwan, an ally that shares our values of freedom and democracy. I commend the peace initiative proposed by President Ma and recognize Taiwan government's efforts in promoting peace and stability in East Asia.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL LEONE

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Michael (Mike) Leone upon his retirement after nineteen years as the Port Director of Boston at the Massachusetts Port Authority. As Director of the Port of Boston, Mike oversaw the operation and management of the public marine facilities in the Port of Boston, including Conley Container Terminal, Black Falcon Cruise Terminal, Boston Fish Pier, Boston Autoport, Foreign Trade Zones, and other supporting maritime infrastructure.

In addition, Mike lead the way in implementing business and marketing strategies that directly lead to the increase in the volume of cargo and passengers moving over all marine terminals, which generates an annual economic benefit of \$2.5 billion dollars and accounts for over 34,000 jobs. While managing an organization of 120 employees and over 200 members of the International Longshoremen's Association, Mike also directed the operations, maintenance, and security at Massport's commercial properties including nearly 30 acres of public parks, numerous roads, hotels, office buildings, apartments, and marinas.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Leone has also played an important role in the development and operation of Massport properties in and around the South Boston waterfront as that area evolves into a waterfront destination. As Director, Mike was instrumental in turning Boston into a major hub for cruise ship traffic, in part by expanding and modernizing the Black Falcon terminal. In 1998 approximately 106,000

passengers came through the Black Falcon terminal; today, the number of passengers is on track to set a new record of roughly 350,000 this year.

During the course of his time at Massport, Mike was a leader of the American Association of Port Authority (AAPA). AAPA is the principal advocate of 160 public port authorities in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Mike first served as Chairman of the Board for the AAPA in 2003 and was elected again as Chairman of the Board in 2009, becoming the first person in the Association's 97 year history to serve for a second term.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Leone also proudly served in the United States Coast Guard, leading a team of attorneys that provided legal advice and counsel to all Coast Guard commands in New England, New York, and New Jersey. Ultimately, Mike was appointed as the deputy regional counsel for the Coast Guard's Great Lakes operations and also served as Chief Operating Officer for all Coast Guard activities in the Port of New York, Hudson River, and Lake Champlain.

Mr. Leone is a graduate of The National Law Center at George Washington University, where he received his Juris Doctor with Honors. He attended the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Management with Honors.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents and a grateful maritime association, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of a true public servant who selflessly dedicated his life to the service of our country and equally important as a key figure in maritime security and operations.

I cannot thank him enough for everything he has done to protect our Nation's waterways and the millions of Americans who live, work, and visit them every day. This Congress and our Nation owe Mike a debt of gratitude for his commitment to maritime security and his leadership at the Massachusetts Port Authority.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, on September 14, 2012, I unfortunately missed one recorded vote on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall 582.

PRESIDENT PETER J. FOS

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the continued achievements of President Peter J. Fos, a native of my hometown of New Orleans, Louisiana. Today, I wish to congratulate President Fos on his appointment as the sixth leader and the first President in the history of the University of New Orleans in

January 2012. President Fos is a proud graduate of the University of New Orleans with experience as an administrator and faculty member. President Fos boasts a proven record of conducting research, fundraising, developing collaborative relationships with other academic institutions, and implementing institutional effectiveness and student success programs.

President Fos previously spent three years as the Provost and the Executive Vice President of the University of Texas at Tyler where he oversaw five academic colleges, the graduate school, the Robert R. Muntz Library, as well as the Palestine and Longview campuses. President Fos held the Sam A. Lindsey Endowed Chair, which is awarded to a recognized scholar in an academic discipline that is of strategic importance to the university. Prior to that, President Fos served as dean of the College of Health at The University of Southern Mississippi for four years. Before his tenure at Southern Miss, President Fos also held the position of chief science officer at the Mississippi State Department of Health.

President Fos has received numerous honors and awards since beginning his academic career. In addition, President Fos has published more than 50 peer-reviewed papers, technical reports, white papers and book chapters in the areas of healthcare decision analysis, environmental health, data mining, neural networks, health services research, and managerial epidemiology. He is an author and has presented more than 50 papers and abstracts at international, national, regional and local conferences.

President Fos received his undergraduate degree in biological sciences at the University of New Orleans, a doctor of dental surgery at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, and a master of public health and doctor of philosophy in health care decision analysis at Tulane University. I hold President Fos in the highest regard for his dedication to family, friends, colleagues, and his community. President Fos represents the best of what New Orleans has to offer and is an example of the very best in our educational community. His commitment to the city and its future brings hope and promise to ensuring that New Orleans remains one of the most empowered and unique places in the world.

I wish to congratulate President Peter J. Fos and his wife Lori on his recent Investiture as the sixth leader and first President of University of New Orleans.

RECOGNIZING CHILDHOOD
OBESITY AWARENESS MONTH

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. Childhood obesity is a growing epidemic and is a serious problem facing this country. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the rate of childhood obesity has more than tripled over the past 30 years. In 2011, 15 percent of high school students in my home state of Ohio were obese. Children and adolescents who are obese are more likely to continue this trend as adults, and obese adults are much more at risk for

health problems such as heart disease, diabetes, stroke, and cancer.

Childhood obesity is an issue that affects the whole nation and needs to be addressed for the future of our children. Hundreds of billions of dollars are spent annually to treat obesity-related medical conditions, and as a growing number of adolescents are not able to pass a physical fitness test to serve in our nation's military, it has become a national security threat as well.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Task Force on Childhood Obesity, we are working to identify, discuss, and promote policy ideas to address this epidemic. Everyone has a role to play in finding a solution—parents, families, communities, schools, and local governments.

In Central Ohio, valiant efforts have been made to not only promote healthy eating and physical activity, which have been proven to lower the risk of becoming obese, but also to find other innovative ways to address this issue. The Ohio State University (OSU) is spearheading a number of research initiatives to explore how biological processes appear to play a large role in influencing the risk for obesity. This research is helping us to better understand the causes for obesity so that we can work towards a meaningful solution.

There are many programs at Nationwide Children's Hospital in my district to tackle the problem of obesity. I share their belief that an important approach to addressing adult obesity is beginning with children. One program, the Center for Healthy Weight and Nutrition, focuses on programs for the home, school, and community to ensure the development and promotion of healthy lifestyles. The hospital has also played a role in establishing the Ohio Healthy Weight Outcomes (OHWO) coalition, which is a public-private partnership that is currently implementing an obesity prevention and treatment project in a low-income neighborhood in Columbus. Their goal is to reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity in 5th graders by 10 percent in five years.

Across the country families, schools, communities, and organizations like OSU and Nationwide Children's Hospital have all made strides in addressing the obesity epidemic. However, much remains to be done, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress as well as with my constituents in Central Ohio to find solutions to lower the rate of childhood obesity.

CRANE HERITAGE DAY HONOREE—
EVELYN STRODER

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a stalwart of our community, Evelyn Stroder, who is being recognized as this year's Crane Heritage Day honoree.

When I think of what it takes to make a strong community, I think of someone like Evelyn. Communities can be united in many aspects, but one central component found in strong communities is service. And service to our community has been at the core of Evelyn's life.

Evelyn's journey began in Corpus Christi where she graduated from high school and at-

tended Del Mar Junior College before she went on to earn a B.A. in English and Journalism from Baylor University. Later she earned an M.A. in American Literature and Mass Communications from UTPB.

In 1955, Evelyn and her husband, Charles, moved from Corpus Christi to Crane. Once in Crane, Evelyn would use her education to give back. She served others as an educator for 28 years and continues to serve on the Crane School Board. While Evelyn no longer teaches, she still remains active in the Permian Historical Society and the Crane County Historical Commission. Her journalistic accomplishments include her presented papers and published work in a variety of publications throughout Texas, and currently she serves as the assistant editor of the Permian Historical Society Annual.

One would think that with such a busy schedule, Evelyn would not have time for much else in life. However, in between all these accomplishments, she has managed to raise three children, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren—a notable accomplishment in itself!

On behalf of the 11th District, it is an honor to recognize Evelyn because she is an example of those who have made our nation strong. Our nation did not become great from the top down, but from the bottom up—from the people in our neighborhoods willing to serve and make their community a better place for others and their children. Evelyn is one of these individuals. Through this award, she is rightly recognized for the time and sacrifice she has dedicated to others and it is an honor to represent her in the Halls of Congress.

HONORING IRENE SAUCEDA FOR
HER TIRELESS EFFORTS ADVOCATING FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN IN AMERICA

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional young lady named Irene Saucedo. From a very young age, Irene and her family struggled to stay in one place. Irene went to seven different elementary schools. A variety of difficult circumstances made it impossible for Irene to stay in one school for more than a year, until high school. Irene graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in San Antonio, Texas in 2011 with a 4.0 GPA. She was the President of Gamma Sigma Girls, a leadership organization within the Girl Scouts, and was also President of the National Technical Honor Society. Irene is now a sophomore at Texas State University, where she is studying Anthropology and Social Work.

The economic downturn has impacted children in very unique and troubling ways—none more so than the idea of a family losing their home and depriving a child of a much-needed and deserved stable home. I commend Irene for having the fortitude and determination to succeed so phenomenally amid such tumultuous circumstances. I am also including, for the record, Irene's very moving personal testimony from the briefing:

"My mother had dropped out of high school in tenth grade which I feel contributed greatly

to the reason why we were homeless. She raised my sister and I as a single mother and had to work all the time while my sister baby sat me.

We lived in Colorado for the first five years of my life, but I was born in San Antonio, Texas. My mother and I, along with my older sister moved to San Antonio because it's where the rest of our family was. It wasn't even my mom's idea to go to Colorado in the first place so the first chance we got to come back, we took. Growing up in San Antonio was quite difficult. As soon as we arrived, my mother asked a family member for a place to stay. She needed time to find a job for herself and an elementary school for me. My sister was old enough by this time to get her own job and begin living her own life, so that's exactly what she did. Eventually, the family of the family member we were staying with began to grow and my mother knew it was time to give them their own space back. We felt somewhat intrusive, as we did for most of the others we stayed with. The people we stayed with usually already had their own family, but still had the heart to offer a whole room to my mother and I.

My mother was great with keeping me in school, but not so great at staying put in one place, or keeping a job. This sounds really negative, but the reasons will explain why she couldn't keep a job. My mother found out that she was a diabetic when I was in the second grade. The next school year, we found out that I was also diabetic. She fell ill quite a bit, and so did I. We were both new to this disease, so we didn't quite know how to control it like we do now. Most minimum wage jobs expect a doctors excuse if a day is missed. For my mother, that was difficult. She never learned how to drive, so we stuck to public transportation, but for a woman who is ill, public transportation is just not safe. I remember feeling so helpless knowing that my mother, the woman who'd kept me healthy and up to date with shots and other records was sick and I could do nothing. By the fifth grade, I'd been to seven elementary schools, and my mother had worked a handful of jobs. The last person we stayed with lived in the courts. They got evicted because we weren't on their lease. We got someone kicked out of the courts. After that event, my mother felt so low and so bad about what we'd done. After that, she decided that it would be best if we were on our own instead of hurting others.

We moved into the Dwyer Avenue Shelter and I feel that was the best decision my mother made. The shelter provided so much information about the services that were available to us. They even offered my mom a job as receptionist in the front office of the shelter. They helped us get in contact with Transportation Services who provided school busses for me to attend which ever school I was last attending. Unfortunately, I had just moved up to junior high school so I attended yet another school, but I still felt more stable than I had before. The Shelter case workers helped all of the families who lived in the shelter find an apartment complex in a really nice part of town at an extremely discounted price. After the lease was up, my mother had worked enough as a receptionist that we could now afford our own apartment.

After two and a half years of successfully staying on our feet, my mother fell ill. Her liver had become inflamed and she was hospital-

ized for a month. She lost her job and we lost our apartment. For a whole month I lived with friends; Friends who I was able to create bonds with because we were stable. After that month, we had to move back into the shelter. My mother was told that she wouldn't be able to work ever again. This news threw my mother into a depression because she knew that she could no longer support herself, much less her daughter. The shelter, once again, helped us move into an apartment complex that wanted only a fraction of our total income, and helped us with transportation. Luckily, my father had begun paying child support a few years earlier so we had an income. We lived there for two and a half years, until I graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School, ranked number 7 of my class.

That summer, I left to attend Texas State University. Moving from school to school made me slower than the other students because of all the different teaching techniques I'd been exposed to; some teachers even thought I was dyslexic. However, I made it all the way. I plan to go so much further, too, because I'm tired of being homeless. "Education is power" is my motto. Look at me now: "Only after two semesters of college, I'm influencing the decisions of congressmen!"

A TRIBUTE TO PETTY OFFICER
GREGORY GAYLOR

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Petty Officer Gregory Gaylor, an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Technician with the United States Navy. Petty Officer Gaylor is being honored by the Navy at the USO annual gala this November as the 2012 USO Sailor of the Year. He is being recognized for the steadfast determination and unwavering courage he displayed in saving the lives of his fellow soldiers and furthering the U.S. mission in Afghanistan.

Perhaps the most notable aspect of Petty Officer Gaylor's service came when he expertly led a three man EOD team during combat operations in Afghanistan from December 2011 to June 2012, in which he was responsible for locating and dismantling Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), among other objectives. In April of 2012, Gaylor and his team were fired upon by four separate machine gun positions, but with little regard for his own safety he managed to clear a nearby compound of explosive hazards and help transport those wounded from the line of fire. Overall, he located and destroyed four IEDs, faced six direct fire engagements, and trained over 300 Afghan Commandos in Counter-IED tactics and basic demolition techniques, which aided in the autonomy of Afghan security forces.

The courageous and selfless actions of Petty Officer Gaylor are truly commendable and indicative of the skill, professionalism and fortitude of the men and women of the United States Navy. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District, I congratulate Petty Officer Gaylor on achieving the USO Sailor of the Year honor and thank him for his remarkable service to this great nation.

RECOGNIZING DR. TRACY VALLIER

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Tracy Vallier.

Dr. Vallier's career as a Professor of Geology at Indiana State University, Whitman College, Lewis-Clark State College, and Iowa State University; as well as his experience with Scripps Institute of Oceanography, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories and the US Geological Survey are all worthy of note. He has doubtlessly passed his passion and hard-earned knowledge on to innumerable students and colleagues.

Dr. Vallier has spent the last 50 years working to explore, document and teach the geography and geology of the Hells Canyon. The canyon, which follows the route of the Snake River through Idaho and Oregon, is the deepest gorge in North America: at 7,993 feet deep, it dwarfs the Grand Canyon by nearly 2,000 feet. Hells Canyon is a breathtaking, nearly-inaccessible American treasure that has been over 300 million years in the making, during which numerous geological processes ranging from volcanic uprisings, to the slow carving of the Snake River to cataclysmic glacial floods have provided a landscape filled with some of the most complex and intertwined geology in North America.

Dr. Vallier has dedicated the last half-century to understanding this geologic masterpiece. His colleagues tell us that he has probably explored more geography of Hells Canyon than any person alive. In his 50 years working in the Canyon, Dr. Vallier has led to an understanding of not only the geologic history of the Canyon, but also of the regional tectonics of the Pacific Northwest. He has shared this knowledge of the Canyon's history, native sites, flora and fauna, and ecology to colleagues, students, and almost everyone he has met. Dr. Vallier is a born teacher and his love and knowledge of the Canyon is passed on to students and strangers alike.

John Wesley Powell, who is best known for his pioneering study of the Grand Canyon, said about his explorations: "We have an unknown distance yet to run, an unknown river to explore. What falls there are, we know not; what rocks beset the channel, we know not; what walls ride over the river, we know not. Ah, well! We may conjecture many things." Without Powell, indeed we would have been left for a long time with only conjecture as our guide to the Grand Canyon.

In the same way Mr. Speaker, without Dr. Tracy Vallier, we would remain in the dark about the wonders of Hells Canyon. As Dr. Vallier continues his work in the Canyon today, it is my privilege to rise in recognition of his many achievements and contributions to our nation.

COLORADO BIOBUSINESS
ACCELERATOR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the grand

opening of the Biobusiness Accelerator, the newest addition to the Fitzsimons Life Science District and the Anschutz Medical Campus of Aurora.

The 184-acre Fitzsimons Life Science District is adjacent to the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colorado. This proximity encourages commercial bioscience companies and academia to collaborate and share amenities. The current business Incubator opened in 2000, and already its 50+ bioscience start-ups have created in excess of 600 jobs.

When these start-ups have demonstrated viability as a commercial entity and received funding to enhance their growth, they graduate to the Accelerator environment for continued growth. The work happening in these incubators and accelerators shows the innovation, risks and cooperation involved in building successful small, medium and large businesses.

The new Accelerator will be a valuable economic engine for Colorado's bioscience industry, and I'm excited to see the creativity and innovative products developed right here in Colorado.

These are the kinds of businesses we need to encourage and to grow here in our state and country.

I extend my deepest congratulations and best wishes to the Colorado BioBusiness Accelerator, the Colorado Biosciences Association and all the startups and businesses involved in the opening of this new center.

OVARIAN CANCER

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 773—the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act.

The incredible team at the National Cancer Institute has provided extraordinary research that has been vital to our ability to combat cancer in all its forms.

Still, research for the deadliest cancers—called recalcitrant cancers—remains only a small portion of the Institute's total funding.

Recalcitrant cancers are defined by those that average a less than fifty percent survival rate beyond five years.

It's these cancers, which hide in hard-to-detect places, that can be the most dangerous for victims and most painful for families.

I know this to be true, Mr. Speaker, because my dear friend from childhood, Mrs. Kathryn Elliot Williams, lost a grueling battle with ovarian cancer earlier this year at the young age of 36. Elliot wasn't just my friend. She was a loving wife, a nurturing mother, a daughter, a sister and a true servant of her Lord and her neighbor.

After Elliot passed away I came to this floor to memorialize her life. But I cannot think of a better way to honor her memory than for the Congress to do its part to ensure that more women faced with this terrible disease have hope for the future.

September, Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, is the most appropriate time to remind women young and old of the risks and ensure that research for ovarian cancer and other recalcitrant cancers will remain a priority for this country.

HONORING THE DAKOTA JAZZ CLUB

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Dakota Jazz Club for its contribution to the music industry and musical development of the great state of Minnesota.

The Dakota Jazz Club opened in 1985 at Bandana Square in St. Paul as a bar and restaurant for local jazz performers. Since then it has grown to a well-recognized institution featuring performances by a range of national artists. In 2003, the Club moved to its current home in Nicollet Mall in Downtown Minneapolis. Its stage has hosted a multitude of nationally famous jazz musicians, including: Ray Brown, McCoy Tyner, Toots Thielemans, Joey DeFrancesco, Ahmad Jamal, Chucho Valdés, Benny Green, Joe Williams, Bobby Hutcherson, Roy Haynes, Arturo Sandoval, Wallace Roney, Charles Lloyd, Roy Hargrove, Nicholas Payton, Larry Coryell, Pat Martino, Jack McDuff, Jimmy McGriff, Sonny Fortune, Frank Morgan, Zakir Hussain, Kurt Elling, Joshua Redman, James Carter, Madeleine Peyroux, Regina Carter, Patricia Barber, Von Freeman, Billy Higgins and Charles Brown.

The Dakota Jazz Club also operates the Dakota Live Record Label, a label dedicated to capturing and distributing world class jazz from their legendary stage in Minnesota. Some of the noted artists that have recorded for the label are legendary jazz musicians Von Freeman, Nachito Herrera, and Barbara Morrison.

The Dakota Jazz Club's passion for jazz extends beyond hosting musical performances and contributing to the history of jazz at large. The Dakota Jazz Club has also taken it upon itself to ensure the future of jazz in Minnesota through their Dakota Foundation for Jazz Education. Started in 1997, the Foundation's purpose is: "Introducing young people to jazz and helping them understand—and care about—what they are hearing. We want to help young people use jazz for self-expression and communication, and to experience the sheer pleasure that comes from responding to its challenges." The Dakota Foundation for Jazz Education supports a variety of services including offering scholarships for a year of serious extra-curricular jazz study and performance in partnership with the MacPhail Center for Music, helping young musicians develop and hone their skills in jazz appreciation, promoting a wide variety of workshops, funding the Youth Stage at the Twin Cities Jazz Festival held each June in St. Paul, and recognizing outstanding educators in honor of Jane Matteson, the benefactor and cofounder of the Foundation.

I commend the Dakota Jazz Club for all it has done for the Twin Cities, and I thank them for their dedication and service to music and the community.

HONORING COL. ROBERT FORTNAM, USAF (RET.) OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired Air Force Colonel Robert Fortnam of Pembroke, a New Hampshire hero whose service and sacrifice during World War II is to be commended and remembered. Mr. Fortnam is celebrating his 90th birthday this year, and in his 90 years, he has seen and experienced more than most Americans ever will in their lifetimes.

Mr. Fortnam served as a B-17 co-pilot in the 305th Bombardment Group during World War II. On October 8, 1943, his life changed dramatically after his plane was shot down by a German F-190 fighter over the German border. Mr. Fortnam landed the plane safely and protected the lives of the 10 crew members on board, but their luck would change when German guards picked them up and sent them off to a POW camp in Poland, where Mr. Fortnam spent the next 19 months of his life.

After the war, Mr. Fortnam returned to the Granite State, where he graduated from the University of New Hampshire, became a mechanical engineer, and continued to serve in the Reserves as a colonel until his retirement. Mr. Fortnam still likes to fly once a week in a Cessna Skyhawk and travel all over New England.

Mr. Speaker, stories like Mr. Fortnam's reaffirm my commitment to those who have served and continue to serve our nation. We all owe Mr. Fortnam and the brave men and women of our armed forces a debt of gratitude that we can never truly repay, but we will continue fighting for them as they have fought for us.

New Hampshire citizens have long answered the call to service to our nation, and Mr. Fortnam represents the best of our state. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best as he continues to share his incredible story of service and sacrifice with us all.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

HON. BILL CASSIDY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize October 10 as a very special day for the people of Taiwan. It is their National Day. I join them in celebrating their continued political freedom and democracy. Today the people of Taiwan determine their own destiny and government through free and fair elections. Mr. Ma Ying-jeou won re-election as the fifth freely elected president on January 14, 2012.

The United States and Taiwan value human rights, civil liberties, a free press and the rule of law. Our shared values have produced a strong and dependable friendship for the past century. Taiwan was one of the first countries to come to our aid after Hurricane Katrina ravaged my home state of Louisiana. They have

shown generosity and compassion by donating to the reconstruction effort.

In honoring Taiwan's National Day, we need to continue to support their efforts under the framework of the Taiwan Relations Act, to ensure that our ally has the capability to defend herself. Moreover, as Taiwan is our 10th largest trading partner, I believe we should seek ways to further enhance the bilateral trade relationship.

To the people of Taiwan, I extend my congratulations on their National Day. Our mutual relations will continue to be strengthened in future years.

HONORING OUR NATION'S HEROES
ON NATIONAL POW-MIA RECOGNITION DAY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of National POW/MIA Recognition Day and to express my gratitude to the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who have suffered unimaginable hardships as prisoners of war and to those courageous service members who remain missing in action.

One of the great tragedies of war is the inability of a family to lay a beloved fallen service member in a final appropriate resting place at home here in the United States. Sadly, since World War II, the families of over 84,000 servicemen and women are left to wonder the fate of their family member who went missing in action. My thoughts and prayers go out to these service members and their families; that these Americans heroes may find peace, and that one day we can return them home.

During the same time period, more than 138,000 brave American service members have been detained as prisoners of war, with many suffering through barbaric treatment by their captors. POWs have seen and experienced some of the most horrific acts of which mankind is capable, and they certainly deserve our unending recognition and gratitude. The loyalty and bravery they demonstrate while at the hands of our enemies cannot be overstated.

While we pause to remember the sacrifice so many brave men and women have made for our country, we must also thank those who have worked tirelessly to find and return home those who went missing. The Defense Prisoner of War and Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) is responsible for the investigation and recovery process for missing service members. The DPMO also works closely with the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, or JPAC, which is responsible for worldwide investigations, recoveries, and identifications. Together, and with other dedicated private organizations, DPMO and JPAC do the difficult work of bringing our service members home to rest and bringing closure to their families.

I was honored to be a part of the effort of JPAC returning to the south Pacific island of Betio, where the historic battle of Tarawa took place in World War II. One of the first Marine beach assaults of the war, an entrenched Japanese force inflicted immense casualties on U.S. forces, yet after 76 hours of battle, our victorious troops raised the American flag

above the battlefield. Unfortunately, among the 1100 Marines, soldiers and sailors lost in this engagement, 564 remain unrecovered and lost in battle. Following language I was able to include in a defense authorization bill in 2010, JPAC has returned to Tarawa for one recovery mission in 2010, and plans another for next year. I will continue to promote the recovery of these servicemen until they are home.

Since 1979, our nation has observed National POW/MIA Recognition Day to remember those who were prisoners of war (POW) and those who are missing in action (MIA), as well as their families. That year, Congress passed a resolution to mark the third Friday of September as a day to ensure Americans would never forget. I encourage my colleagues and all Americans to take a moment today to remember those who sacrificed for our freedom.

We are all forever indebted to these men and women, and on this somber day, we must reiterate our promise that "We will not forget."

HONORING AARON RILEY
BRADSHAW

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aaron Riley Bradshaw. Aaron is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 271, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aaron has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Aaron has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Aaron has refused to see his autism as a handicap, but rather as an opportunity to grow and thrive as an individual. His journey to the rank of Eagle Scout has been an inspiration for his friends, fellow scouts and especially his family, all of whom are extremely proud of what he has accomplished as an Eagle Scout.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Aaron Riley Bradshaw for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL GEAR UP
WEEK

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, last week the nation celebrated National GEAR UP Week. Communities across the country committed themselves to a brighter future for their students and families and emphasized the important role college plays in future success. I would like to draw the attention of my colleagues to a few of these celebrations. Governors in Arizona, Hawaii, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Washington, Wisconsin and North

Carolina received proclamations from their governors. In Santa Ana and Sacramento, California and Roswell, New Mexico, they received proclamations from their mayors.

Our colleagues Mr. LUNGREN and Ms. MATSUI issued proclamations celebrating the GEAR UP work in their Districts. In San Marcos, California they hosted an inaugural GEAR UP partnership reception with their local Chamber of Commerce and presented certificates of recognition to Congressman HUNTER and State Senator Mark Wyland. In Waterbury, Connecticut they held a middle school parent evening and were joined by special guest NBA star, Ryan Gomes. Congressman HANNA issued a proclamation and Congressman REYES presented a letter to the GEAR UP community in Deep South Texas. Congressman CUELLAR spoke to students in Laredo, Texas along with Debra Saunders-White from the US Department of Education.

Many other GEAR UP partnership and state grantees conducted college scavenger hunts, created Dream Walls, discussed the college experience of school faculty and staff and engaged parents and partners.

I'm proud of the hard work of our students, their parents, and GEAR UP program staff and I know I speak for this body when I say congratulations on what you have accomplished so far and best of luck in the school year ahead!

CONGRATULATING MS. DIANE
SCHRIER FOR COMPLETING THE
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART'S
SUMMER TEACHER INSTITUTE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Ms. Diane Schrier of Ocala, Florida, a teacher at Fort King Middle School, upon her completion of the National Gallery of Art's Annual Summer Teacher Institute. During the National Gallery's six-day seminar, Ms. Schrier intensively studied the foundation of twentieth-century art by examining the pioneering artists of French impressionism and post-impressionism.

In order for participants to be accepted in to the Gallery's Teacher Institute seminar, they must first complete a rigorous application process. Ms. Schrier was one of only forty-five teachers from across the nation chosen to participate in this year's National Gallery of Art's Teacher Institute. From this seminar, teachers are able to return to their schools and students with new tools and ideas that will enhance education curriculum of all grade levels and subjects. The students of Central Florida are blessed to have such a dedicated educator as Ms. Schrier.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to recognize and congratulate Ms. Diane Schrier on her acceptance to and successful completion of the National Gallery of Art's Annual Summer Teacher Institute. May her dedication to our nation's educational institutions and students inspire others to follow in her footsteps.

HONORING 1ST LT. NATHAN RIMPF

HON. DAVID E. PRICEOF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Friday, September 21, 2012*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent from Raleigh, North Carolina, who was injured on patrol in Andar Province, Afghanistan, on July 8th of this year. Ranger 1st Lieutenant Nathan Rimpf, United States Army, was team leader of Demon Company 2-16 Rangers when he stepped on an improvised explosive device and was seriously injured. I had the honor of visiting Lieutenant Rimpf and his family last month at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where he is receiving treatment for his wounds. I was deeply moved by Lieutenant Rimpf's strength, optimism, and dedication to country and fellow servicemembers, and I know he, like his brother in the United States Capitol Police, will continue to serve his country honorably for years to come. I wish Lieutenant Rimpf and his family the very best, and respectfully submit this poem by Albert Caswell in his honor:

THE FEW

The . . .
The Few!
Only, The Few!
Only, The Brave!
Can but so wear that most heroic title and beret,
of a United States Ranger as who!
And so bathe, all in that most heroic hue!
Ranger's like Jimmy Regan, Pat Tillman,
and Kyle Comfort who our world have so graced!
Who have all so worn courage's most courageous face!

For Rangers Fight!
And Rangers Lead!
And Rangers do it all at such deadly speeds!
And for us one all,
Rangers will so die and bleed!
As The United States Rangers so give to our nation what she needs!
And Rangers hunt!
And Rangers evil do so confront!
To stand strong,
to so right all of those wrongs!
To so intercede,
to so bring us peace!
Bought and paid for,
with but all of their fines lives indeed!
As all in Strength In Honor they so believe!
Beware, "THE DEMONS" are after you . . .
time to run!
Sorry but it's time for you to so confront
your "DEMON'S" my son!
As their strong arms and legs for all of us
they so willingly concede!
For all out there but in the darkest of all
nights!
As that's where you shall so find them Leading
ing
The Way . . . The Charge, The Fight!
The United States Rangers,
who but bring their most magnificent of all
lights!
Because, Rangers Lead!
Men like Nathan Rimpf,
whose hearts so shine upon us all on this
very night!
As it was on a July patrol,
When this fine man's life almost went away
. . .
With his two strong legs gone,
as for him his men so knelt and prayed!
And that's when this platoon leader got up
and ran,

ran with his heart that very day!
Just one more hill to climb!
Just one more mountain to so scale all in his
time!
As against all odds once again we would find!
That this Ranger led the way!
Like Superman, the only thing that can stop
him is Kryptonite this day!
For such men are put upon this earth,
to so show us what comes first!
To So Teach Us!
To So Beseech Us!
To So Reach Us!
Who out of such darkness but defeat the
worst!
And come shining through like a star burst!
As have you Nate,
The Carolina Kid who at light speed has so
traversed the most!
For there are but blue skies up ahead of you
Nate to host!
"Can't you just feel the sunshine?"
And if ever I had a son, I wish he could shine
as bright as this one!
Who so teaches us how the game of life is
won!
Moment's are all that we so have!
To fight the bad!
To make a difference with it all!
For something noble, it's better to lose your
two fine legs . . .
Then at the end of your life to so moan and
beg,
as so wished you a better world you had so
made!
But, Only The Few to our world such gifts
can claim!
As you Nathan, The Few . . . are but one and
the same!
And that's why the word Ranger is in front
of your name!
The Few can claim!

HONORING ANTHONY CURETON,
PRESIDENT OF BERGEN COUNTY,
NJ NAACP CHAPTER

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my constituents and dear friends, Mr. Anthony Cureton, who is the President of the Bergen County, New Jersey Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). I commend Anthony Cureton for receiving the 2012 Outstanding President Award by the New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP and for his continued community service to Northern New Jersey.

Anthony Cureton was born in Englewood, New Jersey and completed his early education in the Englewood Public School System, culminating with his graduation from Dwight Morrow High School in 1986. After high school, he was hired by the City of Englewood as a police officer. During his 23 years as an officer, Anthony has had the opportunity to not only "protect and serve" the community he grew up in, but to assist and encourage others to seek education and self-improvement. In 1991, Anthony became a mentor to Junior High School students in Englewood, teaching the importance of education, as well as building socialization skills and being a role model for others.

Mr. Cureton graduated from New Jersey City University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. He has also studied

and received advance degrees from Fairleigh Dickinson University, University of Notre Dame, and the International City/Council Managers Association University. In 2004, Mr. Cureton graduated from the West Point Command and Leadership Program sponsored by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police.

As Bergen County NAACP President, Mr. Cureton has been active in addressing a police shooting in Garfield, a series of hate crimes against synagogues, and the layoffs of secretaries and teachers' aides in Englewood. He also helped revive a long-dormant NAACP chapter at Bergen Community College.

Mr. Cureton, currently a sergeant with the Englewood Police Department, received the 2012 Outstanding President Award on September 8 at the New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP during the annual convention in East Brunswick, New Jersey. Mr. Cureton was chosen from a field of 42 branches, 12 college chapters and 25 youth councils for his excellent stewardship of this local branch and his effective advocacy in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues will join with me in honoring Mr. Anthony Cureton for his admirable service to the community of Bergen County, New Jersey and to his continued commitment to the NAACP.

HONORING THE FOUR UNITED
STATES PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO
DIED IN LIBYA

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 786. I join President Obama, Secretary of State Clinton and my colleagues in Congress in condemning these attacks in the strongest possible terms. The attacks on our embassies in Cairo, Egypt and Sana, Yemen and the violent assault on our consulate in Benghazi, Libya were shocking and unacceptable.

My thoughts and prayers are with the families of the four U.S. embassy employees, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens, who lost their lives in the attack. Their courageous service represents the very best of America and their sacrifice will not be forgotten. Every day, America's diplomats serve their country by promoting our interests and values around the world. This difficult task becomes even more daunting and important in unstable countries where young democracies are struggling to take root in the presence of violent opponents and in the shadow of historical oppression.

As our nation grieves this loss we must also strengthen our resolve. The changes brought by the Arab Spring are still unfolding. It is crucial for the United States to engage in these countries and support their transition to stable democracies that respect religious rights, human rights, especially the rights of women.

In closing, the outpouring of condolences from the citizens of Libya, including those in Benghazi, is heartening. I was struck by the image of a young Libyan woman holding a sign written in English so it would be understood by Americans that said "Thugs and killers don't represent Benghazi or Islam." Ambassador Stevens believed these voices would

ultimately triumph in Libya and we honor his memory by standing steadfast with them in their democratic journey.

RECOGNIZING DR. KAIGHAM J.
GABRIEL

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Dr. Kaigham J. Gabriel on the occasion of his departure as Acting Director of the Department of Defense's (DoD) Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Gabriel on several occasions during his tenure at DARPA and admire his dedication to supporting our men and women in uniform and his commitment to strengthening the technological advantage of our current and future combat forces.

The DARPA mission is clear and concise: to create and prevent strategic surprise for the Nation. In a little less than 3 years as the deputy director and acting director, Dr. Gabriel led the Agency in accomplishing numerous initiatives important to DoD and National Security.

He initiated an advanced manufacturing program designed to counter the increasing time, cost, and risk of producing complex defense systems by shortening the timeline from conception to fielding of weapons and defenses. He oversaw the development of a hypersonic test vehicle that flew at Mach 20, the fastest high lift-to-drag ratio aircraft ever built and one that will be instrumental in our Nation's capabilities in the future. We now have 3 minutes of fully aerodynamically controlled flight at Mach 20, which yielded more aerodynamic and test measurement data than had been collected in ground tests during the previous 40 years.

Dr. Gabriel also directed DARPA's innovative talents to improve the welfare of our brave men and women in uniform who suffered severe injuries in theater before returning home. The Agency's prosthetics research has pioneered a new generation of artificial limbs. I witnessed, for example, a veteran using an artificial hand so adroitly that he was able to pluck a single grape from a large cluster. In addition, in less than a year's time, DARPA's team researched, developed, built, and deployed wristwatch-size blast gauges that detect and record overpressure blast exposure—data critical to the early diagnosis and treatment of traumatic brain injury for our troops deployed abroad.

Dr. Gabriel helped the Agency create a forward cell in Afghanistan to support technology deployment efforts. This included a 90-day "Skunk Works" activity that brought together some of the country's best computer and social scientists, counterinsurgency experts, economists and analysts. The team deployed to Afghanistan within a month of being tasked to aid the war effort. Dr. Gabriel also oversaw the fielding of a wide-area, high-definition, off-nadir light detection and ranging collection system to provide much-needed 3D map data and systems.

To ensure that our nation's resources are being directed in the most appropriate areas, Dr. Gabriel oversaw the development of sev-

eral analytic frameworks that guided DARPA's investments toward areas revealed to be most divergent with existing threats to the country's security. The cyber analytic framework, in particular, highlighted the need to undertake some new and innovative approaches in defensive cybersecurity, and DARPA was the first DoD organization to address openly the need for an offensive cyber strategy.

In today's fiscally constrained environment, Dr. Gabriel insisted on financial accountability and solid business practices. During his tenure, DARPA's obligation rate was 21 points higher than the previous 5-year average, translating into more than \$600 million in the performer community, working for DoD and the Nation.

Dr. Gabriel would be the first to tell us that none of this would have been possible were it not for the incredible talent at DARPA. In our conversations, he has emphasized to me that the personnel are the lifeblood of the Agency, and he has helped to recruit the nation's best talent from academia, industry, nonprofits, the Services, and laboratories to serve our Nation.

On behalf of the House of Representatives and the United States of America, I thank Dr. Kaigham Gabriel for his service to our country, his significant contribution to the defense of our Nation, and his leadership in advancing what is necessary for America to prevent and create strategic surprise. I know my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, and in both houses of Congress, join me in sending our best wishes in his next endeavor.

CONGRATULATING THE HISPANIC
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF
METRO ORLANDO, RECIPIENT OF
THE 2012 HISPANIC CHAMBER OF
THE YEAR

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando for recently being named the 2012 Hispanic Chamber of the Year by the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Since 1993, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando has been dedicated to their mission of providing leadership and support to the Hispanic business community in Central Florida.

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando is a non-profit organization representing over 1,200 members and serving Hispanic business owners and enterprises across Central Florida. Among the 200 members of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce that were eligible for nomination and honor, the national organization presented the award to the Metro Orlando Chamber on the basis of their outstanding leadership, accomplishments and quality of service to enhance the economic development of Central Florida's Hispanic business community. This national honor is awarded annually to one Hispanic Chamber of Commerce that has excelled at strengthening business excellence in their community.

This is not the first time that the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando has been recognized for their commitment to serv-

ing Hispanic enterprises across Central Florida. The Metro Orlando Chamber has been chosen and honored seven prior times by the National Chamber for their standards of excellence to support, promote and strengthen the Hispanic business community.

The excellence with which the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando serves Central Florida's Hispanic business community and enterprises is evident from their many recognitions. I am pleased to congratulate them on being named the 2012 Hispanic Chamber of the Year.

CUMBERLAND VALLEY ATHLETIC
CLUB

HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BARTLETT. Mr. Speaker, in November of this year, the members of the Cumberland Valley Athletic Club will once again answer President John F. Kennedy's challenge to promote national physical fitness and hold the 50th annual JFK 50 Mile run.

This run also answered another President's challenge; Theodore Roosevelt issued an executive order to challenge the United States Marine Officers to run 50 miles in 20 hours; The JFK 50 Mile run, the nation's oldest ultra marathon attracts 2000 runners and thousands more to cheer on the participants to one of the most beautiful parts of the sixth district of Maryland, Washington County.

At the inception of the JFK 50 Mile, all members of the United States Armed Forces have always been welcome and have met this challenge by former Presidents Kennedy and Roosevelt over this historic course marked by the history of the Nation over the Appalachian Trail and the C & O Canal passing over hallowed ground near Crampton's Gap, Maryland, Weaverton Cliffs, Maryland, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, and Antietam Battlefield.

On the 50th Anniversary of the JFK 50 Mile run, I would like to send our best wishes for another successful run to the Cumberland Valley Athletic Club and those members who make this event one of the premiere athletic events in the nation.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)
NATIONAL DAY

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on their upcoming National Day on October 10th. Taiwan has always been one of the most loyal friends and allies of the United States. Over the last few decades, the relationship between the United States and Taiwan has grown into a strong. Taiwan's cooperation with the United States in fighting global terrorism has earned the trust of the American people and boosted exchanges and friendship between our two nations. Such robust relations also extend to trade and Taiwan's military needs. A strong

Taipei-Washington relationship is in the best interests of both and the stability of East Asia. This year, we celebrated the 33rd anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, the cornerstone of our relations with Taiwan.

Furthermore, Taiwan has been an important trading partner of the U.S. Its imports of U.S. products and services have created thousands of job opportunities for our people. Many more thousands of Taiwanese students study at U.S. colleges and universities and Taiwanese tourists choose the United States as their number one overseas destination, outside of destinations in Asia. For all these and other reasons, we thank the Taiwanese people for their friendship and close ties to us.

Hoosier's of the 8th District also have an important, mutually benefiting relationship. Indiana exported products worth nearly \$220 million last year, making Taiwan the 21st largest importer of Hoosier-made goods. As of 2011, Taiwan intends to purchase \$4 billion worth of soybean and corn from Indiana; benefiting Hoosier farmers in one Indiana's most important industries, agriculture.

Additionally, Hoosier businesses such as Eli Lilly, the world's biggest producer of psychiatric medications, and Cummins Engine, the world's largest producer of diesel technology, both have operations in Taiwan. I am pleased to see discussions with Taiwan have recently resumed in the hopes of producing a free trade agreement between our two countries.

On Republic of China (Taiwan)'s forthcoming National Day on October 10th, 2012, I hope our relations with Taiwan will continue to grow and flourish.

May U.S.-Taiwan relations remain strong forever. Congratulations.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT PAUL ATKINSON OF MARBLEHEAD, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Sergeant Paul Atkinson of Marblehead, Massachusetts, for his efforts to assist hundreds of orphans in Afghanistan while serving with the Massachusetts National Guard.

It was brought to my attention by a fellow resident of Marblehead, Mark Brings, and highlighted in an article published in the Salem News, that while stationed as a sergeant in charge of maintenance at Camp Phoenix in Afghanistan, Sergeant Atkinson secured the delivery of hundreds of mattresses and bed frames to two orphanages in Afghanistan which care for more than 700 children.

The efforts of Sergeant Atkinson extended from Afghanistan to Marblehead where local residents, including Mark Brings and his family and Sergeant Atkinson's wife, Maria, worked to collect, clean and deliver hundreds of sheets and blankets to the orphanages.

I am pleased to recognize Sergeant Atkinson and the members of the community for volunteering their time providing these critical items to children in need, and I thank Ser-

geant Atkinson and all the members of our Nation's armed forces for their service to the country.

CONGRATULATING JENNIFER POTTER ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Jennifer Potter, the President and CEO of the Initiative for Global Development (IGD), on her retirement.

Jennifer has been with IGD since its creation in 2003, helping the organization achieve its goal to reduce global poverty through advancing business growth and investment. During her tenure at IGD, the Seattle-based group grew from an idea to a widely recognized international organization.

Under Jennifer's leadership, IGD has successfully leveraged millions of dollars in investments for the developing world and changed the way governments and businesses engage for the better. Her commitment has opened up the door for employment opportunities and increased market access for developing communities around the world.

Her inspirational drive and vision will be difficult to replace, as her efforts to achieve large-scale poverty reduction will be remembered and appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize and congratulate Jennifer Potter on her retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF NEMOURS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL TO ADDRESS CHILDHOOD OBESITY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize that September is National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. Childhood obesity is increasingly becoming a national issue, affecting children ages 6 to 11. Recent studies indicate that more than one-third of America's children and adolescents are overweight. Childhood obesity has been linked to earlier and increased risks that the child will develop conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, and even cancer. National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month is an important opportunity to highlight the progress that has been made thus far, as well as to inspire continued efforts toward building a better future for the next generation.

In order to address these growing issues, children's hospitals across the nation have made it a priority to educate families about the importance of a healthy diet and fitness routine, and highlight the consequences if proper nutrition is disregarded. I am pleased to acknowledge that in October 2012, Central Florida will welcome a new pediatric care hospital,

Nemours Children's Hospital. Nemours is a non-profit children's medical hospital devoted to the advancement of pediatric healthcare and research. Nemours Children's Hospital has created the "Center for Integrative Pediatric Obesity Care" to help research and prevent childhood obesity. Not only does this Center conduct research and provide medical care to obese and overweight children, but they also plan to engage in community outreach programs to help parents and caregivers create healthier environments for children.

The community and families of Central Florida are blessed to have a committed pediatric medical center such as Nemours. I commend Nemours Children's Hospital and children's hospitals across the nation for the measures they are undertaking to combat obesity and strengthen the future of America's children.

PROHIBITING USE OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUNDS FOR PARTY CONVENTIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5912. This is a misguided bill that repeals public financing of our national political conventions and allows moneyed special-interests to complete their corporate buyout of America's electoral process.

Public financing of both Democratic and Republican conventions, created in 1976 following the Watergate scandal, was designed to establish a safeguard against corruption in the political system by reducing the emphasis on fundraising in presidential campaigns and diminishing the influence of wealthy special interests. In recent years, the need to modernize the system for today's campaign environment has become evident, but the system remains as critical as ever to the integrity of our democracy—especially in the wake of the Supreme Court's Citizens United vs. FEC ruling.

The disastrous Citizens United decision that unleashed nearly a billion dollars of corporate funding into the Presidential race has demonstrated how essential it is to restore and uphold the integrity of our elections. Passage of H.R. 5912 would only serve to further undermine this integrity by enabling secretive Super PACs and billionaires to take full control of our political conventions, a critical component of America's electoral process. Furthermore, public financing plays a vital role in helping state and local governments offset the costs associated with hosting national political conventions. These costs may include property taxes, parking accommodations, and local law enforcement funding. H.R. 5912 is unfair to the municipalities that have the honor of hosting these important national events.

The financing system for political conventions must be repaired, not repealed, to better serve the interests of the American people and protect against corruption.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
CALEB GOODWYN

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, as a United States Representative, I have a duty to effectively serve the people in my constituency to the best of my ability. In this mission, it has always been my good fortune to be surrounded by a dedicated staff in both Washington and Alabama that has put service to the public as its first cause.

As the District Director in my Birmingham office, Caleb Goodwyn has provided outstanding service as my “eyes and ears” in the 6th District. As Caleb prepares to depart for an exciting new professional opportunity, I want to take this time to thank him for his work on my behalf and on behalf of the people of Alabama.

As I have often said, staff members are public servants every bit as much as those who have been elected. During the past five and a half years, Caleb Goodwyn has represented my office with consummate skill, professionalism, and loyalty. He has been a trusted liaison between my Federal office and mayors and local and State government officials, the business community, law enforcement and fire officials, the nonprofit sector, and the citizens who call my office every day in search of assistance. Caleb’s approach has always been to listen and work towards thoughtful solutions to problems.

Caleb is at his best when the issues are the most challenging. He provided poised leadership in my Birmingham office during the response to the devastating tornadoes of April 27, 2011, and has worked with multiple stakeholders on important transportation improvements, economic development for our communities, and the construction of the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, to name just a few.

Caleb has also generously given his time and support to many charitable endeavors, including the “Three Hots and a Cot” project for homeless veterans in Birmingham.

A native of Jasper, Caleb is a graduate of Sewanee: The University of the South and the University of Alabama. Prior to joining my office, Caleb gained valuable experience in the Office of Governor Bob Riley.

In his new responsibilities with the PowerSouth Energy Cooperative in Montgomery, Caleb will continue to be heavily involved with local and State economic development. The policy knowledge, experience and relationships that he will bring to his position will help promote economic opportunity for the people of Alabama.

It is my pleasure to wish Caleb and his lovely wife Elizabeth all the best as they begin this new adventure in their lives and to thank him for his diligent service to my congressional office and to the citizens of his home State of Alabama.

AFFORDABLE HOME HEALTH CARE

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, states across the Nation are reducing their health care costs by doing something that makes a lot of fiscal and common sense: they are making it easier for seniors to receive care where they most want to be—in their homes. Washington should take notice. Instead of making it more difficult for home health care providers to operate, the Federal Government should strive to make these services more accessible to all seniors. After all, home health care is clinically advanced, cost effective, and, most importantly, patient preferred.

Take my home State of Ohio as an example. Under Governor John Kasich’s leadership, Ohio has significantly increased seniors’ access to home health care—and, according to analysis by Miami University’s Scripps Gerontology Center, the State is saving half a billion dollars a year as a result.

I think Governor Kasich put it best when he said, that he could not, “think of anything more important to a senior than to be able to stay in their home with assistance, rather than being put in a facility that they are not comfortable with.” The Governor is right.

Mr. Speaker, as is usually the case, States are leading the way with low-cost, high-quality home health care. They are forging ahead with policies that not only save money, but deliver a better quality of life for our seniors. Making at home health care more accessible for seniors is a win-win for my State, and Washington would be wise to follow.

RECOGNIZING HONOR FLIGHT
CENTRAL FLORIDA

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, in honor of America’s World War II veterans, the Honor Flight Network conducts several Honor Flights year round to Washington, D.C. in order to provide our nation’s heroes a day to visit and reflect at their World War II Memorial. I am pleased to recognize that on October 7, 2012, an Honor Flight will take place to honor the World War II veterans of Central Florida.

Honor Flight Central Florida was established on August 27th, 2011, and held their first flight on June 9th, 2012. The philosophy of the Honor Flight Network is that America felt it was important to honor veterans with dedicated memorials, and it should be equally important that those veterans get to see and experience their memorial. As a way to express appreciation and thanks for their service to our country, the veterans are able to fly with Honor Flight at no personal expense. Honor Flight Central Florida has 27 World War II veterans that will be flown to Washington, D.C. this October to see their memorial on the National Mall.

We honor the brave men and women whose dedication to our great nation protected our freedom during perilous times. Among the courageous heroes of Honor Flight Central Florida in October are Chief Master Sergeant Melvin Jenner, USAAC–USAF; Private Joyce Geier, USAF–WAC; Corporal Eugene Hatley, USAF; Lieutenant Colonel James Krajicek, USAF; Private 1st Class Stanley Shader, Army; Sergeant George Focht, Army Air Corp; Sergeant Robert Thomson, Army Air Corp; Private 1st Class Arthur Lehmann, Army; Private Nicholas Liverani, USMC; Petty Officer 2nd Class Julia Kelly, USN Waves; Petty Officer 2nd Class Gerald Langella, USN; Petty Officer 3rd Class Gene Gray, USN; Ranger Francis Coughlin, Army; Major Samuel Holland, Army; Ensign Donald Voorhees, USN; Corporal Kenneth Shappell, USAF; Staff Sergeant Thomas Sparks, Army; Staff Sergeant Charles Andresakes, Army; Lieutenant Colonel Frank Brown, USAF; Petty Officer 2nd Class John Franklin, USN; Private 1st Class Charles P. Hearn, Army; Petty Officer 2nd Class William Hancock, Jr., USN; Aviation Petty Officer 3rd Class John Nelson, Navy Air Corp; Petty Officer 1st Class Charles Berkmeier, USN; Corporal Andrew Kunkel, Army; Petty Officer 3rd Class Russell Smith, USN; and James Moore, USN. The selflessness by which they voluntarily served and put their lives on the line for our safety and security is inspiring.

It is my distinct pleasure, as a representative of the people of Central Florida, to recognize the honor, courage, and commitment of these heroes, along with all members of America’s armed forces. I thank them for their dedication and service to this country.

IN HONOR OF THE BUCKS-MONT
CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE REMODELING
INDUSTRY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bucks-Mont Chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry for their service to the local community.

For twenty years, this chapter of NAIR has worked tirelessly to educate and grow successful business while improving the homes of families who need it most.

Over the last decade the men and women of the Bucks-Mont NAIR have put in over 7,334 volunteer man hours. These volunteers have donated their time, as well as the necessary tools and materials for worthwhile causes such as Habitat for Humanity, the New Beginnings Community Church, and the Vietnam Veteran Project.

Throughout its twenty year history, this chapter has showed a continued commitment to serving others who are in need and I am confident that they will continue to do so for years to come.

RECOGNIZING WORLD
ALZHEIMER'S MONTH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's Disease.

As we recognize September as World Alzheimer's Month, I want to thank the many advocates, caregivers, and health professionals who provide support for those who suffer from Alzheimer's Disease, and the medical researchers who are working so hard to discover better treatments and cures. I especially want to recognize the work of the Alzheimer's Association, including the Greater Illinois Chapter, that is working to reduce stigma and eliminate Alzheimer's Disease.

Alzheimer's Disease is the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States, and it is the only cause of death among the top 10 that today cannot be prevented, cured, or even slowed. Every 68 seconds, an American develops Alzheimer's Disease. It is estimated that this year, 5.4 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's Disease, including 210,000 people aged 65 or older in Illinois. In addition to the physical and emotional toll of those afflicted with Alzheimer's and their families, there are immense costs associated with caring for those with Alzheimer's.

The Alzheimer's Association not only makes critical investments into Alzheimer's research but also provides support groups, education programs, and other resources to patients, caregivers, and families. More than 15 million Americans will provide unpaid care valued at \$210 billion to individuals who suffer from Alzheimer's and other dementias. As the co-chair of the House Democratic Caucus Seniors Task Force, I am committed to accelerating our efforts to help patients and caregivers.

Today, September 21, is "Go Purple" day to highlight the need to end Alzheimer's. I hope that we also remember today that Congress needs to act to help meet that goal, while also making sure that individuals living with Alzheimer's and those who care for them receive the assistance they need and deserve. Last May, the first ever National Alzheimer's Plan was released, laying out the needs and the opportunities before us—in public education, treatment, support services, and research. We need to adopt their positive recommendations, but we also need to make sure that we move forward, not backwards.

We cannot make short-sighted cuts to medical research, including the National Institutes of Health, that will delay the discovery of new treatments and cures. This year, it will cost \$200 billion, including \$140 billion from Medicare and Medicaid, to provide care for those living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. This cost is estimated to soar to \$1.1 trillion by 2050. Cuts to Medicare and Medicaid would be devastating to Alzheimer's patients and caregivers, and arbitrary cuts to Older Americans Act programs will leave individuals and caregivers without the supports they need.

I urge my colleagues and their staff to join me to recognize September as World Alzheimer's Month and commit to developing and implementing strategies to address Alzheimer's disease.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, on September 20, 2012, I unfortunately missed one vote, roll-call No. 588. If I had been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 588.

HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF CHARLES "CHARLIE" MICHAEL

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the long and distinguished career of Charles "Charlie" Michael. For over 40 years, Charlie has served as a soldier in the United States Army, as a contractor at the Department of Defense, and as a civilian in the Department of the Army.

Charlie began his career in the United States Army as military policeman in 1968, serving in Okinawa, Vietnam, and Washington, DC. After separating from active duty in 1972, Charlie attended Lycoming College in Williamsport, PA, and earned a Bachelor's Degree in psychology. Following graduation from Lycoming, Charlie began working as a Family Court Hearing and Enforcement Officer. During that time, he also enlisted in the Army Reserve.

In 1981, Charlie entered the Army Active Guard Reserve Program as an executive officer, and held other posts throughout the 1980s. In 1998, Charlie retired from the Army Budget Office as the Army Reserve Liaison at the rank of Major.

After retiring from active duty, Charlie became a contractor and supported the Army Reserve Operations Division until 2003. Later, he became Deputy Division Chief for the Programming and Resource Division where he spearheaded significant improvements in readiness levels for Army units and individuals.

I first met Charlie when he arrived in my office in 2009 as an Army Fellow. During his time with us, Charlie worked on legislation important to veterans like H.R. 4279, which would allow veterans to receive educational assistance on an accelerated basis if they met certain criteria. Charlie's most important contribution to this office, though, may well be the delicious Coca-Cola Cake that he loved to make and that we all loved to enjoy.

As he retires from his long and distinguished career, I am certain that Charlie looks forward to moving to South Carolina with his wife Diane, and spending more time with his family including his son Brian, his daughter Christine, and his grandchildren Kaitlyn, Paige, and Samantha.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Charles "Charlie" Michael and his service to this country in so many different capacities. It was an honor to have him work in my office. His tireless commitment and dedication to public service and the Armed Forces will be missed, and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to my attendance at the funeral of a dear friend, I was unable to be present for votes in the House on Friday, September 21. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on the Markey Amendment No. 1, Waxman Amendment, Markey Amendment No. 5, Jackson Lee Amendment, Markey Amendment No. 10, and the DeFazio Amendment. I would have voted "nay" on the Kelly Amendment, the McKinley Amendment, the Berg Amendment, and the Gosar Amendment. I would have voted "yea" on the Democratic motion to recommit, and "nay" on final passage of H.R. 3409.

IN HONOR OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF LAUREN HAYNES

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Lauren Haynes, one of my constituents in Pennsylvania's 8th District.

Thanks to Lauren's tireless efforts in pursuing excellence in education, she has been awarded the James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship on behalf of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Offered to the families of union members, the James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship is a highly competitive program which rewards applicants who have demonstrated a commitment to their education.

Thomas Jefferson deeply valued a good education, once declaring that "above all things I hope the education of the people will be attended to; convinced that on their good sense we may rely with the most security for the preservation of a due degree of liberty."

Lauren has carried on this American tradition of academic excellence, and I wish her the best of luck as she continues her work at Drexel University this Fall.

DISAPPROVING RULE RELATING TO WAIVER AND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM

SPEECH OF

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 118 because I believe Congress must act to preserve a principle that has helped lift millions of American families out of poverty. The principle is simple: Able-bodied welfare recipients should engage in work. And we know for a fact, based on the success of welfare reform, that this principle works. More than sixteen years of strong work requirements have demonstrated that a job and a

paycheck—not a government check—is the best escape from the clutches of poverty and the best hope of building a better life.

Unfortunately, the Obama Administration has announced its intention to allow states to opt out of these requirements. I believe Congress must emphatically reject this plan. We must refuse to go down a path that leads us back to a sad and painful time in our history where millions of American families were trapped in a cycle of poverty and dependency. This is the stark choice we have before us today.

The Administration's plan is egregious on process as well as substance. By blatantly going beyond their statutory authority, the Administration's action fits into a growing and disturbing pattern of this President disregarding the law and acting unilaterally to override laws duly enacted by Congress. We cannot stand by and allow the executive branch to trample on the Constitutional authority of this body, which has the sole power to legislate.

Given these concerns, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution of disapproval and reject the Administration's misguided attempt to undermine the hope of prosperity for millions of American families eager to support themselves economically. Mr. Speaker, let us reaffirm the principle that, far more effectively than any government program, work places the American people on the path to self-sufficiency and prosperity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently vote "no" on rollcall vote No. 114 (to prohibit the use of funds for the salaries and expenses of personnel of the Department of Agriculture to provide benefits described in section 1001D(b)(1)(C) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–3a(b)(1)(C)) to a person or legal entity in excess of \$250,000) when I meant to vote "yes."

I would like to correct for the record that I wanted to vote "yes" on rollcall vote 114.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE R.I.C.E. ACT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Reducing food-based Inorganic and Organic Compounds Exposure Act, or the R.I.C.E. Act. This bill, which I am proud to introduce with my colleagues Congressman PALLONE of New Jersey and Congresswoman LOWEY of New York, seeks to require the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to set maximum allowable levels of arsenic in foods that contain rice.

Last year, a Consumer Reports test found concerning levels of arsenic in some juices. Based on that report, I was glad to support Congressman PALLONE's legislation that would

require the FDA to set a maximum allowable level of arsenic and lead in fruit juices. I look forward to our continued work on this issue to protect the public health, which is why we have again partnered on this issue with this legislation. And I am glad to be working with Congresswoman LOWEY, a champion of children's health.

Recently, Consumer Reports completed another test on arsenic in our food supply, this time focusing on rice and rice products. That report found concerning levels of inorganic arsenic in some rice samples—including infant rice cereals and beverages. For example, an adult consuming a single serving of some rice products had the possibility of getting nearly one and a half times the amount of inorganic arsenic that they would consume from an entire day's intake of water. The report also noted that individuals who consume rice have higher arsenic levels than those that did not consume rice.

Another report published in Environmental Health Perspectives earlier this year identified high levels of inorganic arsenic in products containing organic brown rice syrup. The published study noted that the sampled products "may introduce significant concentrations of [inorganic arsenic] to an individual's diet." And, The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences published an article in December 2011 entitled "Rice consumption contributes to arsenic exposure in US women" that highlighted the association between rice consumption and a biomarker of arsenic exposure in women.

Clearly, it is imperative that the FDA act and set standards for acceptable levels of arsenic and other dangerous heavy metals in food products. This bill requires them to set such a level for arsenic in rice and foods containing rice. I intend to continue to work on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

CONSUMERS UNION,
September 20, 2012.

Congresswoman ROSA DeLAURO,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN DeLAURO: Consumers Union, the policy and advocacy arm of Consumer Reports, applauds your introduction of legislation to require the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to set standards to help lower the levels of arsenic in rice and rice products.

As you know, yesterday Consumer Reports and the FDA each released important data showing troubling levels of arsenic in rice, which is a major food staple for millions of Americans. Inorganic arsenic—which both studies found in the various rice products examined—has been linked to bladder, lung and other cancers. The consumption of arsenic-containing rice is especially worrisome for infants and young children because of the negative impact arsenic may have on the developing brain.

Rice is not the only food that contains worrisome levels of arsenic. Indeed, in a previous report released earlier this year, Consumer Reports found troubling levels of arsenic in apple and other juices. Yesterday's findings underscore the health risks of arsenic, particularly inorganic arsenic, and how rice is a particularly important source of arsenic exposure for Americans. That's because rice is a crop that is very effective in absorbing arsenic, in part because of the way it is grown in water-flooded conditions and also because it is often grown in areas where arsenical pesticides were once used.

Consumer Reports tested over 200 samples of rice and rice products for arsenic, and we

found significant levels of arsenic across all product categories, everything from organic rice to rice cereal, brown rice, white rice, and rice cakes. FDA tests found similar levels in its examination of more than 200 samples of rice products. FDA Commissioner Hamburg announced her agency would continue to collect and analyze 1,000 more samples by year's end to make a thorough assessment and plan next steps.

We welcome and appreciate the FDA's efforts to prioritize its examination of arsenic in rice. We also believe that a federal standard limiting arsenic in rice and rice products is the best way to minimize consumers' exposure to unsafe levels of arsenic.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical safety issue. We look forward to working with you and other members of Congress to help reduce arsenic levels in food.

Sincerely,

ELLEN BLOOM,
Senior Director, Federal Policy and
Washington Office.

AMI V. GADHIA,
Senior Policy Counsel.

IN HONOR OF THE BOCHASANWASI
SHREE AKSHAR PURUSHOTTAM
MANDIR HOSTING SADGURU
SANT PUJYA KOTHARI SWAMI

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bochasanwasi Shree Akshar Purushottam Mandir in my home of Levittown, Pennsylvania for hosting Sadguru Sant Pujya Kothari Swami later this month for a spiritual evening event during his visit to the United States.

Pujya Kothari Swami, one of the seven most senior sadhus of BAPS, will be visiting the United States to perform the Opening Ceremony of the Satsang Activity Center in neighboring New Jersey. The work done by Pujya Kothari Swami in his missionary work across the country and around the globe is deeply respected and praised by the entire Swaminarayan community.

It is truly an honor for Bucks County to host this important spiritual figure in the Swaminarayan faith.

As my constituents gather together for a night of spiritual enlightenment and community, I join them in welcoming Pujya Kothari Swami and wish him all the best during his time in historic Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

THE EPITOME OF CHARITY— REGINA ROGERS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in this day and age when most people think of things in terms of me and mine, there are still a few rare individuals who put others first. Regina Rogers is one of those rare individuals. At an early age, a very important question was engrained into Ms. Rogers' memory, and that question has been the motivation for much of

what she does. The question was, "What did you do for someone else today?"

I think it is safe to say that Regina has spent every day of her life doing extraordinary things for others. She is an active participant in community affairs and is the founder of several nonprofit organizations that provide assistance to the underserved communities of southeast Texas. In 1988, she founded and serves as Executive Director of the Ben Rogers/Lamar University/Beaumont Public Schools: "I Have A Dream" program. The organization has made available mentoring and guidance, along with \$4,000 scholarships to nearly 400 academically talented students who would not otherwise have the opportunity to attend college.

Ms. Rogers is a Member of the Board of the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, the Harris County Hospital District Foundation, the Pauline Sterne Wolff Memorial Foundation, the Children's Defense Fund Texas Advisory Board, the Babe Didrikson Zaharias Foundation, and the Holocaust Museum of Houston. She is also President of the Joe Louis International Sports Foundation, established in 1972 by her late father, Ben Rogers. She was the first female regent of Lamar University. For six years, she served as a member of the Texas College and University System Coordinating Board, where she was Chair of the Educational Opportunity Planning Committee for Minority Education in Texas, helping implement programs to increase admissions and retention of minority students and the hiring of minority faculty in colleges and universities throughout Texas.

Ms. Rogers established and serves as chair of the Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" program, which annually makes available more than 1,800 free mammograms (more than 18,000 since inception) and 500 prostate cancer screenings (more than 6,000 since 2000) for the medically underserved population of southeast Texas. In addition, the "Gift of Life" offers education that focuses on breast, ovarian, and other gynecological cancers, prostate, testicular, and lung cancer at 80 or more outreach programs a year, impacting nearly 17,000 people annually, as well as smoking prevention programming through its "Don't Smoke Your Life Away" campaign.

While Chair of the Southwest Regional Board of the Anti-Defamation League in 1994, Rogers helped found the Coalition for Mutual Respect, a group of religious and lay leaders whose annual programming includes pulpit exchanges that promote positive intergroup relations by encouraging understanding and respect among Houston's diverse population.

In 1997, Ms. Rogers established Inspire, Encourage, and Achieve, a program designed to perpetuate her father's legacy of helping young people achieve dignity and respect through knowledge, compassion, understanding, and love. IEA emphasizes rehabilitation for youth in detention and/or on probation, annually impacting more than four hundred juveniles in the Minnie Rogers Juvenile Justice Center and through its Ben's Kids outreach activities.

Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, Ms. Rogers co-founded the Southeast Texas Emergency Relief Fund (SETERF) that provided several million dollars in assistance to thousands of people after the storms, including gift cards to social service agencies,

grants to faith-based organizations to assist with home repairs; and loans to small businesses affected by the storms. Regina also helped individuals who suffered losses from Hurricane Ike. She also served on the Bush-Clinton Coastal Recovery Fund and the Texas Governor's Disaster Recovery and Renewal Commission.

Ms. Rogers excellence has been recognized by others throughout the years. She was selected as a Distinguished Alumna of the University of Houston in 1994, and was named a Distinguished Woman of Northwood University. She was named a Child Advocate of the Year by CASA of southeast Texas; a Pacesetter of the Year by the Cancer League; a Woman of Distinction by KTRK/Channel 3 in Houston; and was a recipient of the Cherish our Children Award from the Child Abuse Prevention Network in Houston. She received the Press Club's 2002 Southeast Texas Newsmaker of the Year award; was a recipient of the 2003 Humanitarian Award from Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Beaumont, Inc.; named a 2005 Citizen of the Year by the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission; and was a recipient of the Cris Quinn Community Service Award in 2009 by the Jefferson County Bar Association.

Regina Rogers learned the importance of public service from her parents. She has carried on her parents' legacy by being a tireless advocate for those in need. She is an incredible woman with an abundance of energy, and a heart as big as Texas. Through her personal involvement in, and financial contributions to numerous organizations, she has left an indelible mark on southeast Texas. Our community is better because of her compassion and generosity. Regina Rogers is the epitome of charity, and a perfect example of what we should all aspire to. In the words of Ms. Rogers' late father, Ben Rogers, I ask you, "What have you done for someone else today?"

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF HUMMELSTOWN

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and my colleague, Representative CHARLIE DENT, to honor the 250th anniversary of the Borough of Hummelstown, Pennsylvania, and to recognize the many contributions its residents have made to our great Commonwealth.

The Borough of Hummelstown was originally founded as Frederickstown by Frederick and Rosina Hummel, who in 1762 purchased a plot of land in beautiful Dauphin County to call home. The Hummels divided the tract into numerous building lots and sold each to German settlers looking to start new lives in the region. Originally serviced by the Berks-Dauphin Turnpike, commerce through the borough was greatly enhanced by the opening of the Union Canal in 1827, which connected the Susquehanna River to the Schuylkill River outside Philadelphia. The Lebanon Valley Railroad later made the community even more attractive to businesses when it arrived in 1858.

Hummelstown was soon booming with jobs in stone cutting and shipyard work. With the borough growing and the nation expanding, the Hummelstown Brownstone Company (HBC) quickly became the leading employer of local residents from the late 19th Century to the early 20th Century. HBC owned and operated several quarries that produced Hummelstown brownstone, which at the time was one of the most popular building materials in the United States.

Today, Hummelstown is the very picture of the quaint American suburb. With a lively downtown area and genuine small town atmosphere, Hummelstown is home to many Pennsylvanians who commute to jobs in nearby Harrisburg and Hershey.

To celebrate the 250th anniversary of its founding, Hummelstown's various civic groups, businesses, churches, and other organizations have worked together to organize a busy week of events. These festivities included a parade, community breakfast and picnic, fireworks display, movie night, and family friendly events for children. Heritage Day, walking tours, and other activities showcased the rich history of Frederick Hummel's town and illustrated its bright future as an ideal location for families and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand alongside my friend, Representative CHARLIE DENT, to honor Hummelstown on the occasion of its 250th anniversary. I would also like to congratulate the borough's residents on a highly successful anniversary celebration.

TRIBUTE TO ALPHA DELTA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL HONORARY ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN EDUCATORS

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Alpha Delta Kappa International Honorary Organization for Women Educators on its sixty-five years of dedicated service and proclaim October 2012 as Alpha Delta Kappa Month. Established in 1947, Alpha Delta Kappa's goals have been to establish high standards of education, give recognition to outstanding educators, build a fraternal fellowship among educators and to promote educational and charitable projects and activities enriching the lives of individuals everywhere.

With a membership of over 33,000 educators representing all fifty U.S. states, Puerto Rico, Canada, Mexico, Jamaica and Australia, Alpha Delta Kappa is committed to educational excellence, personal and professional growth and for collectively channeling their energies toward the good of their schools, communities, the teaching profession and the world.

Women in education constitute a great portion of the nation's working force and are constantly striving to serve their communities and nation in educational, cultural, and charitable programs leading to harmony, happiness, and peace among all people.

Over the last few years, the members of Alpha Delta Kappa have given altruistically to the communities they serve by raising nearly \$14.5 million dollars and volunteering over 2 million service hours.

I congratulate Alpha Delta Kappa International Honorary Organization for Women Educators on their 65 years of unparalleled success and wish them well and salute them as they embark on their next 65 years.

WORLD ALZHEIMER'S ACTION DAY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about World Alzheimer's Action Day and am thrilled to see this disease receiving the attention it deserves.

I look forward to the day when a cure can become a reality for millions of Americans and their families who are living with Alzheimer's disease.

There is still much to be done to eradicate this disease, but today we can say we have the first ever National Alzheimer's Plan, which is a step in the right direction.

Throughout my time in Congress, a cure for Alzheimer's disease has been a top priority on my agenda.

As a member of the Alzheimer's Congressional Task Force, I will continue to work with my colleagues and advocate for research that will lead us to a cure.

As some of you may know, my father suffers from Alzheimer's so this fight is personal to me.

Thank you to all of you who are taking part in the fight against Alzheimer's. By working together, we can and will end this disease.

DISAPPROVING RULE RELATING TO WAIVER AND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to be crystal clear in my opposition to this terrible bill.

Instead of focusing on creating jobs or our nation's budget problems, this Congress is literally wasting time and resources. We are responding to an accusation that President Bush's advisor on welfare policy and a former Ways and Means Committee staffer said is just not true.

In 2005, 29 Republican governors including Mitt Romney requested increased waiver authority. The bipartisan National Governor's Association repeatedly asked for this same flexibility.

Let me be crystal clear—no one ever asked for or has been granted the ability to waive the TANF work requirement. There is a generation of Americans who watched their parents pull themselves up from poverty through education, work training, and child care support

and become proud providers. They support the work requirements in TANF; in fact we all do. It works, and no one is trying to change that.

Not only is rhetoric around this bill pants-on-fire-false, but it is also another attempt to attack practically every possible bipartisan, pragmatic solution offered by this administration.

Mr. Speaker, I urge every American watching this debate to check the facts, and I urge every one of my colleagues to oppose this bill. Let's do the people's work and stop wasting time.

TAIWAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an important upcoming date—October 10, 2012—which marks more than 100 years since the founding of the Republic of China (Taiwan). The United States and Taiwan share a common vision of democracy and liberty. It is important that we take a moment and recognize the successes of this great friend and ally. Often through struggle, Taiwan has used the last 101 years to bring peace and prosperity to its people. A beacon of democracy in the Asia-Pacific region, President Ma and the people of Taiwan should be commended for living in peace and for implementing pro-growth policies that have led to economic prosperity. They are a model for the region and the world. We are fortunate to call Taiwan a friend and ally.

I also would like to congratulate Ambassador Jason Yuan, Representative of the ROC (Taiwan) to the United States, on his new post as Secretary-General of the National Security Council of Taiwan. I cherish the friendship with Ambassador Yuan and wish Ambassador and Madame Yuan the very best.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF HAL DAVID

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I'm joined by my colleagues Representatives LAMAR SMITH, JOHN CONYERS, HENRY WAXMAN, MARSHA BLACKBURN, and JERRY NADLER. We rise today to honor the life and memory of one of America's greatest musical treasures, Hal David. As a lyricist who teamed up with composer Burt Bacharach beginning in the late 1950s, Hal created an extraordinary body of hit songs which continue to touch the lives of countless people around the world.

Hal emerged from a humble immigrant family in Brooklyn. After serving in the Army's Entertainment Section during World War II, he began his songwriting career. He came to be the lyrical mastermind behind some of the 20th Century's most recognized and beloved songs. He composed the lyrics to such classic

hits as "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head," "What the World Needs Now Is Love," "Always Something There to Remind Me," "Do You Know the Way to San Jose," "Don't Make Me Over," "Anyone Who Had a Heart," "The Look of Love," "Walk on By," "(They Long to Be) Close to You" and many, many more.

Hal said that a lyricist must learn "not to fall in love with his own lines." That may be true, but that hasn't stopped millions of music lovers like me, and others in every corner of the globe, from falling in love with them. Hal's lyrical genius earned him countless honors: four Academy Award nominations, with an Oscar for "Raindrops" in the movie *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*; a Grammy along with three songs in the Grammy Hall of Fame; and Gold and Platinum records. Additional accolades include induction into the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame, receipt of the Songwriters Hall of Fame Johnny Mercer and Visionary Leadership Awards, the Ivor Novello Award of the British Academy of Composers and Songwriters, and more. Just this past May, President Barack Obama presented the prestigious Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song to David and Bacharach at a White House musical tribute.

Hal's work not only spans generations but also genres. He is the author of lyrics for the film scores of *Alfie*, *What's New Pussycat*, *Casino Royale*, *The April Fools* and *Moonraker*. His songs also appear in countless other movies, from *Forrest Gump* to *Runaway Bride*. Not limited to the screen, Hal's Broadway show, *Promises, Promises*, was nominated for a Tony Award and received a Grammy, and has enjoyed two successful runs on the *Great White Way*.

Hal's songs have been recorded by artists from across the musical spectrum, including Marty Robbins, Perry Como, Bobby Vinton, Gene Pitney, Dusty Springfield, Tom Jones, Herb Alpert, Jackie DeSharon, B.J. Thomas, Frank Sinatra, Sarah Vaughan, the Fifth Dimension, the Carpenters, Barbra Streisand, and, most unforgettably, Dionne Warwick.

Hal's notable achievements don't stop with his musical career. As ASCAP President and Chairman from 1980 to 1986 and as an ASCAP Board member for almost 40 years, Hal was a music industry leader and devoted much of his life to protecting the copyrights of music creators. He also led the Songwriters Hall of Fame as Chairman and CEO from 2001 to 2011, and was Chairman Emeritus at the time of his death.

Hal's philanthropic work in Los Angeles also made him a great asset to our community. He donated generously of his time and effort to charitable organizations. In addition, he and his wife, Eunice, were founders of the Los Angeles Music Center. In the fall of 2011, a fundraiser, *Love Sweet Love, A Musical Tribute to Hal David*, honored Hal's 90th birthday and benefited the Blue Ribbon Children's Festival and The ASCAP Foundation. It was the most successful ASCAP Foundation fundraiser to date, reflecting Hal's longstanding commitment to arts and music education.

Hal was a musical legend and one of the strongest advocates for music creators of the past century. He will be sorely missed, but thankfully, his songs live on.

NATIONAL INFANT MORTALITY
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, September is National Infant Mortality Awareness Month, established to highlight the tragedy of infant deaths across the nation and to raise awareness about programs that help save young lives and ensure our children are healthy. Infant mortality, the rate at which babies die before their first birthday per 1,000 live births, continues to be a key measure of the nation's health and a worldwide indicator of health status and social well-being.

Although the overall infant mortality rate (IMR) in the United States steadily declined for several decades, it has leveled off in recent years. Preliminary data indicate that infant mortality rate in this nation declined very slightly to 6.14 in 2010.

Unfortunately, this rate continues to be higher than the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) average and that of most European countries. While modest improvements in the infant mortality rate, along with a national and local focus on preconception health for women of child-bearing age, provide welcome changes, much work remains to be done.

In Maryland, infant mortality continues to impact women and families at startling rates. For the second year in a row, the infant mortality rate in Maryland remained at 6.7. Though a drop from the 7.2 rate of 2009, the number of infant deaths in the state remains high. Of greater concern, is the disproportionate impact infant mortality has on some communities.

In 2011, the infant mortality rate for Prince George's County was 9.5, while in neighboring Montgomery County, the rate stood at 5.3. Though both counties have made significant progress in reducing infant mortality in recent years, our collective attention must continue to focus on making further gains. Of the state's five regions, the National Capital Area, comprising Prince George's and Montgomery counties, had the second-highest rate of infant deaths. Only the Eastern Shore Area experienced a higher rate at 8.9.

Across our nation, African American communities experience more than double the rate of infant mortality compared to other populations. In Maryland, the infant mortality rate among African Americans last year was 12.0, fully three times the rate among white infants. Despite efforts to address this disturbing gap, high rates of loss occur among African Americans of all income and education levels.

National Infant Mortality Month gives us an opportunity to raise public awareness and to educate women about ways they may reduce infant mortality. With good preconception health, as well as access to good health care during the mother's pregnancy and the early years of the child's life, women can work to lower the incidence of infant mortality. Research indicates that a number of federal programs may reduce the IMR. Programs such as the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant and Healthy Start are vital programs tasked with bringing awareness to factors that contribute to the nation's high IMR, including low birth weight, congenital abnormalities, and sudden infant death syndrome.

With the support of local organizations and services offered in the 4th Congressional District of Maryland, including the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and the Suitland Health and Wellness Center, we can advance a number of strategies to reduce infant mortality and help mothers and children live long and healthy lives.

I will continue to support and bring awareness to programs that increase access to health care and improve the quality of prenatal and newborn care to prevent the causes of infant mortality. As our nation recovers from these difficult economic times and families may experience gaps in health coverage due to job loss or financial instability, it is especially vital that we continue to support adequate funding for these programs. We need to ensure that our babies get a healthy start and are able to celebrate their first birthday and a lifetime of birthdays.

HONORING DOUGLAS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Douglas Elementary School. Douglas was recently honored with the 2012 National Blue Ribbon award from the United States Department of Education for excellence in education.

The National Blue Ribbon School award honors both public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students achieve at high levels and also schools where the achievement gap is narrowing. Since 1982, more than 6,700 of America's schools have received this coveted award.

I want to personally congratulate the teachers, administrators, and staff of Douglas Elementary School for their commitment and dedication to our young students in El Paso. This year only 269 schools nationwide received the award, and all will be honored in a ceremony in Washington, DC. The Blue Ribbon validates the efforts of these schools in creating a positive and effective learning environment. These schools and their communities have achieved a degree of excellence of which they can justifiably be proud.

Douglas is a fine example of what can be accomplished when parents, teachers and administrators collaborate to prepare our students for a prosperous future. By emphasizing the importance of literacy, math, and science, Douglas is enabling a new generation of community leaders.

In times of economic uncertainty, we cannot lose sight of the paramount importance of our children's education, and I am honored to represent Douglas Elementary School.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUT-
STANDING WORK OF OUTLOOK
NEBRASKA, INC.

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize—Outlook Nebraska, Incorporated—an organization that I've had the pleasure of visiting and seeing firsthand the positive impact they have in the lives of so many. This organization is part of the AbilityOne Program, which enables more than 50,000 Americans and 3,300 wounded warriors nationwide, who are blinded or severely disabled, to work and provide products and services to federal and commercial customers.

Today in America, seventy percent of blind and visually impaired working-aged adults are not employed. Opportunities provided by Outlook Nebraska and the AbilityOne Program have played an important role in bringing people with disabilities into the workforce. As one of Outlook's employees said to me, "They looked at me for my abilities—not my disability."

The AbilityOne Program affords Americans who are blind or disabled the opportunity to acquire job skills and training, receive good wages and benefits, and gain greater independence and a better quality of life. I applaud Outlook Nebraska and the work it does each day to open doors of opportunity for Americans who are blind or disabled.

A TRIBUTE TO HIS HONOR JUDGE
MICHAEL T. McSPADDEN—TEXAS
JUDGE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, there are thousands of individuals who make it their life's work to make communities safer while holding criminals accountable for their actions. One of the best is Judge Michael T. McSpadden. I have known Judge McSpadden for what seems like forever. We served in the district attorney's office as prosecutors together. Judge McSpadden prosecuted criminals for 8 years in the Harris County district attorney's office under the leadership of District Attorney Carol Vance.

In 1982, Judge McSpadden became a Criminal District Court Judge in Harris County, Texas. He tried felony cases. Judges in Texas are elected on a partisan ballot and Judge McSpadden has been elected 8 consecutive times to the bench of the 209th Criminal District Court. We served as judges together and I witnessed his remarkable dedication to the law and justice. As a community, we are truly privileged to have such an extraordinary man answer the call to public service and as an individual, I am grateful to call Judge McSpadden a friend.

Judge McSpadden has served the citizens of Harris County, Texas for over 35 years. A graduate from the University of Oklahoma (though we don't hold it against him), he has worked diligently to rise through the ranks in

Texas courts. He started his legal career in the Harris County District Attorney's office as an Assistant District Attorney, and then he became the Chief Prosecutor of the 209th District Court.

In 1982, Judge McSpadden was elected as a judge for the same court and, for the last 30 years, he has continued to preside over the 209th. His extensive knowledge of the justice system and his incredible work ethic have gained the respect of many in the law profession. Over his career, he has earned the respect and admiration among lawyers and judges within the legal community: he is always among the highest rated judges by members of the Houston Bar Association and was the highest rated judge in Harris County in the 2011 Houston Bar Association Judicial Qualification Poll. Our community has benefited greatly from the many, many years of service that he has dedicated. In addition, Judge McSpadden has been recognized by the Houston Police Officer's Association and Harris County Deputy Sheriff's Association. He has also been honored and named Champion of Crime Stoppers by the Bay Area Crime Stoppers. These organizations recognized that he has not only dedicated his professional time to helping others, but he has dedicated his personal time to helping the next generation as well. In 1994, Child Advocates honored him for his efforts to help children. He has been also honored by the Samaritan Center and the Assistance League of Houston for his work with inner city youth. Judge McSpadden is a positive mentor to young males at risk. In 2002, he was the first recipient of the Chuck Norris Team Spirit Award for his work with Kick Drugs Out of America. He continues to serve on the advisory boards of many non-profit organizations. By giving his time and lending his hands, Judge McSpadden has changed many lives, and I want you to know that our Nation is a better place because of his commitment to helping our communities become safer.

Prior to his three decades of public service in the courtroom, Judge McSpadden also served his country as a United States Marine. While enlisted, he even found time to win the Marine Corps Tennis Champion title. He is a 3-time Big 8 Conference Tennis Singles Champion and still enjoys playing at River Oaks Country Club.

The impact of Judge McSpadden's work is far reaching. He truly is an unsung hero whose efforts are felt in communities, neighborhoods and homes across Texas each and every day.

Judge McSpadden's achievements at the 209th and in the community far surpass these recognitions. His innovation, determination and compassion for serving others make him one of the best judges in the Nation. Judge McSpadden is a close personal friend, excellent lawyer, tremendous judge, and amazing public servant for Texas.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO ANGI CORROTHERS

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, Angi Corrothers is retiring from public service after 32 years of

dedication to the constituents of the 9th Congressional District of North Carolina.

She has been a valuable asset to my staff, and to the staffs of both Congressman Alex McMillan and Congressman Jim Martin before me. She truly exemplifies what it means to be a public servant.

She has spent many years patiently guiding constituents through the process of getting the benefits that they deserve. But it's through Angi's compassion and kindness that she helps anyone who needs it and gives of herself without a second thought.

Angi has truly been a delight to work with for these past several years. She has a great sense of humor, and we will miss hearing her stories and her wonderful, heartfelt laugh.

She will be greatly missed by myself, her colleagues, and the countless constituents that she helps, and we wish her well as she enjoys a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING OPERATION HELPING HAND

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Operation Helping Hand. Operation Helping Hand was started in May 2004 as a project of the Tampa Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, MOAA, with the primary mission to support and assist military patients being treated at the James A. Haley VA Hospital and their visiting families. It was noted that some of the families visiting their wounded, sick, and injured active duty military patients were unable to pay for motels, and were sleeping in their cars. That proved to be enough justification to offer necessary services.

Over the course of eight years, Operation Helping Hand has helped over 750 of our active duty military wounded and injured, and countless family members, assisting with their personal needs while in Tampa, helping with the family's mortgage and bills back home, or whatever the service member or family needed to allow their primary focus to remain on healing, whether it be in Tampa or back home where the family resides.

Aside from responding from their daily needs, Operation Helping Hand sponsors Bronze Star, Purple Heart and other medal or retirement ceremony receptions and hosts a monthly dinner for the patients that is attended by an average of 250–300 people. These monthly dinners honor our wounded and injured active duty military patients who are given proper recognition, and flowers and gifts at each monthly dinner.

In October 2012, the 100th consecutive monthly dinner will be held. By its stated mission, Operation Helping Hand will continue to do all possible to aid the Tampa patients and their families as long as their services are required.

Operation Helping Hand's efforts to improve the quality of life for severely injured services members is truly inspiring. It is with great honor that I rise today to recognize their tireless commitment to those who have served our country. I look forward to watching this organization grow and further its mission of as-

sisting and supporting the families of injured service members.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on the day of September 19, 2012 because I was unavoidably detained back in my District. Had I been present, I would have voted for H.R. 5044, the Andrew P. Carpenter Tax Act. As a member of the Armed Services Committee, I recognize the sacrifices made by our nation's servicemembers. It is appropriate and fair that when the student loan debt of a fallen servicemember is forgiven, his or her family members should not be hit with an income tax bill on that debt forgiveness. H.R. 5044 is a small step toward honoring their service and ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our nation, and I support it.

THE DOCUMENT

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on a spring day, 55 men walked from a cobblestone street into the Pennsylvania state house. They had important business to discuss, and guards kept watch to keep any curious people at bay. The men, all respected, half university-educated, had an average age of 42 years old. The youngest was a mere 27. In their first order of business, they formally nominated one man to be their leader: General George Washington.

This was the scene 225 years ago when our Founding Fathers met in Philadelphia. The 13 colonies had declared and won independence from King George, and were operating under a "league of friendship" or the Articles of Confederation. They knew that the fledgling nation was tinkering on failure: it could not regulate commerce between the states, raise revenue, or support a national defense. A few months before, a man named Daniel Shays had led a group of farmers, who wore hats adorned with twigs, to rebel in Massachusetts. The new nation had some trouble spots of anarchy. Something had to be done.

Over the next few days, the men debated in secret. There was no transparency, no reporters and no visitors. Men from large states, like Edmund Randolph of Virginia, argued for a strong national government, while men from smaller states, like William Patterson of New Jersey, balked at this. Alexander Hamilton of New York tried to convince his colleagues to follow the British government—"the best in the world"—a mistake to a group of proud patriots who had just defeated King George III. Their differing ideas led to compromises and a new government. Largely influenced by James Madison, credited as the Father of the Constitution, a Constitution was written that established three separate branches of government on the federal level, a decentralized national government with enumerated powers and individual state governments empowered with

those powers not outlined. It was built on a system of federalism, a system of separation of powers between the states and the federal union.

The fact that 55 men showed up was something of a feat in and of itself. Seventy-four were appointed to attend, but 19 chose to skip the meeting. They were wise in their suspicions that the goal was to give the national government more power, but missed a tremendous opportunity to shape the nation that they all loved.

Sixteen men refused to sign the Document. One of them was firebrand orator Patrick Henry (my favorite of all of the Founders). He refused to sign the Document because it contained no "Bill of Rights." Another, George Mason, declared that he "would sooner chop off his right hand than put it to the Constitution as it now stands." Yet, the Document was signed by 39 men, and they left Philadelphia with the challenge of convincing the states to ratify it. Largely thanks to the efforts of James Madison, Alexander Hamilton and John Jay, through the Federalist Papers, the required nine states had ratified and the Constitution took effect.

Two years later, James Madison introduced the Bill of Rights in the U.S. House of Representatives, outlining specific rights that each American should be guaranteed and limiting what government could do to the people. Without the Bill of Rights, we would not be the America that we are today. It guarantees that we can live in a country where we can speak our opinions without fearing punishment; where you can practice the religion of your choice in peace; where you have the right to share your ideas or complaints with the government; where you have certain inalienable rights—the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

On September 17, we celebrated Constitution Day, a national holiday that celebrates the one document that has made America what it is today: the land of the free and the home of the brave. In the 225 years since the signing of this great document, this nation has grown, adding territories and states, including Texas in 1845 (by 1 vote, I must say). What was in 1787 a new nation trying to get on its feet and find its way, is today a robust beacon of freedom and democracy. May we never forget what this nation stands for. And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING THE BATON
ROUGE AREA FOUNDATION

HON. BILL CASSIDY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Baton Rouge Area Foundation on obtaining their National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards Board.

Achieving confirmation and reconfirming compliance with Community Foundations National Standards Board is a rigorous process, guaranteeing that every community foundation that receives the designation has adhered to excellent philanthropic practice. This program requires community foundations to document

their policies for governance, donor services, investments, grantmaking, community leadership, and administration.

The Baton Rouge Area Foundation has obtained its National Standards accreditation by demonstrating a commitment to operational quality, integrity, accountability, and adherence to the highest standards for grantmaking.

The Baton Rouge Area Foundation worked rigorously in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and issued over \$600,000 in emergency grants to aid organizations and shelters within 10 days of the storm. This is but one case of the exemplary work that the foundation achieves day in and day out.

On behalf of the residents of Louisiana's Sixth District, I congratulate the Baton Rouge Area Foundation on receiving its National Standards accreditation and commend the foundation's dedicated service to Louisiana's communities.

STOP THE WAR ON COAL ACT OF
2012

SPEECH OF

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3409) to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations before December 31, 2013, under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977:

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 3409, the Stop the War on Coal Act of 2012. Across multiple federal government agencies, there is a regulatory assault underway against coal. The War on Coal has focused both on the production of coal and on the use of coal by electric utilities. The regulatory actions of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other federal government agencies are picking winners and losers in the energy industry by propping up companies like Solyndra while purposefully making it harder for coal producers to operate.

The Stop the War on Coal Act returns climate policy to Congress, where it belongs in the hands of elected representatives who are subject to the will of the people. Americans want environmental policies that are fairly balanced against economic considerations such as the need for jobs and low cost electricity. These balancing decisions are best made in Congress. Federal agencies need to understand that the absence of a congressional authorization is not a green light for the agency to pursue whatever policy it wishes.

I want to be clear that I support an all of the above energy policy.

I believe that coal, natural gas, oil, nuclear, wind, solar, biomass, and geothermal energy sources all have a role to play in our national energy portfolio. There is no question, however, that electricity from coal and natural gas is cheaper and more abundant than electricity generated from renewable sources. A 2010 Heritage Foundation study found that the average family of four would pay on average \$189 per month if it obtained 100 percent of its electricity from coal, but \$504 per month if the same family purchased 100 percent of its electricity from solar power.

That's a difference of \$315 per month. With 47 million Americans on Food Stamps and everything from the price of gas to the price of milk increasing, Americans are looking to save money in every way possible.

Coal fired electricity simply makes economic sense for families in my state and across the country.

Additionally, while 42 percent of U.S. electricity was generated from coal last year, and 25 percent came from natural gas—all renewable sources combined accounted for only 13 percent of the electric supply. It will be many years before renewable fuels are ready to shoulder the burden of providing the energy on which American's rely.

There are three reasons why I stand on the floor this evening to discuss the importance of coal. First, I am here to stand up for the jobs of tens of thousands of West Virginians and hundreds of thousands of others across the country who are employed mining coal, transporting coal, generating electricity from coal or work in jobs that support the coal industry. Second, I am here to stand up for the families and businesses that will see increases in their electric bills as the administration imposes extreme regulations on both the production and utilization of coal. Finally, I am here to stand up for the reliability of our electric grid, which could be at risk over the long term if too much of our ability to generate electricity from coal is lost.

My State and our neighbors in Appalachia have suffered significant job losses in the coal industry recently. Just yesterday, Alpha Natural Resources announced 1,200 layoffs companywide and hundreds of those job losses will occur in my state of West Virginia. Over 300 miners at Consol Energy lost their jobs when the Fola Mine in Clay County, in my congressional district was idled earlier this summer. Arch Coal laid off 750 miners earlier this summer across West Virginia, Virginia, and Kentucky. Patriot Coal laid off 250 miners last week and the company filed for bankruptcy this summer. A local television station in my district tallied nearly 2,000 job losses in the mining industry in early August, and more layoffs have been announced since then.

Besides layoffs by mining companies, job losses in related fields such as transportation usually accompany job losses in mines.

There is more than one reason why job losses are occurring in the coal industry, and I understand that not all of the job losses that have occurred are attributable to over regulation. Natural gas prices are at historic lows and the price for metallurgical coal is softening. Nonetheless, the excessive regulatory burden placed on the coal industry is certainly part of the reason that jobs are being lost.

I am pleased that the bill that the House will vote on this week includes the text of H.R. 1872, the Employment Protection Act, which I introduced in order to require the EPA to consider the impact that any new regulation, guidance, policy statement or permitting decision would have on jobs and the economy. All of us want clean air and clean water, but I believe that environmental regulations should be balanced with the need to maintain jobs and employment opportunities for workers in the mining industry.

Under the Employment Protection Act, EPA would be required to have a public hearing in any state where a decision it makes would have more than a de minimis negative impact

on jobs or economic activity. Therefore, before EPA can take any action that costs a state more than 100 jobs or costs more than \$1 million in economic activity, it would be required to host a public hearing in the impacted state and engage in a conversation with local residents about the costs and benefits of their regulatory action. Too often federal agencies that are separated from local communities lose sight of the fact that their decisions have real impacts on workers and their families. I drafted the Employment Protection Act with the idea of empowering local residents with respect to decisions that impact them. Certainly if the benefits of a regulatory decision outweigh the negative economic consequences of the decision, then EPA should be able to articulate that fact to the impacted members of the local community.

I am also proud of the other provisions that compromise H.R. 3409.

The Clean Water Cooperative Federalism Act is critical legislation that will restore the balance between state and federal regulators when it comes to the issuance of permits under the Clean Water Act. It was clear when Congress enacted that Clean Water Act that states would have the ability to define water quality standards for pollutants, subject to approval from the EPA.

Unfortunately, the federal regulators have attempted to supersede state regulators whenever possible.

H.R. 3409 clarifies that EPA cannot issue a revised water quality standard that supersedes the approved state standard without the state's consent. The legislation also prevents the EPA from revoking certification of a state's Section 402 permitting program based on a disagreement with the state regarding a water quality standard that a state has adopted and EPA has approved, or the implementation of any federal guidance that directs a re-interpretation of the state's approved water quality standards.

Perhaps most importantly, this bill prohibits the EPA from vetoing a Section 404 permit issued by the Army Corps of Engineers unless the state concurs with the veto.

This addresses the issue created by the EPA when it sought to veto a permit issued to the Spruce Mine in West Virginia. Despite the fact that EPA never stated that the holder of the permit violated any of the permit's terms, the agency sought to take back a permit that had already been issued. This action came after a lengthy review process that led to the issuance of the permit.

Operating a coal mine requires a significant capital investment—an investment that cannot be made if the Federal Government is able and willing to take back a permit that it has issued even when the permittee abides by the conditions of the permit and otherwise follows the law. A federal judge in Washington, DC has already held that EPA acted unlawfully in taking back the permit from the Spruce Mine, but that ruling is currently being appealed.

The Stop the War on Coal Act makes it absolutely clear that no 404 permit issued by the Corps of Engineers could be vetoed without consent of the affected state government.

Jobs are at risk in West Virginia and across Appalachia because of the slow progress in obtaining required permits under Sections 404 and 402 of the Clean Water Act. Much of the permitting backlog is the result of Enhanced Coordination Procedures implemented by the

EPA and the Corps of Engineers that gave EPA an increased role in the permitting process. In two court decisions, Federal courts found that these Enhanced Coordination Procedures violated the Clean Water Act. Specifically, the Court found that the EPA "has a very limited role in the issuance of CWA permits and has only the authority to develop the 404(b)(1) guidance with the Corps" while the Corps is responsible for determining compliance.

I strongly agree with the Court's interpretation of the existing provisions of the Clean Water Act. The Corps of Engineers is the permitting authority with respect to 404 permits. After a fair period for interagency comments, the Corps of Engineers should make a permitting decision—either denying the permit and allowing the entity seeking a permit to make modifications necessary to ensure proper environmental protection, or granting the permit and allowing mining to take place.

Under the Enhanced Coordination Procedures, EPA assumed a role that goes far beyond what was contemplated in the Clean Water Act and led to many permits being placed in a holding pattern. Now that the District Court has ruled that the Enhanced Coordination Procedures are unlawful, it is my hope that the Corps of Engineers and state governments will be able to return to the traditional method of considering Clean Water Act permit applications without undue interference from the EPA. The legislation we are considering this week will go a long way in ensuring the fairness of the permitting process.

STREAM BUFFER ZONE RULE

The current Stream Buffer Zone Rule was put into effect in 2008, after roughly five years of work. In 2009, however, OSM sought to vacate 2008 rule and asked a federal court to reinstate the 1980s regulation. The court denied this request, and OSM has worked to rewrite the 2008 rule which remains in place. Information provided by a contractor employed by OSM stated that 7,000 jobs would be lost in the mining industry if OSM's preferred alternative regulation were put into effect. To date, OSM has not issued a new stream buffer rule. Unemployment has remained over 8 percent for 43 straight months and we cannot afford to lose thousands of coal jobs.

I commend my colleague BILL JOHNSON from Ohio for drafting this section of the bill. The legislation would prohibit the Department of the Interior from issuing or approving any rule under SMCRA that would adversely impact employment in coal mines, cause a reduction in coal revenues received from production on federal lands, reduce the amount of coal available for domestic consumption or export, designate any area as unsuitable for surface mining or expose the federal government to liability for a regulatory taking of privately owned coal before the end of 2013.

There is no reason to rush into any modification of the Stream Buffer Rule at the expense of jobs in the coal industry.

CAP AND TAX

The Stop the War on Coal Act also addresses the threat of EPA regulations on carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from stationary sources. Congress has not enacted legislation that would create a cap and trade system, a cap and tax system, or that would otherwise expressly permit the EPA to regulate carbon dioxide from stationary sources. Like Clean Water Act permitting, EPA's at-

tempt to regulate carbon dioxide from stationary sources is another area where the agency has stepped beyond its boundaries and into the realm properly occupied by Congress.

I support efforts to develop Carbon Capture and Storage technologies and believe that they will allow coal to be cleaner in the future. Any effort to require CCS technology for new plants or existing plants, however, should come only when that technology is feasible economically and technologically—and only when Congress expressly authorizes such regulations. The Stop the War on Coal Act will make sure that elected representatives, rather than unelected bureaucrats, are in control of our climate policy.

EXPENSIVE REGULATIONS

The expense of EPA's regulations is dramatic. National Economic Research Associates examined the impact of four anti-coal regulations imposed by the EPA: the Cross State Air Pollution Rule, Utility MACT, Cooling Tower regulations, and regulation of coal combustion residuals. The study found that compliance with these regulations would cost \$127 billion by 2020, cause 183,000 net job losses each year, and lead to a cumulative loss of \$190 billion in our country's gross domestic product. The NERA study found that the average American family would lose \$270 per year in disposable income as a result of these four regulations.

Our legislation addresses these expensive and burdensome regulations. The bill negates EPA's efforts to regulate coal combustion residuals as either a solid waste or a hazardous waste. Instead, this bill would ensure that states have the primary responsibility for regulating coal combustion residuals and encourages recycling. The use of coal ash in concrete for example, makes the concrete stronger and requires less cement—thereby reducing the use of water and energy.

Under this bill, the Utility MACT rule must be reissued by EPA with an increased compliance period provided to utilities.

EPA has estimated that the cost of complying with the Utility MACT rule would exceed \$10 billion annually in 2016—more than the cost of all other Clean Air Act regulations on power plants combined. These costs will cause power plants to close, workers to lose their jobs, and families to pay higher utility bills.

The CSAPR rule, already found unlawful by a panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit, would be scrapped and replaced by the former Clean Air Interstate Rule, which better balanced environmental and economic considerations.

The coal utility sector was well on its way to reducing emissions and investing in clean coal technologies without the administration's costly regulations. Between 1970 and 2011, emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, and particulate matter from coal fired power plants were reduced by almost 90 percent according to EPA and EIA figures, while the use of coal increased substantially over the same period. Over that same period, the industry invested nearly \$100 billion in emission control technologies.

Rather than continuing this progress, the EPA's regulatory course has led numerous coal plants to close and will lead to still more coal plant retirements in years to come.

According to EIA figures, plant operators expect to retire almost 27 gigawatts of coal fired

generation capacity between 2012 and 2016—approximately 8.5 percent of the total 2011 capacity. The 9 gigawatt retirement in 2012 will be the largest single year reduction in coal fired capacity in history—but EIA projects that figure will be exceeded by a 10 gigawatt retirement of coal capacity in 2015. EIA estimates that more than 55 coal generating units will be taken off line in 2012 alone.

Losing coal generation capacity is bad for the future reliability of our electrical grid as well as for the cost of electricity in the long term. Natural gas prices are low today. In the event natural gas prices were to increase—something that certainly has happened before—a lack of coal generation capacity would cause utility rates to skyrocket. My state has an abundance of natural gas as well as coal, and I want to see both of these fuels succeed and maintain their roles as the two largest generators of electricity in our country.

Regulating coal out of our nation's energy portfolio is not a responsible long term course. It has been said that the United States is the Saudi Arabia of coal. Our country has 260 billion short tons of recoverable coal—enough to meet existing production levels for 222 years.

Low cost energy aids in job growth not only in the energy sector, but in manufacturing, transportation, and across our economy. The best way to provide low cost energy for businesses and for individuals for years to come is to avoid over regulating any single energy source, and instead allow both coal and natural gas to be produced and utilized as the free market dictates.

Our current regulatory environment chooses winners and losers in the energy markets—and there is no question that this administration has chosen coal to be the biggest loser.

The Stop the War on Coal Act takes responsible steps that allow both for environmental protection and economic protection. I encourage my colleagues to support the legislation this week.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LANCE
CORPORAL CLARK CAVALIER

HON. BILL CASSIDY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Louisiana's most heroic sons, Lance Corporal Clark Cavalier, 2nd Battalion 8th Marines, from the city of Plaquemine in Louisiana's Sixth Congressional District.

While out on patrol in Afghanistan on April 24, 2011, Lance Corporal Cavalier nearly died in an IED explosion. Almost mortally wounded, and losing both of his legs, he is now on the road to recovery. Clark is known as a grunt, the boots on the ground who take the fight to the enemy every day. In honor of his courage and his selfless sacrifice, I hereby submit that the text of the poem "The Couragejun Cajun!", penned by Albert Caswell, be placed in the RECORD.

THE COURAGEJUN CAJUN!

The Couragejun Cajun!
What is courage all about?
In times of war,
there are but all those who our peace is so
insure no doubt!
Who so go where angels so fear to tread!

Who cheat death and when almost mortally wounded,
while living by a thread through the darkness of death come out!
Teaching us all what courage is all about!
Who Dat?
Dat's Lance Corporal Clark Cavalier!
From Dat Bayou State, Dat's an American Hero so very clear!
From that great State of Louisiana, where men come from without fear!
Dat's, A United States Marine!
One of the greatest things,
Dat D'his country Dat ever seen!
Dressed,
all so heroically all in Dat D'hose Shades of Dat Green!
Who upon a battlefield of honor,
Dat Did so convene!
For he's a grunt,
ever on the hunt for an enemy to confront!
While, out on patrol he almost lost his life so!
When, and IED took his two strong legs,
and death but lie just moments away!
But could not take his heart that day!
As this young hero from the south,
So rose up and so showed us what Dat courage is Dat courage is Dat all about!
As this Couragejun Cajun's courage would so Dat shout!
And What Dat Honor and Duty, and Courage are all about!
Dat's Da Truth no Dat Doubt!
And his New Orleans Saints well he just can't live without!
Yea, one day he wants to smoke a gar with Drew,
and shoot the Breese and talk about!
But, right now he got mountains to so climb no doubt!
All out on that road to recovery!
As Dat's a place where we will discover we!
What Dat Couragejun Cajun is all about you must believe!
Because, not even a GATOR could slow this man down!
And every day is Fat Tuesday in this man's heart, SO HOW!
BECAUSE THIS DADDY, DON'T CRAWL!
And there's nothing going to slow him down, not Dat ALL!
As he so Dat Teaches,
And so DAT Beseeches Us all in what's his heart so sounds!
Because, arms and legs we all need,
But it's Dat with his great heart Dat Clark gains Dat speed!
and we can live without!
but, without Dat Couragejun Heart,
we will surely perish as no doubt!
And Dat'd What Lance Corporal Cavalier is all about!
And one day when Dat Da Saints Come Marching In,
up in Heaven he will be up front with Dat all them no doubt!
For Heroes come in all shapes and sizes,
but it's really what's Dat Dere In Der Heart's which so comprises!
Who they are!
As why down on the Bayou,
why you as a hero Clark are so seen!
And yes Clark,
Marine, with your Couragejun Cajun heart you so shine like a star!
For you have people to so touch,
and so many hearts to so heal as such!
All in what Dat your fine Couragejun Cajun heart,
has to so Dat reveal!
Oooh . . . Rah . . . Dat Jar Head!

IN HONOR OF THE VILLAGE OF
BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio. Since 1903, the Village of Brooklyn Heights has been an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Originally a part of Brooklyn Township, which was established in 1818, Brooklyn Heights' residents seceded from the township to form their own village. On February 28, 1903, the Village of Brooklyn Heights was officially established.

What was once an area of predominately farmland is now full of residential homes and interstate highways. Despite only comprising 1.8 square miles of land, Brooklyn Heights is a desirable area for industry and for raising a family.

Today, the Village of Brooklyn Heights is home to approximately 1,600 residents who are led by Mayor Michael Procuik. There are six members on the Village Council: John Black, Bruce Cichocki, Michael D'Amico, Leslie Foote, Tom Lahiff, Jennifer Presot and Henry Stankiewicz.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Village of Brooklyn Heights and all of its residents.

RECOGNIZING THE GIRL SCOUTS
COUNCIL OF TROPICAL FLORIDA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Girl Scouts Council of Tropical Florida, an organization dedicated to empowering girls so that they can become exemplary leaders of our community by building courage, confidence, and character.

On August 1, 1963 the Girl Scout Council of Dade County merged with the Florida Keys Girl Scout Council to develop into the Girl Scout Council of Tropical Florida, now enriching the lives of more than 20,000 girls and 3,600 adults from Miami-Dade and Monroe counties.

Girl Scouts Council of Florida has prepared numerous activities throughout South Florida to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, a movement that started in Georgia with only 18 girls and that has grown to more than 3.2 million members nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Board of Directors: Irela Bague, Wanda Hewitt, Lillian A. Walby, Alice N. Bravo, Georgia McLean, Nancy Pastroff, Maria D. Tejera, Lilly Monzon Aguirre, Carolann Baldyga, Guillermo "Bill" Cruz, Elvira Dopico, Melissa A. Dunn, Frank Fernandez, Lourdes Fernandez, Maria I. Gonzalez, Johnette Hardiman, Althea Harris, Jenny Arias May, Joyce Ann Hanks Moorehead, Grace O'Donnell, Jack Plunkett, Jr., Lisa D. Sparks, Margarita Villoch, Margarita Weidener, Peggy Wingard, and Mary Young; the Council Nominating Committee:

Grace O'Donnell, Sheryl Alonso, Carlos Arboleya, Sallie C. Byrd, Gail Ash Dotson, Ellen Siegel, and Margarita Villoch; and the Executive Management: Sally Boggess, Patsy Schmidt-Cozier, Pauline Russell, Lance Balding, Luisa Lander, Julia Onnie-Hay, Eva Berbrick, Ansley Ross, Maria Santos, and Ana Delgado, for being part of this national celebration, and I commend the hard work they put forth to make a long-lasting impact on our community and environment, while cultivating strong values in its members.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 590, to suspend the rules and pass the bill H.R. 6429, the STEM Jobs Act of 2012, my vote didn't register. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

U.S. SERVICES SECTOR

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues an important matter for the U.S. economy: Services. I am pleased that there have been several important discussions this week on the topic of the U.S. services sector. This week the Coalition of Service Industries hosted the Global Services Summit, the Global Services Coalition met, and House Ways and Means held a hearing on the benefits of expanding U.S. services trade through an International Services Agreement.

As co-chair of the Congressional Services Caucus, I hope my colleagues will join me and the 63 members of the caucus as we continue to push for greater awareness of the importance of the services industry to our nation's economic wellbeing. Services make up the majority of the workforce in every congressional district.

Services jobs accounted for over 83 percent of U.S. private sector employment, and U.S. services exports in 2011 reached \$588 billion with a surplus of \$193.5 billion—a new annual record. We have a good story to tell.

Congress must be on the forefront in the effort to break down barriers and increase market access for the services sector. We cannot relent until this sector gets the respect it deserves at the WTO, in bilateral and multilateral agreements and beyond.

I know that in my hometown, New York City, services are the lifeblood of the economy. Services in our city account for the bulk of private sector employment, and financial services are particularly critical. The strength of New York's services industry isn't just a benefit to New York. There is a multiplier effect in the U.S., and globally. We know that other sectors like manufacturing and agriculture benefit when the services industry is strong. We also know that nations with whom we are interdependent benefit when the services industry is strong.

One of the best champions for U.S. services is Bob Vastine. Bob Vastine was president of the Coalition of Service Industries for 16 years. This week marked the passing of the torch from Bob to Peter Algeier who has been a champion for U.S. trade in his own right. Peter and the team at CSI are great partners in the Congressional Services Caucus' mission to raise awareness about the critical issues that impact the services sector.

The work of CSI was on display this week during the Global Services Summit. The entire lineup was on the pulse of the issues we are considering in Congress. TPP, the EU-US high level working group, cross border trade, restrictions on services trade—India—China—all right on the pulse. I commend CSI, the Global Services Coalition, and my colleagues on Ways and Means for making this a great week for U.S. services.

I wish my friend Bob Vastine best of luck in his future endeavors. I'm confident that whatever they may be, they will encompass his passion and commitment to advancing the U.S. services sector and in so doing advance us all. Godspeed.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Brook Park, Ohio, an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Brook Park first became a village in 1914 when residents of the area decided to separate themselves from the Berea school district and politics. The first school in Brook Park was built in 1917. Following World War II, a population boom occurred in the area, increasing the population from 2,600 to 13,000. Brook Park officially became a city in 1950.

Brook Park is the home to several important Cleveland landmarks including the Brook Park Ford Co. Plant, The NASA Glenn Research Center, and the International Exposition Center, which is home to auto shows, home and garden expos and the annual I-X Indoor Amusement Park.

Today, the City of Brook Park is home to nearly 20,000 residents who are led by Mayor Mark Elliot. Mayor Elliot who had previously served as a Councilman, and Athletic Director for the city, has been serving as mayor since 2002. There are eight members on the City Council: Mike Gammella, Michael Lane, Pattie Astorino, Barry Kirksey, Brian Higgins, Carl Burgio, Danny Colonna, Richard Salvatore.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Brook Park and all of its residents.

RECOGNITION OF THE SUTTER CLUB AND THEIR TRIBUTE TO RONALD REAGAN

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sutter

Club and their upcoming commemoration of Ronald Reagan.

To those unaware of the Sutter Club's history, it is located in the heart of Sacramento, California and is one of the State's oldest social clubs. The club was founded in 1889, roughly forty years after the historic California Gold Rush.

Located less than two blocks from the California State Capitol, nearly every Governor of California has been an honorary member of the club. In addition to California's Governors, many state legislators, mayors and dignitaries are among the Club's roster. This list also includes U.S. Senators Booth, Kuchel, Johnson and Downey as well as U.S. Supreme Court Justices Earl Warren and Anthony M. Kennedy from California.

As someone who had the privilege to know and serve with Ronald Reagan, I am appreciative of the dedication being performed by the Sutter Club. Ronald Reagan served our State and Country with great distinction and he is a source of pride for every Californian. As a club member from 1967 to 1975, then Governor Reagan frequently used the venue for events. Ronald Reagan had a lasting impression on the Club's history and was honored by the Sutter Club each of the eight years of his administration. To this day, club members continue to have a deep and lasting connection to Ronald Reagan, many having served with him as Governor and President.

On November 9, 2012 the Sutter Club will name one of its historic dining rooms the official "Ronald Reagan Room" during a commemoration "State Dinner" at the Club.

It is my distinct pleasure to submit these few words in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to recognize the Sutter Club and their commemoration of a national hero.

HONORING JOHN E. GILLILAND

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the meritorious service of Commander John E. Gilliland, who will retire after twenty-three years of dedication to our Nation.

Commander Gilliland had a long and distinguished career in the United States Navy. Upon graduation from Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, he received his commission in 1990 through the Naval ROTC program. A supply corps officer, he served with great distinction both at sea and ashore. At sea, he served as Disbursing, Material and Food Service Officer on the USS *Jason* (AR 8) and Supply Officer on the USS *Rushmore* (LSD 47). Ashore, he served as a Staff Instructor and Educational Counselor for the Basic Qualification Course at the Navy Supply Corps School and in the Defense Logistics Agency in the Logistics and Operations and Readiness Directorate, as well as the Chief of the Director of DLA's Staff Group.

Commander Gilliland is no stranger to the halls and offices of Capitol Hill, having spent 10 years in Legislative Affairs. His liaison career started in the Navy Legislative Affairs (OLA), office where he served the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives on Navy Acquisition and procurement policy matters.

His service culminated with his position as the Director of House Affairs and Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for House Affairs, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs (OASD—LA).

His character, capabilities, and good humor enabled him to interact effectively with Members of Congress and their staffs and other Executive agencies under the most strenuous circumstances. Commander Gilliland's work ultimately led to successful legislative outcomes on a wide-range of issues critical to our National Defense to include the military draw-down in Iraq, the Afghanistan surge, the establishment of Cyber Command, and support for NATO missions in Libya.

Commander Gilliland represents the epitome of what our military seeks in a congressional liaison and officer in uniform our country expects, and I am proud and honored to have known him. His dedication to service, commitment to excellence, and performance of duty have been extraordinary throughout his career. I am proud to share in the celebration of Commander Gilliland's career, and I join his colleagues in honoring his distinguished military service.

Commander Gilliland was supported, encouraged, and nurtured by a strong and loving family. I would also like to recognize his wife, Amy, and their son Patrick. As he goes on to pursue new endeavors and challenges, I wish Commander John Gilliland and his family well and ask God to bless them.

THE ETHNIC BALOCH PEOPLE

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, the Ethnic Baloch people live in an area of South Asia now claimed by Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan. In Pakistan in particular, they comprise an important segment of the population and live in the least developed province, despite an abundance of natural resources. Until the arrival of the British Empire, the Baloch people organized themselves in a confederation with local tribal chiefs holding power. When India and Pakistan were partitioned the Baloch people desired to return to their own sovereign state, but were prevented by the Pakistani military led government. Baloch aspirations for independence have been checked by force and their basic human rights have been denied by the Pakistani state. The Pakistan government and military is dominated by members of the Punjab ethnic group.

The first major Baloch uprising occurred in 1973 and was crushed two years later. The Baloch again resisted their Pakistani Punjabi occupiers by force beginning in 2005. A low-level insurgency continues to this day. Pakistan's elite refuses to release their grip on the strategic coastline or the natural riches of Balochistan which they and their ally, Communist Chinese exploit.

The Pakistani security services, which are overwhelmingly made up of Punjabis, use violence against civilians to intimidate the Baloch population. One particular grotesque method of intimidation is called "kill and dump." That is when the body of a man or woman who has disappeared is later dumped in a busy section

of a town for all the people to see. Many of the bodies show extreme signs of torture and are badly mutilated.

I submit for the RECORD a document titled, "Some of the Souls in Traumata" which reputedly documents 2,251 Baluchis who have been "disappeared" by the Pakistani security services or who died while in custody.

This abysmal human rights record of the Pakistani government is shameful. It is even worse because American foreign and military aid money contributes to strengthening the security forces which kill innocent Baluchis. The Baluch people have a right to self-determination and not to live under the control of Islamabad, if they choose.

Mr. Speaker, a copy of this report can be viewed at: <http://gwank.org/Some%20of%20the%20souls%20in%20traumata.pdf>.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Independence, Ohio, an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Independence was first organized as a township in 1814. Its first resident, Ichabod Lord Skinner, settled in the area in 1818. Not until 1827, with the opening on the Ohio and Erie Canal, did the township become accessible to trade and more settlers. Independence grew quickly in the subsequent century, reaching the status of village in 1914. It became the City of Independence in 1960.

Known as the "Heart of Cuyahoga County," Independence is one of Northeast Ohio's most desirable cities for families to work and raise their families. It is also home to the Cleveland Cavalier's training facility.

Today, the City of Independence is home to approximately 7,000 residents who are led by Mayor Gregory Kurtz. There are seven members on the City Council: Anthony Togliatti, Patricia Wisneski, Jim Crooks, Jim Riley, Carl Asseff, Tom Naduzzi and Peter Nelson.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Independence and all of its residents.

HONORING JOSEPH WILLIAM "COACH JOE" AVEZZANO

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Coach Joe Avezzano.

As we kick off the 2012 football season, there are heavy hearts in Texas and throughout the country because of the passing of former Dallas Cowboys' special teams Coach Joe Avezzano.

For four decades, Coach Joe gave all his time and dedication to the sport we all love and today we take a minute to honor him.

Coach Avezzano was on the sidelines for three of the Dallas Cowboys Super Bowl wins (1993, 1994 and 1996). He was named the

National Football League's special-teams coach of year in 1991, 1993 and 1998.

It's not just his colleagues and players who are mourning his loss, but the fans who loved how animated he was on the sidelines and how his indomitable spirit inspired his "special-teams demons" to play the game of football and the game of life at a whole new level.

Coach Joe was a young 68 when he collapsed on a treadmill while in Milan coaching the Milano Seamen of the Italian Football League.

His work in Milan, as an Ambassador to the world for American football, was just the latest stop on Coach Joe's football world tour which started when he played offensive lineman for the Boston Patriots.

In the 1980's, Coach Avezzano served as the head coach at Oregon State University. And who could have predicted then that in a short four year span he would go on to be instrumental in three Super Bowl victories.

After leaving Dallas, Coach Joe led the Oakland Raiders special teams and coached in the Arena Football League.

While football was his life, music was his passion and even former Dallas Cowboys coach Barry Switzer said "Joe would rather have been a country western music star or on-stage performer than a football coach if he had a choice."

Mr. Speaker, Joseph William Avezzano is survived by his wife, Diann, son Tony, many friends and family members, his crews at Coach Joe's Bar and Grill in Frisco and Coach Joe's Hat Trick in Lewisville and millions of football fans who will always miss how his personality and spirit filled the sidelines of any game he ever coached.

U.S. POW DELEGATION TO JAPAN, OCTOBER 12-21, 2012

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on National POW/MIA Recognition Day to honor prisoners of war from America's greatest generation and thank the Government of Japan for recognizing the sacrifices these men have made for peace. On October 12, seven former members of the U.S. Army, Army Air Corps, Air Force, Marines, and Navy who fought in the Pacific Theater of World War II will travel to Tokyo as guests of the Japanese government. This will be the third U.S. POW delegation to Japan.

These brave veterans all suffered as prisoners of war of Imperial Japan. The conditions in which they were held are unimaginable. For most, their first trip to Japan was on aging freighters called "Hellships," where the men were loaded into suffocating holds with little space, water, food, or sanitation. At the POW camps in the Philippines, Japan and China, they suffered unmerciful abuse aggravated by the lack of food, medicine, clothing, and shelter. Each POW also became a slave laborer at the mines, factories, and docks of some of Japan's largest companies, including Mitsubishi, Nippon Express, Ube Industries, Rinko Corporation, and Fushiki Kairiku Unso.

In September 2010, the Japanese government delivered to the first American POW delegation an official apology for the damage and

suffering these men endured. Although the Japanese government had hosted POWs from U.S. wartime Allies, the 2010 trip was the first to Japan for American POWs. It was also the first official apology to any prisoners of war held by Japan.

This historic apology and continued support for the trips by the Japanese government has improved our relations with Japan and, more importantly, had a positive effect on the former POWs. Japan's Foreign Minister, Koichiro Genba, said the trip promotes "reconciliation of minds" of U.S. POWs. Even more, James Colier, a delegate on the second trip to Japan in 2011, said, "After meeting the kind people at JMC [Japan Metals & Chemicals' Takaoka Works] and after observing the beautiful surroundings of the city, I realized that I had been robbed of the opportunity of truly knowing this place for the past 66 years. Takaoka had always remained as a dark and depressing place in my mind. Yet this visit has finally afforded me the opportunity to appreciate its beauty."

I know that the American POWs fought hard for this recognition. I appreciate the courage of the Japanese government for their historic and meaningful apology. I thank the POWs for their persistent pursuit of justice, and commend the U.S. State Department for helping them.

Still missing, however, from this significant act of atonement are the apologies from the myriad Japanese companies that used and abused POWs for slave labor to maintain war production. It is time now for these companies to break their silence and to follow the successful example of their government by offering an apology and supporting programs for lasting remembrance and reconciliation. Furthermore, I invite my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in making a small, but significant, gesture to show these men that Congress has not forgotten their experience and sacrifice by cosponsoring House Resolution 333.

Significantly, this year marks the 70th Anniversary of the Defense of the Philippines, Bataan Death March and the Fall of Corregidor, and the third U.S. POW delegation to Japan includes three survivors of the infamous Bataan Death March, two who were captured at the surrender of Corregidor, one on Guam, and one shot down over Tokyo. One of the veterans believes that he was subject to medical experimentation. Their traveling companions include four wives, one daughter, one son, and one close friend. I wish these men and their companions a fulfilling trip to Japan, and I know that their journey will contribute to the historic peace and friendship between the peoples of the United States and our important ally Japan.

It gives me great gratitude to tell the vivid stories of the third U.S. POW Delegation to Japan.

Randall S. Edwards, 95, lives in Lakeland, Florida. Born in Wyoming, he grew up in Nebraska and enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1935 after high school to see the world. He was sent to the Philippines in 1940 and assigned as a Radioman 1st Class to the submarine tender, the USS *Canopus*, which had been ordered to stay in Manila Bay after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941. By 1942 Edwards was a POW at Cabanatuan 3 and shipped to Mukden, China (today's Shenyang) in October 1942 in Mitsubishi's Hellship *Tottori*

Maru via Formosa and Korea to Manchukuo (Manchuria). Edwards was a slave laborer at MKK (Manshu Kosaku Kikai, which some researchers believe was owned by Mitsubishi and known as Manchuria Mitsubishi Machine Tool Company, Ltd.). He worked on multiple machines from grinders to lathes, carefully sabotaging each task. He believes that the multiple shots and blood tests that he received while at Mukden were part of human medical experiments conducted by the Imperial Army's 731st Biological Warfare Unit. After the war, Edwards remained in the Navy where he received over 40 medals during his service and retired in 1955 as a Warrant Officer. After the Navy, he received his BS degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Florida, Gainesville. Edwards went on to become a National Service officer for American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor and American Ex-Prisoners of War to help his fellow veterans with their Veterans Affairs claims. POW# 104

Robert W. Ehrhart, 89, lives in Carmichael, California. He grew up in Oakland, California and enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve during high school. His unit was activated November 6, 1940 and sent to the Philippines in April 1941. On January 1, 1942 they were assigned to the Third Battalion, Fourth Marines and joined the Battle of Corregidor until the surrender on May 6, 1942. Ehrhart was sent to the Cabanatuan POW Camp where he was on a burial detail, burying as many as forty men a day. He remembers that "bodies were like skeletons and when you lifted them onto the window shutters, which were used for litters, their skin would peel back and stick to your hands." To bolster his morale and that of his fellow POWs, he started to draw cartoons, risking severe punishment if discovered. In September 1943, Ehrhart was transferred to Japan aboard the Hellship *Taga Maru* (aka *Coral Maru*). He was sent to Osaka 4-D Sakurajima where he was a slave laborer at Hitachi Zosen's Sakurajima Shipyard (today's Universal Shipping Corporation). He worked as a riveter helping build military ships and oil tankers. After the camp was bombed in May 1945, he was sent to Osaka 6-B, Akenobe, POW Camp where he was a slave laborer working at a copper mine for Mitsubishi Mining (today's Mitsubishi Materials Corporation). After the war, Ehrhart recuperated in military hospitals from vitamin deficiency, malnutrition, and various tropic diseases. He was discharged April 29 1946. He then studied Mechanical Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley. POW# 221

David G. Farquhar, Jr., 90, lives in Redlands, California where he has lived all his life. He joined the U.S. Army Air Force in 1942. He trained in Nebraska and was assigned as a Technical Sergeant to General Curtis LeMay's 20th Air Force, 24th Squadron, 313th Bomb Wing, 6th bomb group, Crew #2404. He was sent with the 6th Bomb Group to Tinian in the Northern Marianas in January 1945. On May 23, 1945, he was a turret gunner when his B-29 was shot down over Tokyo by flak and fighter planes. They were taken to the infamous horse stalls outside of the Kempeitai (military police of the Imperial Army) Headquarters in Tokyo near the Emperor's palace. They were not considered POWs but "special prisoners" who were war criminals. They were beaten, starved, tortured, and denied clothes, basic hygiene, and medical treatment. On Au-

gust 15th, the day Japan surrendered, he was transferred to a cell at Tokyo Base Camp #1 Omori where he was liberated August 28, 1945. Omori was the first POW camp liberated. After a series of hospital stays, he was discharged in 1946 and returned to San Diego State College (today's San Diego State University) to earn a BA degree in Engineering. He then obtained an MA degree in Education from the University of Redlands. POW# Not Known to "Special Prisoners"

Douglas Northam, 93, lives in Reno, Nevada. Born in Morris County, Texas, he grew up in nearby Naples, Texas. After graduating from high school in 1937, he enlisted in the Civilian Conservation Corps and in 1940 in the U.S. Navy. He was transferred to China in February of 1941 and assigned to the USS *Oahu* (PR-6), a Yangtze River Patrol boat ported in Shanghai. Afterwards, Northam was assigned to an artillery group on Corregidor, which was forced to surrender on May 7th when Corregidor fell. As a POW of Japan, he was sent to Bilibid POW Camp in Manila and then moved to Cabanatuan 1 and 2. In November 1942, he was sent to Japan aboard Mitsubishi's Hellship the *Nagata Maru*. He worked for Nippon Express as a slave stevedore in the freight yards in and around the city of Osaka at Umeda Bunsho Camp (Osaka 2-D UMEDA). In March 1945, after his POW camp was firebombed, he was transferred to Osaka POW Camp 5-B TSURUGA where he was a slave stevedore again for Nippon Express and Tsuruga Transportation Company. After the war, Northam utilized the GI Bill to study geology at the University of California, Berkeley. POW# 117

John Leroy Mims, 90, lives in Aberdeen, North Carolina. Born in Ashburn, Georgia, he grew up in Florida and enlisted in the Army at age 16 in 1938, but was discharged a year later after it was discovered that he was underage. Still hungry and jobless, he re-enlisted February 15, 1941 and was assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion of the famous 31st Infantry Regiment. In April 1941, he was sent to the Philippines aboard the USAT *Republic* and stationed at Cuartel de España in Manila. He fought in the Battle for Bataan and as a POW forced on the Bataan Death March. During the war, his Filipino fiancée Juanita worked as a secretary for a Japanese general and bravely aided the resistance by sending shortwave radio messages to Allied forces in the Pacific. As a POW, the Japanese repeatedly beat and tortured Mims. Although they were able to break his body, they could never come close to breaking his spirit. During his captivity, the Japanese broke his back, neck and both of his legs and shattered many of the bones in his face. The beatings briefly left him a paraplegic on two separate occasions and he still retains a limp. Of the 1,600 soldiers in the 31st Infantry Regiment who surrendered, less than half survived Japanese captivity. In September 1944, he was sent to Japan on board Mitsubishi's Nippon Yusen Kaisha (NYK) Hellship *Sekiho Maru*. Mims became a slave laborer mining coal for Ube Kosan's Sanyo Muen Kogyo Sho (Ube Industries' Sanyo Smokeless Coal Work, which is still known today as Ube Industries Ltd.) at Hiroshima #6B—Omine (Sanyo) POW Camp in Omine-machi, Yamaguchi Prefecture. After the war, Mims remained in the Army for the next 27 years, attaining the rank of Sergeant First Class and retiring in 1963. POW# 429

John Real, 90, lives in Ventura, California. A California native, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps after graduating from high school in 1940. He was sent to the Philippines in April 1941 and assigned to aerial reconnaissance at Clark Field with the 2nd Observation Squadron, 27th Bombardment Group, V Bomber Command, 20th Air Force. Real and his unit manned an observation tower on top of Mt. Mariveles, Bataan during Japan's invasion of the Philippines where he tracked Japanese ship movement around the Olongapo Navy Yard. He walked down the mountain to surrender on April 9, 1942 and was stripped of all his belongings before being forced on the Bataan Death March. At the start of the march, he and others were used as human shields by being forced to walk in front of seized American 155mm caliber field guns (Long Toms) that the Japanese were firing at Corregidor. He was a POW at both Camp O'Donnell and Cabanatuan 1. He avoided a certain death at O'Donnell by volunteering for a work detail on Bataan. In September 1943, he was sent to Moji, Japan aboard the Hellship *Taga Maru* (aka *Coral Maru*) via Formosa. At Tokyo 5-B POW Camp in Niigata, he was a slave laborer unloading coal ships for Niigata Kairiku Unso, now part of the Rinko Corporation. After the war, Real received a BA degree in Business Administration from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a MA degree from the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Arizona. POW# 514

George R. Summers, 90, lives in Riverside, California. Born in the Philippines, he grew up in California where he joined the Marine Corps Reserve in February 1941. Activated in June 1941, his unit was sent to Guam in September 1941. Japan invaded the island on December 8, 1941, and he was taken prisoner by the 10th of December. Summers was on the first transport of Allied POWs to Japan, the *Argentina Maru* with 420 American POWs from Guam to Tadotsu on the north coast of Shikoku. After arriving in Japan on January 16, 1942, the POWs were transported to Zentsuji (Hiroshima Branch #1), a POW camp about eight kilometers from Tadotsu. He spent six months there clearing a mountainside to plant apple trees. He was then transferred to Tanagawa Osaka Area POW Command #4B Camp, where he helped to manually tear down a mountainside to build a breakwater for a primitive dry-dock and submarine base. This camp was noted for its severe malnutrition and extremely high death rate of POWs. Six months later, he was sent to Umeda Bunsho Camp in Osaka (Osaka 2-D UMEDA), Japan, where he worked for Nippon Express as a slave stevedore. He was transferred to a total of six POW camps due to American bombings. His last camp was the Nagoya 10-B Fushiki Camp, where he worked as a stevedore slave unloading soybeans from Korea for Fushiki Kairiku Unso until Japan's surrender. After his release, he was hospitalized for six months at the Long Beach Naval Hospital. In retirement, he has focused on real estate investment and his hobbies of collecting Koi fish and exotic birds. POW# 347

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF BEREA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Berea, Ohio. Since 1836, the City of Berea has been an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Known as "The Grindstone Capital of the World," the town's symbol is a grindstone which serves as a tribute to the many grindstones that came out of its quarries. Every year, on Independence Day weekend, a festival named for the grindstones is celebrated by the City of Berea.

Berea is home to several of Northeast Ohio's most important fixtures such as Baldwin-Wallace College, the Cleveland Browns' training facility and the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds. Over the years, Berea has produced a number of notable residents including John Baldwin, Lou Groza, Jim Tressel and former U.S. Secretary of Defense, Neil H. McElroy.

Today, the City of Berea is home to nearly 20,000 residents who are led by Mayor Cyril Kleem. Mayor Kleem was recently elected to his second term in office. There are eight members on the City Council: Mary Brown, Dean Can Dress, Dale Lange, Margarette Kay, Nick Haschka, Jim Maxwell, Cheryl Banaszak and Richard Malott.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Berea and all of its residents.

STOP THE WAR ON COAL ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3409) to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations before December 31, 2013, under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977:

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the Coal Miner Employment and Domestic Energy Infrastructure Protection Act.

Here on the last days of the 112th Session of Congress, we are wasting time debating a bill, whose constituents parts have already been approved by this body.

We've already spent considerable House time debating all five titles of this bill.

And all five titles were rejected by the Senate and have received a veto threat from the President.

Over the past 19 months this body has cast more than 300 votes against the environment.

Just as repeating a falsehood doesn't make it true, passing a bill in the House twice in the same session won't make it a law.

When the history of this Congress is written, it will be known as the least productive Congress in a century, eclipsing even the infamous "Do Nothing" Congress that President Harry Truman confronted more than 50 years ago.

Rather than advance policies that would promote employment, help drought stricken farmers, even address the long-term solvency of Medicare, this House remains stuck on vilifying the Environmental Protection Agency and taking issue with its obligations under the law to protect the public's health.

This week's announcement by Alpha Natural Resources that it plans to lay-off miners and scale back coal production by 16 million tons annually may fuel the argument that EPA is somehow responsible, but even Kevin Crutchfield, the company's chief executive officer, acknowledged that the principle cause was "the result a difficult market in which power plants are switching to abundant, less expensive natural gas."

If natural gas is cheaper to burn than coal, then where is the legislation to ban its use?

How about a war on natural gas?

For decades the coal industry and utilities have been exempted from Clean Air Act regulations.

It took court orders for previous administrations' inactions and the current administration commitment to protecting the public's health that led to today's regulatory climate.

And, while hundreds of miners may lose their jobs because of cheaper natural gas and new Clean Air and Clean Water Act regulations, tens of thousands of Americans, this bill so callously disregards, will be saved from premature deaths, asthma attacks, emergency room visits and missed work and school days each year.

I will vote to protect the lives of thousands of Americans over the few hundred who might lose their jobs.

If the majority truly cares about the fate of these miners, then support a jobs bill that will allow them to rebuild America's infrastructure.

This bill is wrong.

It advances narrow, profit-based interests over the interests of everyday Americans.

It presumes that a cleaner, healthier air and water must be subservient to the interests of keeping this nation's dirtiest power plants and the most environmentally destructive mining techniques free from regulation.

My colleagues, it's a distorted set of priorities advanced by just a fraction of CEOs in the utility and mining industries who refuse to clean up their operations.

We can have cleaner air and more jobs.

And history provides us with proof it is possible.

It's already happened, and I credit George Herbert Walker Bush with having the courage and foresight to put his signature on the Clean Air Act of 1990.

He would be vilified by the current House majority if he signed that bill today.

It's a sad commentary to see so many in this chamber beholden to an industry that prefers to invest in the political process rather than in saving lives by reducing its life-damaging practices.

Few of my colleagues may realize that the coal consuming industries that have underwritten this assault on EPA had an opportunity to collaborate with the Obama administration on a regulatory framework.

They were invited early on during the first year of the Obama administration to sit down and craft a compliance option.

The administration had hoped to craft a deal similar to the historic deal it made with the nation's auto industry on fuel efficiency and tailpipe emissions.

A National Journal article by Coral Davenport in the September 22, 2011 issue referenced this meeting.

But unlike the auto industry, the coal consuming industries refused to negotiate.

Instead, and let me quote from the article, they:

“banded together with the Republican Party to strategize, and the 2010 midterm elections offered the perfect battleground. The companies invested heavily in campaigns to elect tea party candidates crusading against the role of Big Government. Industry groups (like the U.S. Chamber of Commerce), tea party groups with deep ties to polluters (like Americans for Prosperity), and so-called super PACs (like Karl Rove’s American Crossroads) spent record amounts to help elect the new House Republican majority.

My colleagues, this bill presents a false choice, peddled by an industry that refuses to clean up its act.

This bill serves the interest of no one but a few CEOs who refuse to accept responsibility to the harm their operations have imposed on the rest of us.

It needs to be defeated.

I implore my colleagues to vote “no.”

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRENCH B.
HARMON

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend and role model, Dr. French B. Harmon, and to celebrate his fifth year serving at First Baptist Somerset on October 21st, 2012. Dr. Harmon has showed tremendous leadership and involvement in the Somerset community, substantially increasing the Church’s membership within the last year, and strongly connecting with his congregation.

Throughout his life, Dr. Harmon has always pursued learning. After graduating from Paul Blazer high school in Ashland, KY, he attended Marshall University, from where he received his Bachelor’s degree. Seeking to continue his education further, Dr. Harmon went on to receive degrees from University of Louisville (MA in Education), Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (MDiv and ThM), and Reformed Theological Seminary (DMin). Dr. Harmon has had a wealth of experience as a Christian leader, starting from his days in college as the Baptist Student Union President to becoming a Campus Minister to Pikeville College and Prestonsburg Community College.

Dr. Harmon has been a strong leader in our community, organizing various mission trips that have greatly benefited those around him. This past June, Dr. Harmon led the First Baptist Somerset Church on a mission trip to Magoffin County after the town of West Liberty had been ravaged by multiple deadly tornadoes this past March. Harmon took a team of church members and a large load of building supplies to work on damaged homes, repair roofs, rebuild porches, and help get people back on their feet.

Harmon has also stood up to the prescription drug epidemic in eastern Kentucky and has done his best to shed light on the issue.

This past May he helped organize and lead the first “Pulaski Cares March for Hope” to spotlight the drug problem in the region and bring hope to those who were struggling with drug abuse.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. French B. Harmon, for his outstanding leadership and dedicated service to the Somerset community.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF
BROOKLYN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Brooklyn, Ohio. Brooklyn Township was founded in 1818, became Brooklyn Village in 1927 and in 1950 the City of Brooklyn was established.

The City of Brooklyn is home to many firsts in the U.S. In 1966, it became the first city to establish a seatbelt law. In 1999, it enacted the country’s first law to prevent cell phone usage while driving. Brooklyn High School’s auditorium hosted Elvis Presley’s first concert in the northern U.S. on October 20, 1955. Brooklyn is also home to a Hugo Boss Plant and the world headquarters of American Greetings and the popular Memphis Kiddie Park.

Today, the City of Brooklyn is home to approximately 11,000 residents who are led by Mayor Richard Balbier. Mayor Balbier who has been serving as mayor since 2009 had previously served as the president of the Brooklyn City Council. There are six members on the City Council: Colleen Coyne Gallagher, Anthony DeMarco, Tom Murphy, Ron Van Kirk, Kathleen Pucci and Kevin Tanski.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Brooklyn and all of its residents.

CELEBRATING APAIT HEALTH
CENTER’S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate APAIT Health Center, serving my 34th Congressional District, on their 25th anniversary.

Since 1987, APAIT Health Center (formerly known as Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team) has worked to fulfill its mission of positively impacting the quality of life for medically underserved communities living with or at risk for HIV/AIDS and other health disparities through a seamless continuum of culturally competent and linguistically appropriate programs in Southern California.

APAIT Health Center is a distinctly critical service provider for those living with HIV/AIDS and members of the LGBTQ community in the greater Los Angeles area. The agency serves clientele from diverse communities, including Asian and Pacific Islanders (API), Latinos, and African Americans.

In its 25 year history, APAIT Health Center has become the largest provider of HIV/AIDS

services to API communities in Southern California, having served tens of thousands of individuals.

APAIT continues to respond this year with the opening of a community health clinic in the vibrant Pico Union/Westlake area, a community with scarce health options for those who are low-income and uninsured.

Private sector partnerships are also part of APAIT Health Center’s portfolio. APAIT Health Center has been the recipient of grants from Kaiser Permanente, John and Johnson, and the California endowment, to name a few. In addition, APAIT Health Center and its staff have received awards and commendations from local, state, and national entities, from the City of Los Angeles to the White House.

APAIT’s proudest achievement, however, is consistently receiving high marks from their client satisfaction surveys. The most recent survey revealed 93 percent of clients feel their quality of life has improved since seeking services with APAIT Health Center.

I once again congratulate APAIT Health Center on the celebration of their 25th anniversary. I thank them for their continued service to the Los Angeles community, and for the help they provide to those in need.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. HOWARD
MONROE FITTS, JR. ON THE OC-
CASION OF THE 38TH ANNUAL
DURHAM NAACP FREEDOM FUND
AND AWARDS BANQUET

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr. on his recognition as a Freedom Fund Honoree by the Durham Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP. Dr. Fitts will receive this recognition next month in appreciation of his advocacy for civil rights and his diligent public service to the Durham community.

Mr. Speaker, after completing a baccalaureate degree in biology at North Carolina Central University, NCCU, Dr. Fitts served as Teacher and Principal in Wilson County Public Schools. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1942 and served faithfully for three years before being honorably discharged in 1945 at the close of World War II. After the war, Dr. Fitts returned to academia where he earned a master’s degree in Public Health Education in 1946, and a doctorate degree in Health Education from Columbia University in 1961.

His involvement with the NAACP is deeply rooted, stemming back to his childhood when he worked alongside his father to sell the organization’s official magazine, Crisis. During that time, the young Dr. Howard Fitts was exposed to movements led by the church, health agencies, and other civil rights organizations. This exposure made an indelible impression on him, leading to his active participation and advocacy within the Durham community. As a result, Dr. Fitts quickly rose to leadership positions in the NAACP and the influential Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People, DCABP.

Among many of his most notable work include his key involvement in the desegregation of the Durham’s public school system,

where Dr. Fitts testified during court proceedings, arranged transportation for Black students to desegregated schools, and enrolled his own son as one of the first African American students at Morehead Avenue Elementary School.

In addition to his civil rights leadership, Dr. Fitts has served as a public health educator for Chapel Hill, N.C.'s District Health Department, professor and Chair of the Department of Health Education at NCCU, and as a consultant to the World Health Organization. His résumé is filled with notable board positions, and his extensive work spans the tenure of every Executive Director of the NAACP from Walter White in the 1930s to Kwame Mfume in the 1990s.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr. on this unique honor of being recognized as a Freedom Fund Honoree by the Durham Chapter of the NAACP. His lifelong contribution to his community and country cannot be overstated.

H.R. 6429

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, with many of my colleagues, I voted to oppose H.R. 6429 introduced by Rep. LAMAR SMITH. While I strongly support creating a STEM Visa program, and cosponsor Rep. LOFGREN's H.R. 6412, the Attracting the Best and the Brightest Act of 2012, the bill brought to the floor today was a partisan, unserious approach to a serious question. It was a last-minute suspension bill designed to fail. It unnecessarily raises questions about its application and divides Congress when it should bring us together.

We need serious comprehensive immigration reform. Legislation that creates a STEM Visa program should be low-hanging fruit that builds momentum toward this goal. H.R. 6429 however, creates unnecessary divisions. Not only will it never be enacted into law but it sets us back on both this issue and the larger goal of immigration reform.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF
LAKEWOOD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Lakewood, Ohio. Also known as "The City of Beautiful Homes," Lakewood is an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Lakewood is one of Ohio's most diverse and culturally rich cities. It is home to several art galleries, Winchester Music Hall and the Beck Center of the Arts. Additionally, both Malley's Chocolates and Aladdin's Eatery are based out of Lakewood, Ohio.

Lakewood has been named as one of the best cities to live in by This Old House Magazine and Scene Magazine. It was listed among the best suburbs in the U.S. by Travel & Lei-

sure Magazine. It was named the "Best Place to Raise Your Kids 2010" by Business Week.

Today, the City of Lakewood is home to more than 52,000 residents who are led by Mayor Mike Summers. Mayor Summers, who had previously served as a Councilman, has been serving as mayor since 2010. There are seven members on the City Council: Tom Bullock, David Anderson, Shawn Juris, Mary Louise Madigan, Brian Powers, Monique Smith and Ryan Nowlin.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Lakewood and all of its residents.

IN HONOR OF THE IBEW LOCAL 481
ON THIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE CIRCLE OF LIGHTS

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 481, whose generous contribution of time and talent has helped to make the Circle of Lights the premier holiday event for central Indiana for the past fifty years.

On the Friday after Thanksgiving, the remarkable transformation of Indianapolis's signature landmark, Monument Circle, into the world's largest Christmas tree symbolizes the beginning of the holiday season for Hoosiers. The extraordinary efforts of IBEW Local 481 have helped to make the Circle of Lights one of the largest public events in central Indiana.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating IBEW Local 481 for their outstanding contributions to this awe-inspiring holiday event. The Circle of Lights simply would not be possible without their expertise and generous support. My wife, Mariama, my daughter, Salimah, and I eagerly await the lighting of the world's largest Christmas tree in the company of Hoosiers from all across the Great State of Indiana.

SUPPORTING TEAM USA AND THE
U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, in the summer of 2012, we, as a nation, watched with pride as Team USA competed in the Olympic and Paralympic games in London, England. With over 200 nations competing in 300 events, the Olympic Games once again demonstrated the capacity of international sports to captivate and inspire us all through friendly competition, sportsmanship, solidarity, and fair play.

Team USA was well-represented, with 530 Olympians and over 245 Paralympians, each of whom served as an example to all of us with their unyielding commitment to excellence. Their years of dedication paid off handsomely, as Team USA finished first in the overall Olympic medal count with 46 gold, 29 silver, and 29 bronze medals, and fourth in the Paralympic medal count with 31 gold, 29 silver, and 38 bronze medals.

I would especially like to point out the courage and fortitude put forth by so many Paralympians. Although they might not get the same television coverage as the Olympics, the Paralympics showcases some of the finest talent this country has to offer. Some of these world-class athletes are also wounded warriors who served in our military and fought for our country with honor and distinction. I have been pleased to work with the U.S. Olympic Committee and my Congressional colleagues to provide adaptive sports programs to injured service members, helping to speed their recovery time, bolster their self-confidence, and vastly improve their quality of life.

Olympian or Paralympian, all members of Team USA put forth their best effort at the Summer Olympics. They have trained their entire lives for the honor and privilege of representing the United States in international competition. Their achievements are extraordinary, and we are proud of all they have accomplished.

To honor the hard work and unparalleled success of Team USA and the U.S. Olympic Committee, I have proudly joined my fellow co-chairs of the Congressional Olympic and Paralympic Caucus to introduce H. Res. 780, a resolution in support of the goals and ideals of the Olympic movement.

The Olympic movement is a testament to the power of international competition to unite us in common spirit and a reminder to all that we can achieve our dreams with courage and determination. I congratulate Team USA for their success and thank the U.S. Olympic Committee for their continued dedication to achieving a better world through athletics.

HONORING ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Joseph Hospital on being recognized as a Thomson Reuters Top 100 Hospital.

Founded in 1947 by the Felician Sisters, St. Joseph Hospital has proudly served community members from the Bangor area for three quarters of a century. St. Joseph is committed to wellness promotion and holistic healing by providing healthcare services which embody compassion, competence and community. It is this commitment that has helped them secure the Reuters Top 100 Hospital designation.

The Thompson Reuters 100 Hospital study evaluates performance in a variety of areas, including patient safety, average patient stay, expenses, medical complications and patient satisfaction. St. Joseph was chosen from nearly 3,000 U.S. hospitals for demonstrating high-quality patient care and overall organizational excellence.

St. Joseph Hospital, under the umbrella of St. Joseph Healthcare, is a 112-bed acute community hospital. They provide a comprehensive range of health care services, including primary care, specialty services, diagnostics imaging and screening, outpatient and inpatient surgery. The Hospital is consistently recognized for its quality of care and patient satisfaction scores. In addition to this

praise, the St. Joseph's commitment to providing low cost care reinforces the organization as an indispensable piece of the greater Bangor community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating St. Joseph Hospital, and their parent organization St. Joseph Healthcare on their designation as Thomson Reuters Top 100 Hospital.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DAVID WEBSTER GREENER WAY TO WORK DAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize September 25, 2012, as the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's (CMBA) 4th Annual "David Webster Greener Way to Work Day," and to remember David Webster, legal scholar, litigator, entrepreneur, and environmentalist, who died at age 46 from cancer on March 13, 2009, but whose achievements were many in his short life.

David Webster overcame alcoholism at a young age and went on to sponsor others in recovery. He accomplished much and saw life as an adventure. At Case Western Reserve School of Law, he graduated magna cum laude and was an editor of Law Review, where he met his wife Beth.

Upon graduation from law school, David became a commercial lawyer with broad experience, in matters involving banking, commodity trading, securities, technology, real estate, intellectual property, and his passion, environmental law. Merging his knowledge of commodity trading and environmental law, he founded INHALE, which later became the Clean Air Conservancy, an organization which worked within the manufacturing economy and the commodities market to reduce air pollution by acquiring and retiring pollution allowances. Outside Magazine dubbed the Clean Air Conservancy one of the 10 best small environmental non-profits.

David Webster was an aggressive litigator who took on music giant Sony and won a judgment of more than \$5 million for the late Cleveland music producer Steve Popovich over credit for Meatloaf's hottest album, "Bat out of Hell." He was a founding partner of the law firm Webster & DUBYAK and was also actively involved in the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, and the American Bar Association. He was a driving force behind the merger of the Cuyahoga County and the Cleveland Bar Associations and was the President-elect of the merged CMBA at the time of his passing.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Tuesday September 25, 2012 as the 4th Annual David Webster Greener Way to Work Day. The CMBA encourages us to find a greener way to travel to and from work, whether through public transportation, biking, walking or carpooling. The CMBA will honor David's memory with a noon luncheon at the CMBA to recognize law firms and offices for their commitment to implement sustainable practices, reduce waste, and shrink their carbon footprints. Please join me in honoring the memory of David Webster by joining

with the CMBA in taking action to protect our environment.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOAN RECHNITZ AND BOB RECHNITZ

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joan Rechnitz and Bob Rechnitz for their work in preserving New Jersey's pristine natural habitats. Their work with the Monmouth Conservation Foundation has been instrumental in helping to ensure that all New Jerseyans are able to enjoy the picturesque beauty of our county and State for generations to come.

Over the past 35 years, the Monmouth Conservation Foundation has worked to protect over 6,500 acres of land in Monmouth County. Joan and Bob Rechnitz have long been strong advocates and supporters of the foundation and the environment, which includes Bob's tenure as a member of the foundation's advisory board, and Joan's time as a board member of Monmouth County's "Friends of the Parks" organization. In addition to Joan and Bob Rechnitz's work with the Monmouth Conservation Foundation and "Friends of the Parks," both have been actively involved in promoting the arts in Monmouth County. In 1994, Joan and Bob Rechnitz founded the Two River Theater Company in an effort to provide Monmouth County residents with educational and community programs aimed at promoting the appreciation and advancement of arts. Joan and Bob Rechnitz's work through the Two River Theater Company, the Monmouth Conservation Foundation, and Monmouth County "Friends of the Parks" has resulted in a greater appreciation of the environment and the arts. It is my pleasure to join the Monmouth Conservation Foundation in honoring their work in showcasing and promoting the appreciation of art in nature and nature in art.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in leading this body in recognition of Joan and Bob Rechnitz for their work in artistic and environmental advocacy. I would like to extend my appreciation and gratitude for their work on behalf of Monmouth County, and I look forward to hearing of their future successes and endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH YEAR OF THE LAKE COUNTY RAILROAD

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the 100th year of the Lake County Railroad, a 55-mile stretch of track connecting the neighboring communities of Alturas, California and Lakeview, Oregon.

Since its completion in January 1912 as part of the Nevada-California-Oregon Railway, this rail line has been a vital economic lifeline to the region, transporting Lake County's abundant agricultural and natural resources to markets around this great nation and the world.

The arrival of the NCO Railway was heralded at the time as "the most important epoch in the history of Lakeview and Lake County." Despite the limitations of its narrow-gauged tracks, the railroad spurred the growth of the livestock, mineral, and timber industries, brought in scores of new settlers, and turned a dusty frontier town into a vibrant community. Along with a passenger depot which still stands today, the railroad ushered in a building boom that saw the construction of a new opera house, high school, and even a sewer system.

In 1927, the line was sold to Southern Pacific, which quickly converted it to standard-gauge operations. As a result, Lakeview changed from a commercial center to an industrial hub containing up to ten lumber mills and remanufacturing plants. For nearly 60 years, rail-related trade in the region thrived as millions of board feet of ponderosa pine were carried to market via railcar.

With the beginning of the demise of the timber industry in the Northwest in the early 1980s, Southern Pacific announced plans to abandon the line. Recognizing the economic impact abandonment of the line would have on communities served by the railroad and appreciating its historic significance, Lake County purchased the line in 1986. In 1996, the county took over direct operations and established the Lake County Railroad.

Today, timber shipments have largely been replaced by loads of perlite, but the importance of the line has never been more pronounced. Reliable transportation brings industry and jobs, especially in rural Oregon.

While it has not been an easy task, the business and government leaders of Lake County have maintained and strengthened the Lake County Railroad with a tenacity and dedication that rivals those who first established the railroad. I am proud to have personally supported, advocated for, and been deeply involved in their many efforts to fuel this economic engine. And I will continue to do so.

On October 6, Lake County, Oregon, and the Town of Lakeview will celebrate the Centennial of the Lake County Railroad. Ten years ago, I had the pleasure of being on hand, with my son, to share in the community's previous celebration of the line. While unfortunately I cannot be there again to mark this momentous occasion, this record honors those efforts of my good friends in preserving the history of and building a future for railroads in America.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating the Lake County Railroad on 100 years of excellent service.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL WORK AND FAMILY MONTH

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the month of October as National Work and Family Month.

As we strive to move our economy forward, we need to ensure that we are building an economy that works for everyone, including America's working families.

And as a mother of young kids in a household with two working parents, I know all too

well the daily struggle facing today's American families: how can we be great parents and also be great at our jobs?

With an ever-increasing number of parents either working full time or looking for work, more and more families are fully engaged in the daily juggling act that comes with trying to do it all.

Fortunately, policy makers and business leaders can take concrete steps to promote and create a healthy work-life balance for employees, whether it's through offering flexible work hours, assisting with childcare, or creating a positive work culture for families with children.

This flexibility in the workplace benefits everyone, leading to more productive workers, healthier families, and a stronger economy.

In the spirit of National Work and Family Month, I encourage policy makers, employers, and employees to come together and help improve the work-life balance for America's workers and their families.

IN HONOR OF THE VILLAGE OF
GLENWILLOW

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Village of Glenwillow, Ohio. Since 1893, the Village of Glenwillow has been an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

The Village of Glenwillow began as a company town by Austin Powder Company in 1893. Eventually, due to increased population, Austin Powder Company was unable to test its products in Glenwillow and relocated to Athens, Ohio in 1972. While the company had left, the residents of Glenwillow were thriving and began making investments and improvements to their 2.7 square mile home.

In 1999, under the leadership of former Mayor Don Payne, a new plan for the Village was designed. It included the rehabilitation and expansion of the Town Center and Village Center.

Today, the Village of Glenwillow is home to nearly 1000 residents who are led by Mayor Mark Cegelka. Mayor Cegelka was elected to office in 2009 after serving as the treasurer for the Village on Glenwillow. There are six members on the Village Council: Jeffrey Adie, Larry Sylver, John Baca, Eric Johnson, Donald Banas and Joseph Barber, Jr.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Village of Glenwillow and all of its residents.

HONORING ROBERT BERNER

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Berner, who will be retiring after 28 years as Executive Director of the Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT) in Marin County, CA. Bob's inspiring leadership has resulted in the protection of countless family farms and ranches and the preservation of thousands of

acres of farmland in Marin County. Today, largely through his guidance, MALT is recognized as a national leader in agricultural land preservation.

Prior to MALT, Bob was Executive Director of The Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage and Vice-President of Finance at The Nature Conservancy. He is a founding member and current co-chair of the California Council of Land Trusts and a member of the steering committee of the Bay Area Open Space Council. He holds a law degree from Duke University and an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

MALT was founded in the 1970s by a unique alliance of environmentalists and ranchers who realized that development proposals for Marin County would destroy cherished farmland and beautiful open space. Bob took the reins at a time when much of the economic focus in the region and the nation had been on non-agricultural development. He proved that it is possible to foster growth and economic opportunity in agriculture. Thanks to his efforts, Marin is and will continue to be, home to renowned dairy, meat, and organic produce which are served in the Bay Area and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Berner's diligent work has helped establish an effective national model for agricultural land preservation, enabled countless Marin County farms to thrive, and provided consumers with organic, local produce, dairy, and meat. Please join me in honoring his distinguished career.

H.R. 3409

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today the House votes again to dismantle what was once a bipartisan pledge to the American people—that everyone in this nation deserves clean air to breathe and clean water to drink. On this, the last day of session before the House leadership has chosen to adjourn, we could be passing a jobs bill, extending the middle class tax cuts, or working to prevent the sequester and reduce the deficit. Instead, we are voting on a package of bills—most of which we have voted on before—to strip basic environmental protections for our air and water.

Today's bill would systematically dismantle the Clean Water Act, undermine the Clean Air Act, prevent any action to ensure the safe disposal of coal ash, and eliminate the EPA's ability to reduce carbon pollution.

In an unprecedented move, it would repeal in statute a scientific finding by the Environmental Protection Agency that greenhouse gases endanger public health, confirming that the House of Representatives is an evidence-free zone. Mr. Speaker, I'm afraid some of my Tea Party colleagues would have lined up to put Galileo in jail.

The bill nullifies the new fuel efficiency pollution standards for vehicles—standards that would save consumers money at the pump and that are supported by 13 major auto manufacturers representing more than 90 percent of U.S. vehicle sales. It nullifies the Mercury

and Air Toxics Standards, preventing the EPA from reducing emissions of mercury, a powerful neurotoxin that is particularly dangerous for young children and pregnant women.

Mr. Speaker, this broad, damaging legislation would roll back 40 years of progress for clean air and water. We cannot afford to return to a time when industrial polluters used lakes and streams as dumping grounds for dangerous chemicals and factories sent toxic fumes into the air. We must protect public health, defend our environment, and reject this bill.

INTRODUCING THE COMPUTERS
FOR OUR COMMUNITIES ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues JOHN LEWIS (D-GA) and GARY PETERS (D-MI), to introduce the Computers for Our Communities Act. This legislation will extend a provision in the tax code that encourages companies to donate computer equipment to schools and libraries.

I have a long history with this tax provision. In the early 1980s I met a young Steve Jobs who had the pioneering vision to put a computer into every classroom in America. However, when companies like Apple donated to schools, the deduction was limited to their cost of manufacturing the computer. Companies had no incentive to donate computers and software to our public schools. With bipartisan support in the House and Senate, we amended the tax code and created an enhanced tax deduction to encourage companies to donate computers to our schools.

Until 2012, Section 170 of the tax code enabled a corporation to take an enhanced deduction when they donated computer equipment to a public school, a library, or other educational institutions. We found a middle ground that allowed companies to deduct more than their cost of manufacturing a computer, but less than the fair market value when they provided this public service by donating computer equipment.

Nearly 30 years after this provision was first added to the tax code, a computer in classroom is no longer a revolutionary idea. Computer literacy is an even more important issue in a world with so much changing technology. Yet this tax deduction is once again on the chopping block. The section of the tax code that allows companies to take an enhanced tax deduction when computer equipment or software is donated to a school, library, or similar institutions, expired at the end of 2011. With this legislation, we can retroactively enact this tax provision and extend it through the end next year so there is no lapse in coverage.

Without this legislation, I worry we won't see donations of computer equipment to our public schools. Even adults who learn computer skills through community programs and public libraries will have to use aging technology. Our schools and our cities are already stretched by budget cuts and we need to do whatever we can to make sure that everyone has the ability to become computer literate.

The Computers for Our Communities Act will restore this tax provision through December 2013 and ensure that America's students

will continue to have access to the latest technological innovations. If we are serious about our commitment to having a computer in every classroom in America, we will pass this legislation.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF
GARFIELD HEIGHTS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Garfield Heights, Ohio. Since 1919, the City of Garfield Heights has been an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

The City of Garfield Heights, also known as the "City of Homes," was founded in 1919 and named after Garfield Park. Before Garfield Heights was established, the land had been Newburgh Hamlet and the Village of South Newburgh. Garfield Heights officially reached the status of a city in 1930. It became home to Marymount Hospital in 1949.

Throughout the past couple of decades, Garfield Heights has undergone several major expansions and renovations. A new city hall building was opened in 1991, a new high school opened in 2004 and the Marymount Hospital Emergency Room addition opened in 2007.

Today, the City of Garfield Heights is home to nearly 30,000 residents who are led by Mayor Vic Collova. Mayor Collova was elected to office in 2009. He had previously served as President of Garfield Heights City Council. There are also eight members on the City Council: Nancy Marincic, Michael Nenadovich, Tracy Mahoney, Michael Dudley, Sr. Eugene Glenn, Joseph Suster, Thomas Vaughn and Barbara Molin.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Garfield Heights and all of its residents.

VOTE NO ON H.R. 3409, THE REPUBLICAN ANTI-HEALTH ANTI-ENVIRONMENT BILL

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I've got to hand it to my Republican colleagues. When they commit to something, they really commit. This Republican House has the worst environmental record in Congress's history. We've taken over 300 votes against the environment. And here we are again. On our last day to get any real work done, Republicans are voting to kill the environment.

Instead of dealing with important issues like taxes or jobs, Republicans are actually trying to repeal auto emissions standards that will save Americans \$1 per gallon at the pump—standards the auto industry wants and that consumers are happy with.

Instead of helping Americans find jobs, or helping the millions of homeowners facing foreclosure, Republicans are gutting clean air and clean water standards.

Instead of doing something to actually help America be a healthier place to live and work, Republicans are doing everything in their power to spoil it.

My Republican colleagues are saying regulations are killing the coal industry. The truth is that coal isn't selling in America—it just can't compete with cleaner, cheaper natural gas. The free market that my Republican colleagues worship is working. And the coal industry knows it.

Since coal is being beat here in the U.S. market by cleaner, healthier forms for energy, the coal industry has put plans in motion to ship our American coal to China. The industry will make millions in profits selling our coal, mined from our public lands, to go overseas. Trains full of coal will obstruct commerce, especially in the northwest, and endanger public health, all at the expense of the American taxpayer.

Make no mistake, today's bill isn't about saving the coal industry. The coal industry is doing that already, they're finding other markets. This bill is nothing more than a political ploy that puts industry and ideology over less expensive energy, public health, and our environment, and I urge my colleagues to vote no on this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEMBROKE, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 300th anniversary of Pembroke, Massachusetts, a scenic and vibrant town in southeastern Massachusetts.

Native American tribes had wintered along the North River in modern day Pembroke and had called the region home for many generations by the time the area saw its first European settlers. These settlers, Englishmen Robert Barker and Dolor Davis, established their homes in the area of Herring Brook in 1650. The town of Pembroke was later incorporated in the year 1712.

This small town is known for its plentiful timber, water, and fish. In fact, the herring found in the town's ponds, streams and marshes were prized so much that in 1741 Pembroke began regulating the fishing of its waters. Herring are celebrated in Pembroke every year at the town's annual "Grande Old Fish Fry." It is also home to rich woodland, providing timber for both residential and industrial use, and is especially known for its shipbuilding.

The five shipyards off the shores of the North River produced over one thousand ships between 1678 and 1871, including the *Beaver*, one of the ships used in the Boston Tea Party. Other notable ships that came out of these historic shipyards were the *Columbia*, the *Bedford* and the *Maria*. The *Columbia*, for which *Columbia River* is named, was the first ship to sail around the Cape of Good Hope. The *Bedford* was the first ship to sail into British waters with the American flag proudly hoisted upon its jack staff, while the *Maria* is depicted on the Pembroke town seal.

Throughout its storied history, the town of Pembroke has also been home to other indus-

tries such as agriculture and manufacturing. In the early 1900s, cranberry growers and poultry farmers became well established in the town. There were also rubber works, shoe box manufacturing companies and crate constructing companies located in Pembroke throughout the early 20th century.

Today, however, this South Shore town has grown into a bustling suburban community that still maintains its rural charm, continuing to attract vacationers to its picturesque landscape.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the town of Pembroke and the entire Pembroke community on the celebration of their 300th anniversary. May this beautiful Massachusetts town flourish for many years to come.

CELEBRATING TAIWAN'S 101ST ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, on October 10th, Taiwan will celebrate its' 101st anniversary. This celebration, often referred to as Double 10 Day, is significant for, amidst all the challenges to its continued existence, Taiwan has become one of the world's most advanced and vibrant democracies, and a close ally of the United States.

This progress, coupled with its economic success, has made Taiwan, under the leadership of President Ma-Ying-jeou, a prime example of how the spirit, ingenuity, and diligence of a people can surmount almost any difficulty. Taiwan's high standard of living and its promise of freedom make Taiwan a natural friend and partner of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, additionally, I would like to recognize the service of Jason Yuan, Taiwan's chief diplomat in the U.S. He was recently recalled to Taipei to head up their National Security Council; a promotion in recognition of his outstanding work in building relationships with and understanding the American people. Because our future is so mutually tied, I applaud the Republic of China for its selection of Jason who I am confident will advance the ties between Taiwan and the U.S.

Again, on this October 10th, I would like to join with Taiwanese Americans and the people of Taiwan in commemoration of Taiwan's 101st anniversary and express my hope that the warm ties between our two countries will continue to flourish.

NATIONAL HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS WEEK

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, this week we celebrate National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week.

Hispanic Serving Institutions are colleges and universities that are working to keep the dream of college education alive for Hispanic students.

I'm pleased that a college in my district, San Diego State University, was named a Hispanic Serving Institution this year, making it only the third public research university in California to receive that designation.

SDSU is number one in the nation for improvements in college graduation rates over the past 6 years.

Even more remarkable is that it has done this while dramatically increasing graduating rates for students of color, and virtually closing the achievement gap!

I commend SDSU and other Hispanic Serving Institutions that are bringing greater equity to higher education, preparing our young adults for the workforce of the future, and strengthening America's economic competitiveness.

**ALEXION BIOPHARMACEUTICAL
MANUFACTURING FACILITY**

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hardworking men and women at Alexion's biopharmaceutical manufacturing facility in Smithfield in my home state of Rhode Island.

Co-founded by Steven Squinto and Leonard Bell, Alexion was recognized earlier this month by Forbes Magazine as the second most innovative company in America for its work to develop life-saving treatments for ultra-rare genetic diseases.

One hundred hardworking men and women are employed at Alexion's Smithfield manufacturing facility, and they are helping to show the region and the country how to make it in America.

They provide a model to be followed as we work to strengthen research and development, and reinvigorate American manufacturing, particularly advanced manufacturing, and put our country back to work in well-paying positions.

I applaud their achievements and recognition, and I wish Alexion continued success.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE FRANCIS
X. BELLOTTI COURTHOUSE**

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of the Quincy District Courthouse as the Francis X. Bellotti Courthouse.

Francis X. Bellotti is known for his more than sixty years of public service in the state of Massachusetts, and it is highly fitting that we dedicate the Quincy District Courthouse in his honor, as his long career began here. After graduating from Boston College Law School and passing the bar exam in 1952, Mr. Bellotti opened up his own law practice not too far from the courthouse that is now to be named for him. For the next ten years, Mr. Bellotti spent countless hours in that very courthouse, appearing hundreds of times for both civil and criminal cases.

In 1962, this career of public service brought Mr. Bellotti from the courthouse to the State House when he was elected lieutenant governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In his later role as Attorney General of Massachusetts, Mr. Bellotti was well-loved by his many employees, and he received national praise and recognition for the changes that he brought to his office. In particular, Mr. Bellotti implemented a new merit-based hiring system, which soon became the model for countless other prosecutors throughout the nation. This innovation led the National Association of Attorneys General to award Mr. Bellotti with the Louis C. Wyman Award, and for the association's Consumer Protection Committee to elect him as their chairman in 1984.

Throughout his career, Mr. Bellotti has continuously proven himself to be a skilled attorney and a dedicated public servant for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He remains a celebrated public figure in our state's recent history, and I can think of no better way to honor a man who has given so much to Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the dedication of the Quincy District Courthouse in honor of Francis X. Bellotti. He is an extraordinary member of the Massachusetts community and his years of public service are an inspiration to us all. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing this dedication, and in congratulating Mr. Bellotti for his many years of service.

**HONORING NATIONAL HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH—SGT. JOSE
NOE DIAZ, JR.**

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, from September 15 to October 15 America celebrates National Hispanic Heritage month to recognize citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. These individuals contribute to the amazing melting pot of unique identities that is the United States of America.

I would like to honor one particular Hispanic individual, a law enforcement officer from the Second Congressional District of Texas who lives his life under the lessons and values that his father and grandfathers instilled in him to serve our community.

Sgt. Jose Noe Diaz, Jr.—known as Noe—is a Texas Ranger in Houston. He is a fourth generation Mexican-American. Both of his grandfathers (still alive) proudly served in World War II as infantrymen. His father was a migrant worker who worked his way through college and later became a school teacher. They taught him respect for others, honesty and hard work as the formula for success. Sgt. Diaz is proud of his heritage and works tirelessly to ensure that his children understand the importance of public service and giving back to the country that they love.

It is evident that the values he inherited from his family have contributed to his success in his career and in life. Originally from South Texas, Sgt. Diaz has lived in the greater Houston area since 1987 when he began his career as a Texas Department of Criminal

Justice Prison Guard. In 1996, he was accepted into the Department of Public Safety (DPS) Academy and assigned to the Texas Highway Patrol in Katy. In 2001, he was promoted into the Narcotic Division of DPS and assigned to the Harris County Organized Crime Task Force, DEA-Houston and the Houston Police Department's Targeted Narcotics Enforcement Team. In January 2008, he was appointed to the Texas Ranger Division and assigned to Company "G" Rio Grande City, Starr County. Later that same year, he transferred to Company "A" Houston where he is currently assigned. Sgt. Diaz's current duty assignment with the Federal Bureau of Investigation-Houston targets Public and Police Corruption.

Sgt. Diaz is happily married to his wife, Sheila, with whom he has two adult children Justin (a Senior at the University of Texas—Austin) and Stephanie (a Sophomore at Our Lady of the Lake University—San Antonio). Sgt. Diaz holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Houston-Downtown and is pursuing a Masters in Criminology from Lamar University—Beaumont.

Sgt. Diaz is an admirable and dedicated leader to our community, and this Hispanic Heritage Month we recognize his accomplishments and his rich heritage that has contributed to his success. We value his role in our community and appreciate his hard work to make it a better place to live. Sgt. Diaz, thank you for your service and for being a role model to many.

And that's just the way it is.

**SEPTEMBER IS ALZHEIMER'S
AWARENESS MONTH**

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker I rise to highlight that September is Alzheimer's awareness month and that today is "Go Purple Day" to help raise awareness of the disease.

Alzheimer's is the most common form of dementia. The disease causes debilitating symptoms such as extreme memory loss as well as the ability to carry out day to day functions as simple as walking and even swallowing. Alzheimer's is ultimately fatal. It currently has no cure, and treatment options are very limited.

An estimated 5.4 million Americans are currently suffering from Alzheimer's, including over 200,000 who are under the age of 65 and is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States. Every 68 seconds another American develops Alzheimer's. Sadly this disease does not only affect the victim but has a profound effect on both family members and friends. In 2011 it was estimated that more than 15 million family members provided over 17.4 billion hours of unpaid caregiver service which would be estimated at over 210 billion dollars worth of care to patients with Alzheimer's. Almost everyone has a friend or family member who has been impacted by this terrible disease.

I am proud to go purple for Alzheimer's day and look forward to working with my colleagues in a bipartisan way to combat this disease which has harmed so many families in West Virginia and around the country.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE REVEREND
ALFRED C. KRASS

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of the late Reverend Alfred C. Krass, retired pastor of the United Christian Church in Levittown, Pennsylvania, and former missionary to Ghana.

This weekend, the Interfaith Community of Lower Bucks County will posthumously present their inaugural Peace Prize to Reverend Krass, who passed away last year at the age of seventy-four.

Throughout his life, Reverend Krass was a symbol of unity and peace who called for open communication between those of different faiths and cultures.

Reverend Krass was also the founder and first president of the Interfaith Housing Development Corp. of Bucks County and the Lower Bucks Center for Church and Community.

Dedicating his life to the service of others, Reverend Krass was a selfless leader who left a lasting impression on his community, and serves as an example to us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF MARGARET BURNS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mrs. Margaret Burns, a resident of my district in Pocasset, Massachusetts, as she celebrates her 100th birthday.

Margaret was born on September 29, 1912 in Braintree, Massachusetts. After finishing high school she went on to work at Armstrong Cork Flooring, now World Industries, as a secretary.

In 1953, Margaret, met the love of her life, Garrett Burns. Together they have raised two children, Tom and Carol, who gave them six grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. Margaret considers herself lucky for having been "happily married for nearly sixty years." Some of her most memorable moments were with her husband at the Beacon Inn in New Hampshire where they would go for weekends.

In addition to spending time with her husband, Margaret was always involved with her children. She was a devoted attendee of Parent-Teacher Association meetings when her children were young. Today, she loves to cook for her many family gatherings, she enjoys weaving rugs, and she looks forward to the many bridge games she plays with her friends.

Margaret does not attribute her longevity to any one thing except her overall happiness. She makes sure to mention that her successful marriage has helped her to live a long and content life.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Margaret Burns on this joyous occasion. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her many more years of happiness and health.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF STAFF SERGEANT ANTONIO RIVERA

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Staff Sergeant Antonio Rivera of the Pennsylvania National Guard and resident of Pottstown, Montgomery County on the occasion of being selected as the 2012 Liberty USO Service Member of the Year (Army).

SSG Rivera enlisted in the Pennsylvania National Guard on October 18, 2000 as a 14M stinger missile operator and joined the ranks of Charlie Company 213 ADA. In 2006, SSG Rivera was ordered to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. After six months of training, he was deployed as a 31B military police officer and served as a team leader providing convoy security. SSG Rivera earned a Combat Action Badge when an IED detonated beneath his vehicle in his first month in country.

In 2008, SSG Rivera transitioned into a 21B Combat Engineer Company and in 2009 achieved his current rank before being deployed for a second time in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. While serving on this deployment, SSG Rivera earned Battalion Soldier of the Quarter. On August 10, 2010, SSG Rivera earned the Purple Heart after his vehicle was struck by an IED during a routine clearance operation. Although he suffered shrapnel wounds to his neck, SSG Rivera stayed focused on taking care of his platoon and teammates.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Staff Sergeant Antonio Rivera of the Pennsylvania National Guard on the occasion of being selected as the 2012 Liberty USO Service Member of the Year (Army) and for his great service to the United States of America.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES AND MONSIGNOR JOSEPH SEMANCIK

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I recognize Catholic Charities, Diocese of Gary, as the organization celebrates its 75th anniversary. During the celebration, which will take place on Friday, October 5, 2012, at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts in Munster, Indiana, Catholic Charities will also take time to honor my dear friend, Monsignor Joseph Semancik, for his 38 years of dedicated service to the organization.

Catholic Charities, a part of the Diocese of Gary, has been helping to meet the needs of citizens throughout Northwest Indiana for the past 75 years. It is a private, not-for-profit social service agency that serves Lake, Porter, LaPorte, and Strake Counties in Northwest Indiana. Catholic Charities, established in 1937, was originally part of the Diocese of Fort Wayne until 1957, when it became part of the Diocese of Gary. Initially, its function was to

serve the underprivileged and needy through programs that would meet the professional standards of social work. However, throughout the years, Catholic Charities has focused its attention on programs that meet the changing needs of the community. In recent years, counseling, volunteer programs, and programs for the elderly and family life ministry have been added. Catholic Charities has been triumphant due to the unwavering dedication of its staff, board members, volunteers, and donors. Catholic Charities is a remarkable organization that is dedicated to serving those most in need and has been an extraordinary asset to the community. Northwest Indiana is not only grateful, but proud to have had the organization's support and help during the past 75 years.

Born in 1929, Joseph Semancik was ordained a Catholic priest in 1953 and in 1984 was named a Domestic Prelate with the title Monsignor. First and foremost, Monsignor Semancik is a man of God, who has tirelessly discharged his sacred duties with vigor, compassion, and an uncommon practicality. Generous to a fault with this time and commitment to help those most in need, Monsignor Joseph Semancik was deeply involved for most of his entire adult life with Catholic Charities, both locally and at the national level. A holder of a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, Father Semancik is an author and teacher as well. In his "spare time," Monsignor was the local Diocesan Director of Catholic Relief Services, representing North America on a planning committee for Caritas Internationalis, a union of 145 Catholic Charities organizations worldwide. He also was a founder of Hospice of the Calumet Area and one of the originators of the Indiana Catholic Conference. Monsignor Semancik currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Calumet College of Saint Joseph, the Board of Directors for Saint Catherine Hospital, the Board of the Community Foundation of Northwest Indiana, and is a member of the Lake County Advancement Committee.

The recipient of numerous awards, I believe Joe Semancik is probably most gratified by the respect and affection shown by those innumerable individuals whose spirit, body, and mind were guided, made whole, and yes made to laugh, because this good man touched their lives. It is an honor to consider Monsignor Joseph Semancik a friend, and it has been a privilege for each of us in Northwest Indiana to have had our lives enriched by this good and holy man.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Catholic Charities and Monsignor Semancik. For their remarkable commitment to serving those most in need, Catholic Charities and Monsignor Semancik are to be highly commended, and they serve as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 250th anniversary of the founding of my

hometown, Allentown, Pennsylvania, and to pay tribute to the many contributions its residents have made to the cultural fabric of Pennsylvania and our nation.

The area that is now Allentown was originally settled as Northampton in 1762 by William Allen. Allen was a wealthy shipping merchant and prominent Pennsylvanian. He was Chief Justice of Colonial Pennsylvania's Supreme Court and had previously served as mayor of Philadelphia. Given its location along the Lehigh River and proximity to Philadelphia, Allen believed land he acquired north of the City of Brotherly Love would make an ideal center of commerce. Soon, a small village of roughly a dozen wooden cabins was established and immediately began growing into a busy town.

The town's first taste of national acclaim came during the American Revolution, when numerous large bells from nearby Philadelphia, including the Liberty Bell, were hidden in Zion's United Church of Christ to prevent them from being melted into cannons by British soldiers. Without the brave efforts of Allentown's patriotic residents, one of our nation's most famous and inspiring icons may have been lost forever.

While the town was formally incorporated as the borough of Northampton in 1811, most residents referred to the bustling village as "Allen's town", a term initially used by founding father John Adams in a diary entry. The following year, Lehigh County was founded and Northampton was chosen as the county seat. After years of popular usage, the nickname "Allen's town", was adapted into the town's official name, "Allentown," in 1838.

For the first several decades of its existence, Allentown remained a small Pennsylvania German (Dutch) village, populated mostly by farmers and tradesmen. However, the industrial revolution of the early 19th Century dramatically transformed the economy of the entire eastern Pennsylvania region. Allentown's powerful iron industry fed the rapid growth of the nation's railroads in the mid-1800s. As more metal was required to lay tracks across the expanding nation, Allentown prospered. The growth of the Lehigh Valley Railroad and the Lehigh Canal allowed vast quantities of raw materials and finished goods to move through Allentown to markets far and wide. Through industrialization, the city finally achieved William Allen's dream of becoming a major commercial center.

After the financial crises of the late 1800s, the turn of the century gave rise to Allentown as a preeminent producer of silks and other beautiful textiles. The arrival of iconic Mack Trucks in 1905 also reinvigorated the city as a manufacturing center. In 1928, the completion of the PPL tower, the area's first skyscraper, displayed Allentown's industrial might to anyone traveling in the Lehigh Valley. The tower's signature gold and red lit peak still illuminates the Allentown sky at night, illustrating the city's rich industrial history and bright economic future.

Today, Allentown supports a diverse array of industries in manufacturing and services. It is home to superb institutions of higher learning, including Cedar Crest College, Muhlenberg College, and a satellite campus of Lehigh Carbon Community College, that prepare thousands of students each year for careers in the modern economy.

In addition to industry and education, Allentown provides the region with outstanding rec-

reational opportunities. Throughout the year, local residents enjoy the city's beautiful and expansive park system. From cross-country skiing through Lehigh Parkway in the winter months to riding a bicycle on the challenging loop at Trexler Park under the summer sun, Allentown's renowned parks offer a little something for everyone. And for those more interested in watching than participating, Allentown is a great location for sports fans. The city is home to the wildly popular Lehigh Valley IronPigs, the AAA affiliate of the nearby Philadelphia Phillies. Furthermore, upon the completion of a new arena downtown, the Philadelphia Flyers' minor league hockey team, the Phantoms, will also call Allentown home.

While Allentown is certainly the quintessential American city, it is also distinctively unique. Residents of the city's western neighborhoods understand better than anyone in the country how truly powerful a tiny Canary can be, and anyone living in the East Side knows where to find the best clams in Pennsylvania. And like the greatest cities in our nation, Allentown is comprised of residents from many unique cultures across the globe. In addition to descendants of the region's original German settlers, the city today features a diverse population of European, Hispanic, Caribbean, African, Asian and Middle Eastern origins. Embracing and celebrating their differences helps bring the people of Allentown together, but it is their shared love for this extraordinary city that truly unifies neighbors.

This year, Allentown is marking its quarter-millennial anniversary with a calendar full of activities celebrating arts, culture, history, and community. Celebration Weekend, which will be held from September 27th to the 29th, will include a community festival highlighting the diversity of the city, an ecumenical prayer service, a "red carpet restaurant night," and a parade organized around the theme "City Without Limits: Points of Pride." The year's activities will draw to a close with a spectacular New Year's Eve Finale.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great enthusiasm and pride that I honor the city in which I was privileged to be born and raised, and where I have been blessed to raise a family of my own. I would ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating the City of Allentown on the 250th anniversary of its founding.

NATIONAL SURGICAL
TECHNOLOGISTS WEEK

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, in operating rooms and in hospitals across the great state of Tennessee, there is a team of professional and dedicated workers who serve us in some of our most frail and vulnerable moments. As we celebrate National Surgical Technologists Week, I rise to honor those surgical technologists who have dedicated their life's work to the care, service, and work of our healing.

From processing surgical instruments to focusing on patient care and everything in between, Surgical Technologists are a crucial part of patient care. I ask my colleagues to join with me in thanking them and the Ten-

nessee Association of Surgical Technologists for their works of mercy, especially during National Surgical Technologists Week.

RECOGNIZING THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, October 10th of this year marks 101 years of the Republic of China (ROC). In those 101 years, the United States has had the support of few better friends or allies in any part of the world—let alone in the ever-increasingly strategically important Asia Pacific region—than the ROC. Inspired by the American ideals of individual liberty and freedom, the ROC and United States have stood beside each other in some of our two lands' darkest hours and most challenging times.

Our two governments have stood side by side during the most trying times of the 20th century. Armed international conflicts have tested our relations, but we have emerged as two thriving nations. Our democracies are a shining example for which emerging nations aspire to become just as the ROC was one hundred and one years ago.

On this monumental occasion, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing this milestone achievement in the history of the ROC. As one our closest allies in the Asia-Pacific region, we must continuously strive to strengthen the relationship between our countries. Let us continue to promote the fine democratic examples which the ROC has set for the world to see. We look forward to maintaining our strong relationship with the ROC for years to come, and we wish their country continued prosperity throughout its second century.

SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as Suicide Prevention Month. With nearly 30,000 Americans losing their lives to suicide each year, far too many of our friends and family members are not receiving the support and assistance so desperately needed. Suicide touches all groups, young and old, and knows no religious or ethnic boundaries. Today, however, I wish to focus on two groups who are disproportionately impacted by suicide.

The first is our veterans—a growing number of suicides comes from within the ranks of those who have served or are serving in our armed forces. For many of our troops, repeated deployments and prolonged combat has exposed them to high amounts of stress creating invisible wounds that contribute to suicide. These heroes put their lives on the line every day and upon returning, they deserve our support. We need to be there for our armed forces—veteran and active duty

service members alike. This is a tragic problem that needs to be urgently addressed but the reality is that there are not any easy answers and this challenge does not offer any quick fixes.

I applaud Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki for marshaling the resources of the U.S. military and the Veterans Administration to attack this tragic epidemic. As we draw down after nearly a decade of war, Secretary Panetta and Secretary Shinseki have committed their departments to not only improve how wars are conducted, but how we address the after-effects of post-traumatic stress disorder and other disabling injuries.

In addition to veterans, we also see that a large portion of suicides are coming from within the LGBT community. LGBT youth are four times more likely to attempt suicide and when they are rejected by their families, eight times more likely. With statistics like these, it couldn't be clearer that there is a great need for assistance and support for LGBT youth, as many are often harassed, bullied and subjected to physical violence by their peers.

These stories of harassment are becoming far too familiar. Take Tyler Clementi, a college freshman attending Rutgers University and an accomplished violinist. At the young age of 18, Tyler's privacy was invaded by his dorm roommate. Deciding that the ridicule was too much to bear, Tyler tragically cut his own life short.

For many, solace has been found with the Trevor Project, a non-profit organization in Los Angeles dedicated to providing life-saving resources to young people in the LGBT community. I recently had the honor of meeting with Abbe Land, the Executive Director and CEO of the Trevor Project and witnessed first-hand how the organization handled phone calls from distressed youth from around the country on their around-the-clock suicide prevention lifeline. With over 30,000 calls each year to the Trevor project, their commitment to saving lives is unparalleled.

The problem of suicide has no prejudice or political affiliation. Suicide touches each one of us and forever changes our lives. I am proud to honor the Trevor Project and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline during Suicide Prevention Month as they work tirelessly to prevent the loss of our loved ones who are most in need of support.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL OF
THE BOROUGH OF ROSETO

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the centennial of the incorporation of the Borough of Roseto, Pennsylvania, and to recognize the many contributions its residents have made to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States.

Roseto, nestled in the rolling hills of Northampton County, was founded by Italian immigrants, who came to America in the late 19th Century to work in Pennsylvania's busy slate quarries. In 1887, Nicola Rosato, Lorenzo Falcone, Giovanni Policelli, and Angelo Tedesco purchased tracts of land and built a thriving community, originally known simply as

"Little Italy." In just ten years, the little town had grown large enough to earn its own post office.

Residents named their fledgling community Roseto, after the Italian village of Roseto Valfortore, which many of the borough's founders had called home before immigrating to the United States. Today, Roseto maintains a strong sister city relationship with its Italian namesake. On 2 January 1912, Roseto was formally incorporated at the Roseto Borough Hall and became America's first 100% Italian borough.

By the early 20th Century, civic organizations, such as the Sons of Italy, the Order of Red Men, and the Roseto Macaroni Club flourished, as citizens sought to maintain their Italian identity while promoting their patriotism as Americans. Around the time of World War II, the gradual recession of the local slate industry led to fewer jobs for the quarrymen who called the borough home. However, around this time, sewing factories were simultaneously growing in large numbers in the area and began providing work for both young men and women.

In 1913, the Columbus Public School was built to provide education for the borough's children in grades 1 through 8, after which, students would continue their studies as a different kind of Slater at nearby Bangor High School. Columbus School served Roseto's children until 1978, when the school district moved classes to a newer facility. Briefly abandoned, the historic building was reopened just two years later and continues to house Faith Christian School.

Today, Roseto is a much more diverse borough than it was at the time of its founding, but the traditional Italian values of family and community remain strong in all residents. Family businesses and busy old churches still line the streets of Roseto, just as they did over one hundred years ago. The health effects of this lifestyle have not gone unnoticed and were documented in a medical study called "The Roseto Effect," an experiment which sought to determine why mortality rates in the borough were so much lower than other communities. The research concluded that the simple community lifestyle embraced by Roseto's inhabitants is the key to their remarkable longevity. The sense of togetherness and family that exists throughout the town does more than just make life more enjoyable, it actually promotes better health!

This year, Roseto celebrated its centennial, or "cent'anni" in Italian, with a weekend full of live music, delicious food, entertainment and even a parade. The borough also welcomed a visiting delegation from Italy's Roseto Valfortore, including the sister city's mayor.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to honor the 100th anniversary of Roseto's incorporation. I would ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing its residents a very festive cent'anni!

REMEMBERING SGT. STROH

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Edina Police Sergeant

Steven Stroh. Sgt. Stroh was a 25 year veteran of the Edina Police Department and recently lost his long and courageous battle with cancer.

Sgt. Stroh was a beloved member of the community, beginning his career as a community service officer after graduating from St. Thomas College. Stroh quickly worked his way to police officer and to sergeant, earning a place as a respected and trusted leader.

While a serious leader in the community, Sgt. Stroh also had a humorous side. Fellow officer Kevin Rofidel remarked, "If [anyone] pulled a prank around here, he'd be in on it."

Sgt. Stroh believed in learning as much as he could to help educate his fellow officers and even earned his masters of police administration while he was in the force. Fellow officers will certainly miss his years of experience and expertise.

Sgt. Stroh is survived by a loving family and a grateful community, which he dedicated his life to serving.

101ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, October 10th heralds one century and one year of the Republic of China (ROC).

History—and, particularly Chinese history—is filled with many tales of heartbreak, despotism, suffering and despair. But more than a century ago, one man, Dr. Sun Yat-sen had a different vision for a new China. Having spent his formative adolescent years in the U.S. state of Hawaii, Dr. Sun returned to China inspired by the uniquely American ideals of U.S. Presidents Alexander Hamilton and Abraham Lincoln. When given the chance, Dr. Sun would tell anybody who would listen that the crux of President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, "government of the people, by the people, for the people", had shaped his own political philosophy, the Three Principles of the People.

While implementation of Sun's three principles was often flawed and undermined while the ROC was on mainland China, they eventually took shape—long after his death following the ROC's move to Taiwan in 1949. In 1987, Taiwan lifted its Martial Law Emergency Decree. In 1991, free elections were held for the island's Legislative Yuan. And in 1996, amidst the attempted intimidation of mainland Chinese missiles being lobbed into the Taiwan Strait, Taiwan staged its first free presidential election. Taiwan has since had three more four presidential elections—most recently, this past January with power changing hands once in each direction.

Voter participation in Taiwan is among the highest in the world, and its people value and embrace its democracy. With so many government ministers having lived and studied in the United States, the ROC-U.S. connection and shared democratic ideals forged under Dr. Sun are alive and well in Taiwan.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Republic of China on its 101 years of principled existence, and on its living example of true democracy.

STEM JOBS ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 6429, an unnecessarily partisan bill to increase the number of visas for foreign students graduating with advanced degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). While I strongly believe we should increase the number of visas for these students, I oppose this bill because it eliminates the Diversity Visa Program. There is broad bipartisan support to increase the number of STEM visas. It is unfortunate that the Republican Leadership brought this bill to the floor. President Obama highlighted his support for increasing the number of STEM visas in his 2012 State of the Union Address, when he stated that it made no sense to train foreign students with advanced STEM degrees and then “send them home to invent new products and create new jobs somewhere else.” I wish the Republican Leadership would have brought to the floor a bill introduced by Rep. ZOE LOFGREN to increase the number of STEM visas without eliminating the Diversity Visas Program. I support that legislation.

HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL OF
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**HON. CHARLES W. DENT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bicentennial of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

Lehigh County was established on 6 March 1812, with my hometown of Allentown as its county seat. 1812 was a turbulent time for our nation, which was on the brink of war, but the young county persevered through its initial difficulties. The industrial revolution of the early 19th Century gave rise to the growth of the American railroad industry, creating a massive demand for iron to lay tracks that would eventually span the nation. Lehigh County answered the call and quickly established itself as a national manufacturing powerhouse. In addition to manufacturing, the county also flourished as an agricultural center, with crops and livestock supported by cool waters of the Lehigh River and its many tributaries. Farming has been a staple of the region's economy since its settling, and today remains an important way of life for many Lehigh County families.

Lehigh County is home to several prominent colleges and universities that provide quality education to thousands of students each year. These include Cedar Crest College, DeSales University, Lehigh Carbon Community College, Muhlenberg College and Penn State Lehigh Valley. The county's unique location between the major markets of Philadelphia and New York has also made it an ideal location for commuters looking for a better quality of life.

Much to the delight of its residents—new and old—Lehigh County boasts an abundance of cultural, recreational, and entertainment attractions that keep it bustling with activity. The

county is home to Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom, a popular amusement park known nationally for its famous 1923 wooden roller coaster Thunderhawk. The Lehigh Valley Zoo, located within the scenic 1,100-acre Trexler Nature Preserve, is home to more than 275 animals representing 70 species, as well as one of the most impressive herds of American Bison in the eastern United States. Many residents fondly remember the thrill of fording the Jordan Creek after visiting the zoo as children.

Lehigh County is also home to beautiful Coca-Cola Park, home of the Philadelphia Phillies' AAA affiliate, the Lehigh Valley IronPigs. Residents of the county and neighboring communities are already getting excited for the start of the 2014–15 AHL season, when the Philadelphia Flyers' affiliate, the Phantoms, will begin playing hockey in downtown Allentown. It is, indeed, an exciting time to be living in Lehigh County.

Known for its many traditional festivals that highlight the area's rich history, appreciation for the arts and love for the outdoors, including Das Awkscht Fescht, the Great Allentown Fair, Mayfair and SportsFest, countless Americans visit Lehigh County each year. Music is also an important component of Lehigh County's cultural identity, and while newcomers may wonder what sounds a boomba makes, thousands of visitors flock to Allentown's J. Birney Crum stadium each summer to hear the familiar tunes played by dozens of drum and bugle corps during their annual stop to the Lehigh Valley.

In recognition of its 200th anniversary, the Lehigh County Bicentennial Committee organized four months of activities celebrating the county's people, history, and culture. The festivities included the launch of the Lehigh County Hall of Fame to recognize residents who have achieved greatness in entertainment, sports, business, and other areas. The 24 inductees of the inaugural class included NFL Hall of Famer Chuck Bednarik of Upper Saucon Township, four-time Super Bowl champion Matt Millen of Whitehall Township, actress Amanda Seyfried of Allentown, actress Christine Taylor of Lower Macungie, famed Chrysler CEO Lee Iacocca of Allentown, Brigadier General Anna Mae Hays, the first female general in the U.S. military and an Allentown native, and Golf Channel analyst Rich Lerner of South Whitehall.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the county that my family and I call home on the occasion of its bicentennial. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Lehigh County's 200th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING VALLEY MEDICAL'S
ALLIANCE WITH UW MEDICINE**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Valley Medical Center, located in Renton, Washington, for being named one of the Best Hospitals in the Puget Sound by U.S. News & World Report. The hospital is also celebrating the one-year anniversary of Valley Medical Center's alliance with University of Washington Medicine. The alliance has increased the availability and quality healthcare to the Puget Sound region.

Since partnering with UW Medicine, Valley Medical Center has increased services and clinical expertise for residents by expanding coverage in neurological and thoracic surgery. Valley Medical Center has also expanded education and training programs. These programs create better access to primary care and other forms of specialized care when needed. The Best Hospitals ranking also honored Valley Medical Center for high performance in orthopedics, diabetes, and endocrinology.

Valley Medical Center hopes to bring more expansion in clinical areas as their alliance with UW Medicine grows. The alliance most importantly hopes to reduce the overall cost of healthcare and make access to care readily available. Since the recent enactment of healthcare reform, Valley Medical Center's clinics and UW Medicine's neighboring clinics have already improved their accessibility by having world class specialists readily available.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the accomplishments of Valley Medical Center and the one-year anniversary of Valley Medical Center's alliance with UW Medicine. I am confident that the alliance will strengthen and continue to provide remarkable care to the community for years to come.

ALZHEIMER'S ACTION DAY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September 21, 2012, as Alzheimer's Action Day and to offer my support to the Alzheimer's Association for their work to provide care and support for individuals with Alzheimer's and their families.

The Alzheimer's Association, Houston and Southeast Texas Chapter has served Southwest Houston since 1980, when caregivers Harry Walker and Al Malyn created the chapter at a local church to care for their wives. The organization now includes over 300 volunteers who serve 37 countries. With chapters like this, the Alzheimer's Association is able to make a difference. I would like to congratulate this chapter's hard work and accomplishments and thank them for their leadership in our community.

Alzheimer's disease leaves millions of American families in emotional and financial ruin. It affects more than 4 million people nationwide and will affect as many as 14 million by 2050. Additionally, almost 15 million Americans are caring for a person with Alzheimer's disease or another dementia.

My mother-in-law battled this disease, so I appreciate how devastating it can be. During the last Congress, I was a cosponsor of the National Alzheimer's Project Act, introduced by our colleague Representative MARKEY. This important law created the Office of the National Alzheimer's Project and called for a National Alzheimer's Plan. During this Congress, I am pleased Representative MARKEY continues his efforts aimed at combating Alzheimer's by introducing the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act, which I have cosponsored and I believe it deserves consideration by the House.

Making advances in Alzheimer's is a goal in our national interest. We must continue funding programs aimed at education, support and

research. This enjoys bipartisan support and I am proud to work with our colleagues to maintain our Nation's commitment to this effort.

HONORING THE 100TH
ANNIVERSARY OF DEVEREUX

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Devereux, a nonprofit behavioral health organization based in Pennsylvania, and congratulate the organization on its upcoming 100-year anniversary.

Devereux operates a comprehensive national network of clinical, therapeutic, educational and employment programs and services. Devereux also works on research based prevention initiatives that help to empower children and adolescents. Founded in 1912 Devereux has grown over the last hundred years from helping twelve students to tens of thousands, including students in the 15th District of Pennsylvania in Allentown, PA.

The Allentown School District partnered with Devereux in 2011 to implement the Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies program (PATHS). The program teaches self-control, emotional understanding, self-esteem, relationships, and interpersonal problem solving. PATHS is designed to promote students' social and emotional health which is crucial for academic success. Programs like these can markedly increase academic achievement, address conduct problems, and decrease emotional distress in children. Devereux has provided reports to assist teachers and schools with implementation of the program, collected data, and worked to overcome any challenges the schools face.

Devereux's mission is to change lives and nurture human potential. By continually investing in the community, they have helped to improve outcomes in student's lives and academics. These types of changes can already be seen in Allentown classrooms.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating Devereux on 100 years of service to countless children, adolescents, adults and their families, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and to the Nation.

A TRIBUTE TO CARMEN
ARELLANO LEE 2012 SPIRIT OF
MATER AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carmen Arellano Lee, a 1954 graduate of the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Menlo Park, California. Carmen is being honored on October 20, 2012, with the coveted Spirit of Mater Alumni Award, which recognizes alumni who "radiate Mater's spark of divine spirit and who employ life in a manner representative of the Sacred Heart Schools, Atherton Goals and Criteria. Schools of the Sacred Heart commit themselves to educate to a personal and active faith in God, a deep respect for intellectual

values, a social awareness which impels to action, the building of community as a Christian value, and personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom."

Carmen Lee founded the Peninsula Network of Mental Health Clients, an organization composed of clients receiving care provided by public mental health providers and serves as advocates for them. In 1990 Carmen secured funding and began the Stamp Out Stigma (SOS) program to put a human face on mental health patients and issues and dispel the myths and stereotypes surrounding patients and their illnesses. Since 1990 SOS has delivered more than 2,000 public presentations. Carmen is a committee member for the California State Mental Health Planning Council, People in Recovery for the United States Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association and the Federal Government's Task Force on Suicide Prevention.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this tireless, fearless woman who knows of what she speaks. She has felt the stigma and works to stamp it out. She has experienced the curse of mental illness and works as an advocate for others afflicted by it. If we could clone Carmen Lee, communities across our nation would be better places for those suffering from mental illness.

RECOGNIZING COOKIE HENREY ON
THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cookie Henrey, a doorkeeper for the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, who retired in August 2012. She worked there since 1987.

Cookie started to work on Capitol Hill during the summer of her 16th birthday, June 21, 1976. She worked as a counter girl in the House restaurant until she graduated from Fairmont Heights High School in June 1978. After graduation, Cookie married her childhood sweetheart, Michael Henrey. That union produced three sons, Michael, Jr. and twin boys Marcus and Marcell. In 1979, Cookie started to work for the Office of the Doorkeeper. She stayed there until 1986, and then moved on to work for the Capitol Police as a security aide.

So we will all miss that infectious smile. And, we will not have the sidebar and off-line chatter that so many of us shared with her. Cookie made a point of knowing every Member by name, kept us safe, and offered good tidings to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, for those of us who knew her, entering the Chambers of Congress will be less bright because we no longer have Cookie's sunny disposition. I am sure that I speak for all when I say, "thank you, Cookie." Your service is deeply appreciated.

A TRIBUTE TO SEAN COLE 2012 SACRED HEART PREPARATORY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sean Cole, a 1992 graduate of Sacred Heart Preparatory. The School is proud to offer the Athletic Hall of Fame to honor him for his athletic achievements. The award recognizes contributions of alumni athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators of Sacred Heart Preparatory. Individuals like Sean Cole who are inducted into the Hall of Fame have made significant achievements in his sports of soccer and baseball and exemplified the principles of sportsmanship and Christianity as illustrated in the Goals and Criteria of Sacred Heart Schools.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Sean Cole, an athlete who lives a life which embodies the goals and criteria of Sacred Heart Schools. He lives the five commitments of faith, respect, social awareness, community building and personal growth, and his contributions to his sport have strengthened our community and our country immeasurably.

VETERANS SUICIDE PREVENTION
MONTH

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, America has a veteran suicide epidemic. Bearing the stresses of wartime demands, today more of our nation's heroes are taking their own lives than are killed overseas. We must do more to be there for our servicemembers when they return home and help them transition to civilian life. I am pleased that the Department of Veterans Affairs has recognized September as Suicide Prevention Month and will undertake an outreach campaign to raise awareness of the VA mental health services available to veterans. This month and beyond the agency will educate communities, health care providers, friends and family members about recognizing suicide risk and the resources available to help our loved ones.

As a former VA doctor in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and a Member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I know that the challenges of military life do not end once our servicemembers retire from active duty. Physical and invisible wounds can last a lifetime, and the mental health and well-being of these brave men and women must remain the highest priority for this country. Community organizations, Veteran Service Organizations, family and friends must continue to familiarize themselves with the signs of a veteran in crisis and learn where to turn for support. Congress and the VA must redouble their efforts to ensure there is always someone on the other end of the line to help a veteran or family member in need. Everyone can help fight this epidemic, and be there for those that were there for us.

I encourage my colleagues to redouble their efforts to raise awareness of this very serious epidemic, and thank all those who have served our country for their immeasurable service and sacrifice.

HONORING AND REMEMBERING
THE LIFE OF JAMES E. JACOBS
OF HILLSBOROUGH, NEW JERSEY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of James E. Jacobs of Hillsborough, New Jersey. James was a loving husband, father, son, brother, uncle, soldier and friend. Born and raised in Verona, New Jersey, he graduated from Montclair State University and later served in the United States Army. He bravely served his country in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star for his commendable service. Jim was honorably discharged as a Specialist.

Jim lived by the Latin phrase: "amor vincit omnia" or "love conquers all." This could not be truer for Jim and the love of his life, Kathleen Geiger, whom he married in 1990. Throughout their twenty two year marriage, nothing brought Jim more happiness than talking about their two greatest accomplishments, their children, Daniel and Katherine. This family will remember him for his everlasting love, support and encouragement.

Jim was a devout New York Giants fan, an expert solver of crossword puzzles, a self-taught guitarist and an aspiring poet. Among his fellow soldiers, friends and family, he was known for standing up for those less fortunate than he.

I join the Jacobs family and friends in remembering Jim for his public service to our Nation and his service to others.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARRY
BROWN

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Barry Brown. Barry served as my chief of staff when I was elected into the House of Representatives in 2002 and recently transitioned into his new role with the Alpine Group here in D.C. During the ten years Barry served as chief of staff in my office, I always appreciated his dedication and loyalty to the staff, constituents, and to me.

After receiving his Bachelor of Arts from Texas Tech University, Barry began his career as a legislative assistant for the House Agriculture Committee Chairman, Larry Combest. Barry later became the legislative director to Representative KEVIN BRADY and the chief of staff to Representative KAY GRANGER. While on Capitol Hill, he also served Representative Dick Arme and Senator Phil Gramm. Before working for my office, Barry was also the Vice President with the Alpine Group.

As a fifth-generation Texan, Barry participates on the National Board of Directors for

the Red Raider Club and is a third generation member of the Texas State Society. Barry is also the assistant treasurer of the Vestry of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

As you can see Barry is very active in the community and has a passion for Texas and for politics. While Barry can boast many legislative and political achievements, I know he will say his greatest success is being a husband and father. Barry is married to Jennifer Brown who is the chief of staff for Representative LAMAR SMITH. Together, they have a son, Leighton, and a daughter, Gipson.

I want to express my appreciation and best wishes to Barry as he furthers his career with the Alpine Group. He will be dearly missed and always warmly welcomed in my office.

A TRIBUTE TO KEN WALSH 2012
ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL HENRY
SCHIMPF AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ken Walsh, a member of the faculty of St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart in Atherton, California, who is being honored with the Henry Schimpf Award for his selfless service contributions, commitment and dedication within the St. Joseph's community. Like the man for whom the award is named, Ken Walsh has touched and improved the lives of so many while at St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart, and embodies the kind of patient, humble, selfless teaching methods we should all aspire to practice.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ken Walsh, an educator who lives a life which embodies the goals and criteria of Sacred Heart Schools. He lives the five commitments of faith, respect, social awareness, community building and personal growth, and his contributions to his students have strengthened our community and our country immeasurably.

WORLD ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS
DAY

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my support for the ongoing efforts of this body and the American people to conquer the devastating disease of Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's is one of the top 10 causes of death in America, and the only one without a way to prevent, cure, or even slow its progression. While death rates from diseases such as stroke, heart disease, and breast cancer have fallen since the year 2000, deaths from Alzheimer's have increased by 66 percent.

Alzheimer's disease affects over 5 million Americans who are cared for by more than 15 million caregivers. These caregivers shoulder the heavy burden of caring for their loved ones and forgoing paid positions while watching the disease progress without the possibility of a cure.

I have several constituents who have been impacted by this disease but two stand out for me personally. Cathy and her daughter Grace have been tireless advocates for their cause. Cathy's husband was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's and she has seen the effects up close. Each year they have taken time out of their schedules to travel to DC and as well as my district office to update me on her husband's condition and express their hopes that we can get closer to curing this awful disease. Grace has even taken her advocacy to the Roll Call Forum to speak on her mother and father's behalf. This is why I support the National Alzheimer's Plan.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL STORYTELLING
CENTER

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to recognize the 40th anniversary of the International Storytelling Center in Jonesborough, Tennessee.

On a warm October day in 1973, Jonesborough—a tiny Tennessee town in the heart of the Southern Appalachian Mountains—played host to the first National Storytelling Festival.

A Jonesborough journalism teacher and his neighbors rolled an old farm wagon into Courthouse Square and, around that wagon, told stories. The Festival was modest, but something happened that sunny October day that has forever changed our culture, the tradition of storytelling, and this Tennessee town.

Recognized as the world's first public event devoted exclusively to storytelling, the Festival ignited a renaissance of storytelling that has spread throughout America and the world and transformed Jonesborough into the Storytelling Capital of the World. In 1975, two years after the first Festival, the institution that would one day become the International Storytelling Center was founded—propelling this growing cultural movement for almost 40 years.

During the past four decades, the International Storytelling Center has advanced the power and possibilities of storytelling—in performance, preservation, and professional practice.

Storytelling can't directly feed the hungry, house the homeless, or cure the sick. But within each of us is the capacity to tap into our stories, our narrative assets, to communicate more effectively—to share knowledge, persuade, entertain, advance a cause, teach, lead change, and visualize the future.

Indeed, a well-told story can communicate truth, concept, or idea with immeasurable power. So, based on this belief, ISC is dedicated to connecting the powerful tool of storytelling with the voices of individuals, organizations, and communities across the world to help them achieve their goals.

The vision of the ISC is a better life, a better world, through the power of storytelling. To achieve this worthy vision, the ISC is advocating for the power and possibilities of storytelling and providing people across the world with the knowledge, experiences, and tools to effectively tap into the contemporary applications of this longstanding tradition. The ISC is

inspiring and empowering people across the world to discover, craft, and share their stories to: listen and enrich performance—as teller and listener; celebrate our personal, community, and cultural heritage through the preservation of our stories and story traditions; and enhance health and wellness, education, and community services through the professional practice of storytelling.

On October 5–7 of 2012, the ISC and the Jonesborough community are celebrating their 40th anniversary of the National Storytelling Festival—the acclaimed event that launched the storytelling renaissance and transformed Jonesborough, the oldest town in Tennessee, into the Storytelling Capital of the World.

A TRIBUTE TO DENISE SHELDON
2012 SACRED HEART PRE-
PARATORY ATHLETIC HALL OF
FAME AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Denise Sheldon, a 1993 graduate of St. Joseph's School and a 1997 graduate of Sacred Heart Preparatory. The School is proud to offer the Athletic Hall of Fame to honor her for her athletic achievements. The award recognizes contributions of alumni athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators of Sacred Heart Preparatory. Individuals like Denise Sheldon who are inducted into the Hall of Fame have made significant achievements in her sport of volleyball and exemplified the principals of sportsmanship and Christianity as illustrated in the Goals and Criteria of Sacred Heart Schools.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Denise Sheldon, an athlete who lives a life which embodies the goals and criteria of Sacred Heart Schools. She lives the five commitments of faith, respect, social awareness, community building and personal growth, and her contributions to her sport have strengthened our community and our country immeasurably.

RECOGNITION OF MR. ABU NASER
KHALIQUZZAMAN

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Abu Naser Khaliqzaman, President of World Trade Promotion Center, Inc. to the Brooklyn community and to furthering democracy in his native Bangladesh. The contributions of Mr. Khaliqzaman have included strengthening ties between the U.S. and Bangladesh, improving the quality of Bangladeshi democracy, and improving the Brooklyn community.

World Trade Promotion Center, Inc. is a Brooklyn based producer and distributor of American food and agriculture commodities, which provides employment and prestige to the community. Mr. Khaliqzaman's sense of community and vital support has greatly benefited the Brooklyn area.

Mr. Abu Naser Khaliqzaman, known as Zaman, acts as a community leader in his Brooklyn neighborhood and serves as a Board member for the Dahil Neighborhood Association. Zaman also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Mid-Atlantic Soybean Association.

Zaman has worked tirelessly to promote democracy in his native Bangladesh for many years, most notably acting as sponsor to a series of non-partisan community programs aimed at strengthening the future of Bangladesh by encouraging women to vote and become more active in politics, and calling attention to the foreign investment potential of Bangladesh. From an early age, Mr. Khaliqzaman has understood the importance of democratic processes and has spread his understanding to his community following the Independence of Bangladesh from Pakistan.

In response to the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Mr. Khaliqzaman organized a press conference to condemn the acts of terrorism and convey to the Bangladeshi people how acts of terrorism ruin relations among nations. In the following years, Zaman Khaliqzaman has worked to create unity among people of all walks of life and has sponsored a series of religious and civic events to these ends.

Abu Naser Khaliqzaman has also worked to improve relations between the US and Bangladesh by holding a series of events in Dhaka with the objective of finding common ground for peace and condemning international terrorism. Zaman Khaliqzaman has dedicated efforts to facilitate cooperation and understanding between the United States and the Muslim world.

Today, I rise to honor Mr. Abu Naser Khaliqzaman for his contributions to the Brooklyn community and the U.S. relationship with the Muslim world. It is my honor to recognize Mr. Abu Naser Khaliqzaman as a promoter of democracy and community in Brooklyn and abroad.

ROBERT E. LEE HIGH SCHOOL
INTERACT CLUB

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to recognize the important contributions that the Robert E. Lee High School Interact Club has made to the Baytown, Texas community. For over 50 years, the club has proudly served our community. This is quite an accomplishment in and of itself, but in the last year alone, the club has completed over 900 hours of community service.

Sponsored by the Baytown Rotary, the club's community service projects last year included the annual cancer fundraiser, Relay for Life; campus clean up events; hosting a Red Ribbon Week, and serving meals at the Baytown Thanksgiving community dinner. The club also held a Trick-or-Treat for Hunger event where it collected 1,587 canned goods to donate to our community.

With a motto of "service above self", the club's members are learning many important life lessons: how to be selfless; how to be a

leader; how to be a person of integrity; how to respect others and how to help someone during a difficult time. The members may be young in age—only teenagers—but they are putting these life lessons into action and making important contributions to the Baytown community.

The Baytown community has been enriched by the members of the Robert E. Lee Interact Club and will continue to be as the students put service above self for the next 50 years. And that's just the way it is.

A TRIBUTE TO NANCY SULLIVAN
STRETCH 2012 SPIRIT OF MATER
AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Sullivan Stretch, a 1957 graduate of the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Atherton, California. Nancy is being honored on October 20, 2012, with the coveted Spirit of Mater Alumni Award which recognizes alumni who "radiate Mater's spark of divine spirit and who employ life in a manner representative of the Sacred Heart Schools, Atherton, Goals and Criteria. Schools of the Sacred Heart commit themselves to educate to a personal and active faith in God; a deep respect for intellectual values; a social awareness which impels to action; the building of community as a Christian value; and personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom."

Nancy is being honored for spending her life working toward fulfilling the goals and criteria of a Sacred Heart education. She served for eight years as Board President of Creativity Explored, a San Francisco organization devoted to supporting people with developmental disabilities in their quests to become working artists. She serves her parish as a Eucharistic Minister and founded the "Peanut Butter Brigade" which prepares hundreds of brown bag lunches and distributes them to the homeless of San Francisco. Her volunteers include small children, teens, adults and seniors. Nancy also served her community as an Assistant District Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Nancy Sullivan Stretch, a woman who has lived a life which embodies the goals and criteria of Sacred Heart Schools. She lives the five commitments of faith, respect, social awareness, community building and personal growth, and her contributions have strengthened our community and our country immeasurably.

TRIBUTE TO KEN RIVERS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Riverside County are exceptional. Southwest Riverside has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who

willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Ken Rivers is one of these individuals. On September 27, 2012, Ken will be honored as the "Citizen of the Year" at the Boy Scouts of America—Tahquitz District Distinguished Citizens Dinner.

Ken's background encompasses over 25 years of executive healthcare administration. While earning his master's degrees at the University of La Verne, he became a chief operating officer of a Southern California hospital at the young age of 23.

Prior to joining Southwest Healthcare hospitals, he served as the Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director at the Corona Regional Medical Center in my hometown of Corona. He joined Southwest Healthcare System in 2009, where he has served as the Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director. Southwest Healthcare System operates Inland Valley Medical Center in Wildomar and Rancho Springs Medical Center in Murrieta and Temecula Valley Day Surgery in Murrieta. Just recently, he joined CHA Health System in Los Angeles which will allow him to further his career at the international level of healthcare.

Ken's accomplishments at Southwest Healthcare System have reflected his attitude of treating patients like family. Along with a dedicated leadership team, physicians and the entire hospital staff, Ken directed the opening of the \$91 million expansions to both hospitals which include new emergency departments featuring more than 70 bays, expanded the Intensive Care Unit at Inland Valley by doubling bed capacity, and the largest Women's Center in the entire region located at Rancho Springs. His leadership was instrumental in passing one of the largest state and federal surveys. He is currently developing the region's first Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Rancho Springs and Cardiac Services at Inland Valley.

It is hard to imagine that Ken would have any free time on his hands yet he always found time for his community. A Paul Harris Fellow and Rotarian, Ken serves with many philanthropic and healthcare organizations including Chairman for the Riverside County Chapter of the American Red Cross. He also enjoys spending time with his two children, traveling, and playing golf.

In light of all Ken has done for Southwest Riverside County, the Boy Scouts of America—Tahquitz District named Ken their Citizen of the Year. Ken's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of the Inland Empire. He has been the heart and soul of many community organizations and events and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives this prestigious award.

IN HONOR OF EILEEN DAILY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, this year residents of Connecticut's 33rd District will bid a fond farewell to a woman who has served them for nearly two decades. Her colleagues

described Senator Eileen Daily as a woman who was concerned with the people she represented, rather than the politics of the day. While serving in Hartford for twenty years, she never stopped personally helping those living in her district near the Connecticut River and along the Long Island Sound.

Prior to being elected to the Senate, Eileen served on the Westbrook Board of Education until 1983 when she became the town's First Selectwoman. When Eileen Daily went to Hartford as a State Senator six years later, she quickly earned the respect of her peers. She became an influential member and was made Chair of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee—a position she held for five terms.

Among her numerous accomplishments, Senator Daily co-authored the Small Town Economic Assistance Program which provided grants for major public works projects. The program was designed to fuel development in small towns that would otherwise be unable to afford funding. She played a crucial role in negotiating components of and funding for an innovative industrial wastewater treatment facility in Clinton.

I am proud of working with Senator Daily to secure funding for a dredging project in Westbrook. A host of destructive storms had caused silt build up and erosion, impacting the marinas along the Patchogue River. Local restaurants and shop owners, dependent on the boaters, no longer have to worry about keeping their businesses afloat. I also collaborated with Eileen to protect the scenic Eightmile River Watershed and designate it within the national Wild and Scenic River system.

In addition to her legislative work, Eileen also serves on the Board of Directors of the Valley Shore YMCA, the Middlesex County Substance Abuse Action Council, and on the Fiscal Chairs Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures. In 2004, Senator Daily was part of a select trade delegation from the National Foundation of Women Legislators to visit the Kingdom of Bahrain. On her trip, Eileen assisted women who had recently gained the right to vote prepare to run in local elections.

As Senator Daily finishes up her final term, I wish her the best of luck. Although she is retiring from public office, I have no doubt that she will remain an active and beloved member of her community. I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Senator Eileen Daily on her retirement and recognizing her amazing career.

A TRIBUTE TO TREVOR SCHAFFER
2012 SACRED HEART PRE-
PARATORY ATHLETIC HALL OF
FAME AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Trevor Schaffer, a 1998 graduate of St. Joseph's School and a 1992 graduate of Sacred Heart Preparatory. The School is proud to offer the Athletic Hall of Fame to honor him for his athletic achievements. The award recognizes contributions of alumni athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators of Sacred

Heart Preparatory. Individuals like Trevor Schaffer who are inducted into the Hall of Fame have made significant achievements in his sports of soccer, baseball and basketball and exemplified the principals of sportsmanship and Christianity as illustrated in the Goals and Criteria of Sacred Heart Schools.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Trevor Schaffer, an athlete who lives a life which embodies the goals and criteria of Sacred Heart Schools. He lives the five commitments of faith, respect, social awareness, community building and personal growth, and his contributions to his sport have strengthened our community and our country immeasurably.

CONGRATULATING DR. ANTHONY
ALLEN

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Anthony Allen as the 17th President of Hannibal-LaGrange University.

Dr. Allen, a native of North Carolina, attended Duke University where he played football for four years while studying history and religion. He earned both a Master of Divinity and Master of Theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and then went on to earn his doctorate in higher education administration at North Carolina State University. Dr. Allen, his wife Stacy, and their five children currently reside in Kansas City, where he is Senior Vice President of Administration at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Dr. Allen's dedication to Christian higher education and the shared values of Hannibal-LaGrange University, or HLGU, make him an ideal candidate for the position.

I am proud to represent HLGU, a 4-year liberal arts school situated in "America's Hometown," Hannibal, Missouri. HLGU is known for its Christian commitment that has been preserved since its founding in 1858. Dr. Allen shares this commitment and is dedicated to leading HLGU into the future while preserving its Christian heritage. I am confident he will be an outstanding leader both at HGLU and in the greater Hannibal area.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Allen on his appointment as HLGU's new president and welcoming him and his family to the Hannibal community.

HONORING KEVIN W. BRADLEY

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Kevin W. Bradley. On August 24, 2012 I had the great honor of attending Kevin Bradley's pinning ceremony where he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General.

General Bradley, a native of Binghamton, New York, received his Air Force commission through the Officer Training School program in 1984. After serving in the United States Air

Force, General Bradley joined the New York Air National Guard in 1992 where he has commanded frontline combat units at the squadron, group and wing level. He has served at the National Guard Bureau and the Headquarters United States Air Force. General Bradley is a command pilot with over 3500 hours in the T-37, T-38, F-16 and MQ-9 aircraft. He has flown combat missions in support of Operation Provide Comfort, Operation Northern Watch, Operation Southern Watch, Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

In 2008, General Bradley began a four year tenure as Commander of the 174th Fighter Wing in Syracuse, New York. Under his command, the 174th saw a number of significant milestones including the conversion of the Wing from F-16 fighter jets to MQ-9 Reaper Drones, the standup of the MQ-9 Field Training Detachment, and the addition of numerous support mechanisms at Hancock field, especially the full-time Director of Psychological Health.

Brigadier General Kevin W. Bradley currently serves as Assistant Adjutant General—Air, New York Air National Guard. In this role, General Bradley is responsible for five flying wings and the Northeast Air Defense Sector. He is the primary advisor to the Adjutant General on all Air Guard matters.

General Bradley has answered the call to serve his country for more than 28 years. His service has made a great difference in the lives of so many. On behalf of the 25th Congressional District of New York, I thank General Bradley for his many years of service to our nation and community. America is grateful for his service and sacrifice, and that of his wife Karen.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE
LIFE OF DONALD HARVEY SEILER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary man, Donald Harvey Seiler, who passed away on August 3, 2012. Don was a native San Franciscan and was educated at the University of California at Berkeley where he earned his BS and MBA degrees, and a member of Lambda Phi Fraternity. After graduation from Berkeley, he worked as an accountant before founding Seiler and Company in 1957. He served on the boards of Ross Stores, Inc., and Greater Bay Bancorp., and was active as a volunteer in the Jewish community. He served as President of the Board of Beth Am in Los Altos Hills and in other roles on the congregation's board, and as president and campaign chair on the board of the Peninsula Jewish Community Center. He served on the board of the Taube-Koret Campus for Jewish Life, the Council of Jewish Federations, the Jewish Home for the Aged, the Jewish Community Endowment Fund, Mount Zion Hospital and United Jewish Community Centers.

Don's philanthropy and leadership extended to education, medicine and environmental causes. He funded the Public Accounting Chair at UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business in 1995, and served on the boards of the

Peninsula Community Foundation and the Stanford Medical Center. He and his wife Ruthie chaired the board of Stanford Hospital's Friends of Cardiovascular Medicine. He received the Public Service Award from the California Society of CPAs, the Robert Sinton Distinguished Leadership Award from the Jewish Community Federation, and the Professional of the Year Award by the Jewish Community Endowment Fund. He was also honored with the Avenidas Lifetime of Achievement Award.

Don met his wife Ruthie in college and they were married for 62 years. They traveled widely and shared a long and loving marriage. They moved to the mid-peninsula in 1960 where they raised their children, Carol and Matt. Don was the loving grandfather of Cory and Mark Roberts, Matt and Allie Seiler, and the brother of Stuart Seiler and his wife Gaye. He also leaves his daughter-in-law Susan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Donald Harvey Seiler and in extending our most sincere sympathy to his wife and family. He was a great and good man, one who gave so generously of his considerable talents and extensive resources to benefit others. Don Seiler's life defined what a great citizen is and can be.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 49TH
GEORGIA STATE WORKSHOP OF
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 49th Georgia State Workshop of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, which will be held on October 4–7, 2012 in Columbus, Georgia. Around 1,500 members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. from across the State of Georgia will gather in Columbus with their families for this event. The 2012 State Workshop theme is "Friendship and Fraternity, Beyond 100 Years."

Since its founding in 1911 at Howard University in Washington, DC, Omega Psi Phi members have worked tirelessly to give back to their communities. The men of Omega Psi Phi have provided a consistent source of support and service to communities throughout the United States and the world. Upholding the organization's cardinal principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift, the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. have maintained a commitment to the betterment of mankind, enhancement of the community, and the enrichment of collegiate men. Today, the fraternity boasts more than 700 chapters throughout the United States, Bermuda, the Virgin Islands, South Korea, Japan, Liberia, Germany, and Kuwait.

The local Men of Omega Psi Phi, including the Chapters of Lambda Iota and Nu Delta at Columbus State University, have contributed to the community by holding numerous voter registration drives and blood drives. They have also donated school supplies to elementary and high school students as well as more than \$350,000 to local high school seniors who plan to attend college.

Omega Psi Phi members have also mentored hundreds of at-risk youth and have

hosted local Talent Hunt programs for gifted Performing Arts students. They have conducted hundreds of Adopt-A-Highway clean-ups and donated Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets to the needy in the community. In addition, members have served on various civic boards in the Columbus community.

Continuing the tradition of giving back, Omega Psi Phi's 49th Georgia State Workshop will conduct a Health Fair and a State-wide Talent Hunt for students of the Performing Arts. They will also mentor young African-American male students at Marshall Middle School and make a collective donation to Feed the Valley, a local food bank.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the 49th Georgia State Workshop of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. The Columbus community welcomes these outstanding men and their families and applauds their dedication and service to the community.

STOKOE FARMS 200TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the Stokoe Family of Scottsville, New York. For 200 years, Stokoe Farms has thrived as a family farm, and grown to become an icon of Western New York.

Thomas Stokoe founded Stokoe Farms in 1812, after immigrating to the United States from Nafferton, England. Thomas originally purchased 100 acres on Bowerman Road in Scottsville. A year later, Thomas married Maria Romeyn and by 1859 Thomas and Maria had passed the growing family farm onto the next generation.

Today, the 7th generation of Stokoe family members continues to operate Stokoe Farms. It has continued to grow over the years thanks to the hard work, commitment and dedication of the Stokoe family, and is now home to crops, livestock and agri-entertainment that draw 60,000 visitors a year.

Today's farm is sustained by the hard work and dedication of Dick, Greg, Kim, Jeff, Scott, Debra, Larry, Martha and Suzanne. Over the years, these family members have maintained the farming practices pioneered by Thomas 200 years ago. In order to ensure the long-term sustainability of the farm, the Stokoe family uses practices such as conservation tillage, integrated crop management, and minimal use of pesticides to ensure the farm grows for generations to come.

Perhaps most notably, the Stokoe family brings the same dedication and devotion to their work in our Western New York community. When not on the farm, the Stokoe family has selflessly served on both school and town boards, and devoted themselves in service of their faith.

Mr. Speaker, like our families, our nation is the product of work that has spanned generations. As the Stokoe family celebrates 200 years of family farming, they show our nation that it is the time-honored values of hard work, integrity and dedication to community and family that will sustain our nation, and Stokoe Farms, for another 200 years to come.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF CHARLES NEWEL "CHUCK" HUGGINS

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the long and productive life of Chuck Huggins, who was born in Vancouver, British Columbia to American parents in 1925 and died peacefully on August 19, 2012, with his beloved wife and family members with him at his home in Larkspur, California.

Charles Newel Huggins, known to everyone as Chuck, served his nation during WWII as an Army Paratrooper with the 513th Parachute Infantry Regiment and participated in battles throughout Europe. He graduated from Kenyon College, and with his wife Mime moved to Menlo Park, California, where he began working for See's Candies which would be his career for 55 years. He helped sell the company to Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Company in 1972, and was appointed President and CEO of the See's Division. He grew the company beyond all reasonable expectations, and estimated that he consumed over 300,000 pieces of candy in the process, before retiring in 2006 at the age of 81.

Chuck lived happily with his wife Mime for 48 years and adored their children and grandchildren. After Mime died, he married Donna Ewald, and they enjoyed 15 joyful years together. Chuck was an extraordinary man. He was known to everyone for his generosity. He loved music, travel, history, jazz, singing, drumming, the Bohemian Club, and he was quoted as saying he and Donna had "serious fun." Next to his family, generosity was his biggest love, and he was famous for it. Countless San Francisco Bay Area charitable events have occurred with a little gold box at each place . . . and diners rushed through dinner for the delicious See's chocolate treat.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our most sincere sympathy to Donna Ewald Huggins, Chuck's beloved wife, and to his son Peter Huggins, his wife Sue and their four children, Evan, Ryan, Tye and Dia; his son Charles "Chip", his wife Pam and their children Anna Morris (Matt), Chuck and Mimi; daughter Anne Huggins Walton and her husband Bart; and daughter Shelley Huggins Dutton, her husband Peter and their children Ella Campbell (Alex) and Taylor, as well as Chuck's sister Ruth. Chuck's passing is a hardship for his family and for those of us fortunate enough to have known him and called him friend, as I did. An unknown author of his Los Angeles Times obituary wrote, "Following Chuck's example, be kind to someone every day and make it a 'Wonderful World' in his memory." Chuck Huggins served his country and loved it, and gave back so much to his community, strengthening it. His example of citizenship will stand tall through the ages as the highest standards of all.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago this October, Congress directed the President to appoint a Special Representative for Trade Negotiations to lead the Administration's efforts to expand global trade. As a result, for the past 50 years, the U.S. Trade Representative has led the Executive Branch in aggressively opening markets to American-made goods and services and promoting economic growth and job creation through trade. USTR's leadership has contributed in significant ways to the tremendous economic growth that the United States enjoyed over the past 50 years and firmly established our global economic leadership.

Across Administrations, USTR has maintained an admirable bipartisan and close working relationship with Congress. I've always said that the very best people become the U.S. Trade Representative. The 50-year history of USTR demonstrates that the men and women who have served as the U.S. Trade Representative are strategic thinkers and tough negotiators—the kind of intelligent, can-do people who have demonstrated their ability to advance our trade agenda. And the dedicated USTR employees who serve with them also exhibit that intellectual rigor and high caliber. I'm proud of all that they have accomplished in opening markets and enforcing our rights under our trade agreements.

USTR is uniquely nimble, lean, and effective. In a world that has changed dramatically over the past 50 years, USTR's small size, independence, and direct access to the President have been critical to its success. With these attributes intact, I am confident that USTR will continue to fulfill its mission effectively and commendably for the next 50 years.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S CODY TAYLOR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cody Taylor, on the occasion of his retirement after thirty-six years of service as Clerk of Court for Holmes County, Florida. For more than three decades, Mr. Taylor served the citizens of Northwest Florida with distinction and unwavering commitment to public service.

A native of Northwest Florida, Mr. Taylor attended Poplar Spring High School in Graceville. There, he helped lead the basketball team to two state championships. He received a basketball scholarship to Chipola Junior College and to the University of West Florida, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Political Science and a master's degree in Public Administration. In 1976, Mr. Taylor was elected Holmes County Clerk. He

has served in this capacity with the utmost respect and integrity. His tireless work ethic and dedication to the citizens of Holmes County for the last thirty-six years did not go unnoticed. In 2007, Mr. Taylor was named the "Clerk of the Year" by the Florida Association of Court Clerks and Comptrollers.

Mr. Taylor's commitment to the Northwest Florida community extends well beyond his role as Holmes County Clerk of Court. He is an active member of the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce and a devoted member of the First Baptist Church. Mr. Taylor served in the Florida Army National Guard and as a member of the Bonifay Kiwanis Club and West Florida Regional Planning Council. For twenty years, he served as a member of the Bonifay Little League Association and as a basketball official for the Florida High School Athletic Association. He was also the President and Board Member of the Holmes County Fair Association, President and co-founder of Holmes Healthcare, and Vice President of the Florida Future Farmers of America.

In addition to his service to the community, Mr. Taylor is also a loving and committed husband, father and grandfather. He and his wife Brenda, also a Northwest Florida native, have four children, Zachary, Whit, Lucas, and Hilary; and eleven grandchildren, Jordan, Jacob, Jackson, Kodie, Campbell, Graham, Gwynneth, Eli, Taylor, Brighton, and Georgia. I know Mr. Taylor looks forward to spending more time with them following his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I thank Cody Taylor for his dedication to our community, and I congratulate him on his retirement. My wife, Vicki and I wish him and his family all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker on rollcall vote No. 590 on September 20, 2012, the record shows that I did not cast a vote even though I was present for the vote. I intended to vote "yes."

SUMMARY OF RFK CENTER'S TRIP TO MOROCCAN-CONTROLLED WESTERN SAHARA AND SAHRAWI REFUGEE CAMPS IN ALGERIA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD the preliminary observations of a Robert F. Kennedy Center Delegation to Moroccan-controlled Western Sahara and the Sahrawi refugee camps in Algeria. The executive summary paints a bleak human rights picture.

Too often the government of Morocco is held up as a regional model for human rights and tolerance. But this report, among others, including a September 17 Reuters story which reported that, "Last week, a network of 18 Moroccan human rights organizations said rights

have declined despite the adoption of a new charter proposed by the ruling monarchy last year at the height of street protests," once again call that reputation into question.

ROBERT F. KENNEDY CENTER DELEGATION TO MOROCCAN-CONTROLLED WESTERN SAHARA AND SAHRAWI REFUGEE CAMPS IN ALGERIA—SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

On Friday, August 31, 2012 an international delegation of the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights (RFK Center) concluded a visit to evaluate the human rights situation in Moroccan-controlled Western Sahara and the Sahrawi refugee camps near Tindouf, Algeria. The RFK Center delegation met with victims of human rights violations, a broad range of representatives of civil society, representatives of the international community, and government officials. The delegation also noticed that the conflict stalemate has a serious impact on the rights of the Sahrawi population in both Moroccan-controlled Western Sahara and refugee camps.

MOROCCAN-CONTROLLED WESTERN SAHARA

Though the Moroccan Constitution now incorporates advances that include the criminalization of torture, arbitrary detention, and forced disappearances, the delegation observed the need for increased implementation of these changes. In spite of these guarantees, these freedoms are often undermined by the King's authority as the "guarantor of the independence of the Nation and the territorial integrity." In conjunction with article 3 of the Moroccan Law of Associations, these provisions have led to the prohibition of associations of certain groups and individuals such as those Sahrawi advocating for the right to self-determination of Western Sahara.

Large Police and Military Presence in Capital City of El-Ayouun: Most Sahrawi interviewed expressed concern about the uniformed and plain-clothed police and military personnel posted on almost every corner. Sahrawi who were not pro-Moroccan reported that they were followed and verbally abused in the streets by police. The RFK Center delegation was under surveillance by security officers for the duration of their time in El-Ayouun.

Police and State Brutality: Characteristic of the situation, the RFK Center delegation witnessed firsthand a police attack on a peaceful demonstrator. One uniformed police officer and three State agents attacked the woman who subsequently needed medical attention. Moroccan government dismissed the delegation's report of the incident, and instead attempted to discredit it. Two of the State agents involved in the beating (Mohammed Al Hasouni and Mohamed Natchi) were described as human rights violators in reports by other victims interviewed. The delegation heard innumerable reports of non-violent protestors who were detained and tortured for participating in peaceful demonstrations. Other cases included: 1) police brutally beat a mentally disabled man who was involved in demonstrations in 2005, 2008, and 2012. 2) The emblematic case of Said Dambar, a 26 year-old man who was shot and killed by a Moroccan police officer after being beaten in 2010. His family still waits for an autopsy, a murder investigation, and to learn the whereabouts of this body.

Nearly absolute impunity for human rights violations: In spite of the numerous denunciations of cases of torture received by the delegation, the Prosecutor of First Instance in El-Ayouun informed the delegation that, over the past five years, only one state agent was successfully prosecuted for committing an act of torture.

Violation of the Sahrawi people's rights to freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, and freedom of association:

The delegation met with representatives of a group of seven people criminally prosecuted under spurious charges for expressing their opinions. The group was arrested and charged with treason upon their arrival in Morocco after criticizing the Moroccan government from Algeria. The group was imprisoned and is now on provisional release, pending a final decision.

Pro-independence Sahrawi human rights groups are barred from registering and are deemed illegal to register as civil society organizations. Registration is essential for allowing the organizations to effectively advocate in their communities. Notably, The Collective of Saluawi Human Rights Defenders (CODESA), Moroccan Association of Human Rights (AMDH) El-Ayouun Chapter, and the Sahrawi Association of Victims of Grave Human Rights Violations Committed by the Moroccan State El-Ayouun, Western Sahara (ASVDH).

Assaults, threats, illegal searches, surveillance, and criminal prosecutions by high-level authorities designed to discredit and stigmatize the work of human rights defenders and attorneys who represent victims of human rights abuses (e.g., RFK Human Rights Award laureate Aminatou Haidar).

Concerns of retaliation against those who met with the RFK Center delegation.

SAHRAWI REFUGEE CAMPS—THE SAHARA DESERT

The RFK Center delegation did not observe any restriction on the freedom of movement or association.

Basic Needs—There are concerns regarding: food ration quality, quantity, and variation; exposure to extreme heat (which can reach 115 degrees); limited electricity; need for permanent housing; and limited sanitation.

The camps house over 100,000 people and have been in existence for 37 years in harsh physical and psychological situation that put at risk their well-being.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Moroccan government should:

Immediately stop the harassment, violence, persecution, and intimidation of pro-independence Sahrawi people;

Investigate, prosecute, and punish those involved in past and present human rights violations;

Immediately suspend government agents under investigation for human rights violations and establish an effective vetting program;

Ensure effective access to due process and judicial guarantee, without discrimination, and regardless of political positions;

Release prisoners falsely accused of committing a crime, while exercising their right to freedom of expression and association.

2. The U.S. government should support the inclusion of a permanent human rights monitoring and reporting mandate to the UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO).

3. The international community should encourage further negotiations to guarantee the fulfillment of the right to self-determination of the Sahrawi people as established in several UN resolutions and in the decision of the International Court of Justice.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SUMMIT ROAD AT THE SCOTTS BLUFF NATIONAL MONUMENT

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Summit Road at the Scotts Bluff National Monument. The road opened on September 19, 1937 after four years of work. Efforts to design and build the road continue to allow Nebraskans and Americans from across the country to enjoy one of the most spectacular views in our nation.

Today we celebrate not only the achievement of building the Summit Road, but also the beauty and historic significance of this National Monument.

Scotts Bluff served as an important landmark for Americans as they moved West during the Nineteenth Century. Pioneers often faced extreme hardship travelling to and settling new lands. They risked everything to give their families a better life, and laid the foundation for the Good Life Nebraskans cherish.

I hope all of my colleagues will join me in celebrating the Scotts Bluff National Monument on this important anniversary.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 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 \$16,014,424,023,771.68. We've added \$5,387,546,974,858.60 dollars to our debt in 3.5 years. This is \$5.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL OF THE FLORIDA PANHANDLE AND THE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle and the Girl Scouts of the USA on the occasion of their 100th anniversary.

Over the last century, the Girl Scouts of the USA has been committed to service and empowering America's youth. Today, this organization continues to bestow in young girls the courage, confidence, and character necessary for success in life. They afford young girls the opportunity to grow and develop physically,

mentally, and spiritually. What began as only eighteen girls from Savannah, Georgia, on March 12, 1912, has grown over one hundred years later into a distinguished group with a membership of over 3.2 million girls and adults.

In my district alone, the Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle comprises over two thousand girls and nearly one thousand adult volunteers from Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and Walton Counties. The members of the Panhandle's Girl Scout Council have demonstrated their commitment to bettering the community by participating in a myriad of events, such as the Christmas and Veterans Day Parades and Earth Hour. Through these events and fundraisers, they have touched the lives of many. Northwest Florida is proud of their achievements and grateful for their dedication.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the Girl Scouts of the USA and especially the Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle for their service to the Northwest Florida community. My wife, Vicki and I congratulate them and wish them all the best for continued success.

RECOGNIZING ARTHUR BYRON
"DEACON" BOWERS

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to recognize Mr. Arthur Byron "Deacon" Bowers of Carter County, Tennessee, for receiving the James H. Collier Service Award. The James H. Collier Service Award is given to veterans who continue to serve their country and fellow veterans through their retirement and into their civilian lives. Deacon Bowers is a veteran of the Korean War and has provided a perfect example of how one man can better the lives of veterans in his community.

For 36 years, Deacon dedicated his efforts to the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. From 1974–2004, he served as Regional Veterans Employment Representative. By the time of his retirement, Deacon had assisted thousands of military veterans. In retirement, he continues to build on his volunteer legacy by visiting veterans and their families in the hospital. Deacon also helped create both the Veterans War Memorial and the Walk of Honor in Elizabethton, Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Deacon for his selfless contributions to Cocke County's veterans and wish him the best as he continues to exemplify the Volunteer spirit.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF CHARLES W. CARPENTER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles W. Carpenter, the president of

the Denton Chamber of Commerce for the past 30 years.

Mr. Carpenter graduated from Baylor University in 1975, with a Bachelor's of Arts in communications. His personal and professional background in communications and his exceptional administrative skills have benefited him as he continues in his dedicated service in leading the Chamber and its staff.

He has been recognized for his contributions and continuous leadership to the city of Denton through numerous awards. He was the 2011 recipient of the Boy Scouts Distinguished Citizens Award and was commemorated in front of 20 past chairs of the chamber board for his positive influence through the chamber to the Denton community. In June 2010, he received the Marvin Hurley Lifetime Achievement Award by the Texas Chamber of Commerce Executives Association.

Continually, Mr. Carpenter demonstrates his true passion to influence constructive change in the community of Denton. He is a founding member and supporter of the Denton Chamber 101 Club, which funds the Shop Denton Chamber First program. He is also an alumni member of Leadership Denton, as well as an appointed member of the board of directors of the Denton Economic Development Partnership.

Mr. Carpenter and the other members of the Denton Chamber of Commerce have made it a priority to connect local businesses with one another in order to help the business community of Denton flourish. Also, it is the only chamber in the DFW Metroplex and surrounding area that houses a full-service Small Business Development Center. Under his direction, the Denton Chamber remains a consistent and trustworthy organization for local business. For over 35 years, it has continued to be one of only 250 chambers in the nation to have accomplished and sustained accreditation through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

It is my pleasure to recognize the president of Denton Chamber of Commerce, Charles Carpenter, and his 30 years of service to the community. I am privileged to represent the City of Denton in the U.S. House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER AS HYDROCEPHALUS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as National Hydrocephalus Awareness Month. For too long, little attention has been paid to hydrocephalus.

This condition can occur at any age and affects an estimated one million Americans.

In fact, one out of every 500 babies in the United States is born with hydrocephalus, making the condition the leading cause of brain surgery in children. Additionally, an increasing number of our veterans are developing post-traumatic hydrocephalus as a result of brain injuries suffered on the battlefield.

Currently, there is no single known cause of hydrocephalus or ways to prevent or cure the condition.

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke is currently conducting research related to hydrocephalus prevention and treatment. However, more must be done at the community level to educate the American people about this surprisingly prevalent disorder.

Recognizing the month of September as National Hydrocephalus Awareness Month will bring this disease to the public's attention and, I believe, will encourage the discussions necessary to address more effectively the devastating effects of this disease and provide support to families who live with it every day. Today I commend the hard work of the Michael and Kim Illions of Woodbridge, New Jersey for their advocacy on behalf of their son, Cole.

I am certain that with federal support for additional research we can develop a better treatment, and eventually a cure, for those suffering from hydrocephalus and help them live healthier, fuller lives.

NATIONAL PULMONARY FIBROSIS AWARENESS WEEK

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, today, nearly 200,000 Americans suffer from Pulmonary Fibrosis, and an estimated 40,000 lose their battle to this disease each year. One death every 13 minutes.

Sadly, more than two-thirds of those living with Pulmonary Fibrosis will die within five years. And to top it all off there is no known cause and no known cure for this debilitating disease.

Next week is "World Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week" and an opportunity to raise awareness for H.R. 2505 the "Pulmonary Fibrosis Research Enhancement Act." This legislation which I authored will establish a much needed national patient registry, encourage future research at the National Institute of Health, and create a national action plan to help us better understand this deadly disease.

This is an important first step forward in the fight to find a cure for pulmonary fibrosis and deliver hope to thousands of Americans living with this disease. I urge my colleagues to join me and co-sponsor H.R. 2505.

RECOGNIZING THE RAWSON FAMILY AS THE 2012 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Rawson family for being selected as the Okaloosa County, Florida Outstanding Farm Family for 2012.

Ten years ago, the Rawson family was in search of acreage for hunting. This search subsequently evolved into a successful family run tree farm with a fruit orchard and over one hundred and fifty new oak trees planted each

year. Over the past ten years, the Rawson family has managed the land to grow trees and attract wildlife. They use their one hundred fifty acres to plant myriad trees, including loblolly and slash pine longleaf, sawtooth, bur, shumard, willow, swamp chestnut, cherry bark oak, and pecan trees. The family's fruit orchard with pears, muscadines, and many other fruits was a later addition to the pre-existing varieties of plants.

David and Pat Rawson have been married for thirty-six years, and they have three wonderful children, Paige, Suzanne, and Scott. They all assist in helping out with the farm, including tree planting, pruning, fertilizing, bush hogging, and weed management. It is David and Pat's plan to one day pass on the farm to their children to continue their farming legacy. The Rawson family truly embodies the cohesive nature and household unity that characterize our nation's family farmers.

Outside of their farm, David works part-time as an oral surgeon, and Pat is a devoted homemaker. In addition, both find the time to be active members of the Northwest Florida community. David is a member of the Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Florida Dental Association, Escambia and Santa Rosa Dental Society, and Escambia Sertoma. Pat is a member of the Junior League of Pensacola and Gulf Breeze Hospital Auxiliary. They both worship and volunteer at the Dorcas Baptist Church, and their continued commitment to agriculture and wildlife is further displayed through their involvement with the Certified Tree Farmers of America, National Wild Turkey Federation, Forest Landowners Association, National Rifle Association, and Florida Farm Bureau. The Rawson's commitment to farm, family, faith, and community is certainly commendable, and they serve as an example to all.

Mr. Speaker, our great nation was built by farmers and their families, and I take great pride in recognizing and paying tribute to the outstanding farm families located in Northwest Florida. This year we honor the Rawson family for their contributions to Okaloosa County and the farming community. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Rawson family for being awarded the title of Okaloosa County, Florida Outstanding Farm Family for 2012. My wife, Vicki and I extend our best wishes for their continued success.

VOICING THE CONCERNS OF
UPSTATE NEW YORK FARMERS

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with you the concerns of farmers from New York's 29th congressional district. On Monday, September 17th, 2012 I had the opportunity to host an open discussion with my Agricultural Advisory Council which is comprised of farmers ranging from dairy and specialty crop growers to wine makers and beef. The members of this Council represent all eight counties of the district and based on their extensive experience and contributions to New York Agriculture, I greatly value their opinions.

With Agriculture being the largest industry in New York State, any legislation which impacts our farmers also has a direct impact on our local economy as well as our communities. While all members of this Council said that they would prefer a long term Farm Bill over any extension, I heard an additional sentiment from the audience. That sentiment is a need for stability. This year's setbacks have reminded us just how extremely volatile the agricultural industry is and without stability today, our farmers cannot accurately plan for tomorrow and years to come.

Western New York dairy farmers are currently dealing with the growing Greek yogurt industry in New York State. Without Congressional action, provisions critical to the dairy industry will expire, and dairy farmers across New York will be faced with skyrocketing feed prices. For many of the small family farms in New York this could mean the end of their livelihood. While many provisions in the current farm bill would remain intact through the end of the year, inaction by Congress before September 30th will leave dairy farmers in New York out in the cold.

Other farmers in my district are anxious about the Estate Tax, which is set to return to 55 percent in 2013. Mr. Speaker, with the value of equipment and property, even the smallest farms in New York can be appraised at over one million dollars, making them eligible to be taxed. Our farmers again need the stability of knowing they can build for their family's future and be able to pass down the fruits of their labor for their children and grandchildren. We cannot return to the days when family farms had to be sold off just to pay the estate taxes.

Mr. Speaker, our farmers are the backbone of our nation. We need to help them stabilize their production costs, stabilize their workforce and stabilize their confidence. With a stable agricultural sector we can create jobs, and continue to work to improve our economy and provide badly-needed career opportunities.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NASHVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA LEAGUE

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a Music City gem that is celebrating its Diamond Anniversary. This fall marks the 60th Anniversary of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra League. Helping to bring the lofty sounds of the soul to Middle Tennessee, the Orchestra League's good work adds more than just notes to our great State, it adds a glorious soundtrack to our story.

The Nashville Symphony Orchestra League works to support and promote the work of the Nashville Symphony. Since 1946, the Nashville Symphony has been enriching audiences and shaping cultural life through a diverse mix of concerts and performances. The Nashville Symphony Orchestra League, founded in 1952, engages the community by providing innovative programs and educational opportunities; a mission that has been at the heart of the orchestra since its beginnings. For over 60

years the Orchestra League has touched countless lives, the young at heart and in age, as it continues to offer time, talents, and treasures to enrich the music.

Were it not for the Nashville Symphony Orchestra League, and its hard work throughout the years, Middle Tennessee might not have another beautiful note in her composition known the world over. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honor of those who dedicate their work to the ongoing preservation of the Nashville Symphony; ensuring Nashville's extraordinary and musical legacy rises and settles for another generation of Music City listeners.

HONORING SHELDON OHREN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Sheldon Ohren of Monsey in my district who was elected National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. at its 117th Annual National Convention this August. He has served as Commander of the Department of New York and is a life member of PFC Fred Hecht Post 425 in Rockland County.

Mr. Ohren served in the Air Force from April 1952 through January 1956. As an Airman First Class, he was assigned to the 6910th Security Group Headquarters in Landsberg am Lech, Germany, where he served as a cryptographic communications specialist.

After leaving the service, he enrolled at New York University and graduated with a Degree in Industrial and Labor Relations. Afterwards he finished his accounting credits at the City College of New York and in 1965 joined the Internal Revenue Service. Before retiring in 2000 as an Appeals Team Chief, he earned a Master of Science Degree from Pace University and taught at Long Island University.

Mr. Ohren was elected Jr. Vice Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, and ultimately Commander of the JWV Department of New York in 2008. He has worked as a member of the National Executive Committee, the National Court, the Convention Committee, as well as a Special Assistant to the President of the National Museum of American Jewish Military History.

He also serves as Vice-Chairman of the West Point Liaison Committee and attends Oneg Shabbats sponsored by JWV at the Academy, and presents Kiddush Cups and Shabbat Candlesticks to the Jewish graduates. In addition, he represents JWV at local Naturalization ceremonies and presents a copy of the Bill of Rights to the new citizens.

Mr. Ohren is a regular visitor at the VA Hospital in Montrose, NY, and has served as a Docent at the Camp Shanks Museum, the Port of Embarkation during World War II.

In addition to JWV, he has been President and Treasurer of his B'nai B'rith Lodge for 10 years and has been a member of Congregation Shaarey Israel for the past 19 years. He is also a Charter Member of the United States Holocaust Museum and a member of the Holocaust Museum and Study Center in Spring Valley, NY.

He is a Brooklyn native and he and his wife Judy, a Life Member of the Ladies Auxiliary of

Post 425, have three children and five grandchildren.

I congratulate Sheldon Ohren on his election as National Commander and most especially for all of the good work he has done for his community, for our country's veterans, and for the members of our Armed Services.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF THE VITAMIN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Dietary Supplement Caucus, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the vitamin and, as such, I would like to recognize Polish-American scientist, Casimir Funk.

Mr. Funk is credited with coining the term "vitamin" to describe a group of bioactive substances that are vital to human health. The term "vitamine" was first introduced in his landmark paper, *The Etiology of Deficiency Diseases*, published in the *British Journal of State Medicine* in July 1912, in which he identified the dietetic factors whose lack caused "deficiency disorders," including beriberi, rickets, scurvy, and other diseases caused by vitamin deficiency.

He developed the term from the Latin "vita" (life) and "amine" for chemical compounds containing nitrogen. In 1936, Funk published *Vitamin and Mineral Therapy*, where he called vitamin deficiencies insidious because they occur without warning and can cause irreparable damage. The accomplishments of Casimir Funk have advanced the understanding of nutrition and contributed to the innovation of dietary supplements, which more than 150 million American consume each year.

Because of his work, we know that vitamins are essential for good health through every stage of human life cycle and that our bodies require vitamins to grow, to function, to stay healthy and to prevent the onset of disease.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to honor the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the vitamin, as well as recognize the achievements of Casimir Funk, the "father of vitamin therapy," and his exceptional contribution to the scientific community and health arena.

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE JAMES W. WILLIAMS AMERICAN LEGION POST 12

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of the James W. Williams American Legion Post 12 for their commitment to the City of Bangor. I would also like to congratulate them as they celebrate their 92nd anniversary.

The James W. Williams Post No. 12 was founded in August of 1920, and they will cele-

brate their 92nd anniversary this year. The post is named for Cpl. James W. Williams of Bangor, who proudly served in the Maine National Guard during World War I. Cpl. Williams was killed in action on July 17th, 1918 at the battle of Champagne-Marne in Germany.

From its founding, members of the James W. Williams Post No. 12 have dedicated themselves to serving our veterans, members of the armed forces, and the Bangor community. Its members have long been known to offer financial support to the Boy Scouts, the American Cancer Society, and the Eastern Maine Medical Center. The Post also established a Bangor High School JROTC scholarship and Boys State scholarship. Post members were instrumental in supporting the construction of a fifth Veterans Home in Bangor, and they continue to regularly provide comfort to its residents.

Today, we celebrate the tremendous success of the James W. Williams American Legion Post 12 and 92 years of community support and engagement. They have truly made a difference to the city of Bangor and our veterans population.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the members of the James W. Williams American Legion Post 12 on their 92nd anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRIENDS OF ST. JUDE MIAMI

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, next Saturday, September 29th, the Miami chapter of the Friends of St. Jude will celebrate its fifth annual "It's All About the Kids" event in Miami. Friends of St. Jude is a group of young professionals dedicated to the mission of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital—advancing treatment and prevention in the fight against childhood cancer.

This year, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital marks its 50th anniversary. Since its opening, St. Jude has made many important discoveries on treatment for children with deadly diseases like cancer, and has saved countless lives worldwide. The doctors and researchers at St. Jude are some of the world's best, and have continued to work together to find better treatments all the time—sharing their discoveries with the global medical community. In 50 years, St. Jude has grown into one of the premier pediatric treatment and research facilities. And they have provided all of their services at no cost to their patients and their families. It is for this reason that the Friends of St. Jude is dedicated to helping St. Jude Children's Research Hospital continue its legacy, and why the Friends of St. Jude of Miami has been such a great resource.

The Miami chapter of Friends of St. Jude is the organization's largest chapter—with over 350 members—and has done tremendous work on behalf of St. Jude's. This year's "It's All About the Kids" event will be hosted by six-time Emmy award winning journalist and co-anchor of the news-magazine show *Primer Impacto*, Pamela Silva Conde and ABC Sports anchor Will Manso. The event will have a dis-

tinctive Miami flare, and will feature entertainment from local star, and official Miami Heat DJ, DJ Irie and the Culture Live Band.

Mr. Speaker, these bright and talented individuals gather in a common interest and devote their time, talents and energy volunteering for such a great cause, and they truly deserve praise and recognition for their efforts. On behalf of the entire South Florida community, and all of the patients and families of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, I would like to thank the Friends of St. Jude Executive Committee: Jeb Bush Jr.-Chairman, Anibal Garcia, Carlos A. Musibay, Cristal Cole, Cristina Musibay Diaz, Javier Milián, Magda Rodriguez, Sofia Holtzman; and I would also like to recognize the host committee: Anna Del Rio Chong, Briana Guerra, Clara Pablo, Desiree Valls, Diana Delgado, Florencia Contesse, Gloria Ordaz, Laura Socorro-Santoni, Lourdes Milián, Luly Valls, Mayrelis Valle, Nicole Perez, Nicole Valls, Olga Garrido, Pamela Silva Conde, Silvia Camps, Suzanne Schmidt and, of course, Wendy Grant.

CONGRATULATING TAIWAN ON ITS NATIONAL DAY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in extending my congratulations to the Republic of China (Taiwan) on its National Day this October 10.

The United States and Taiwan have always had a strong relationship, despite the lack of formal diplomatic ties. This relationship has led to many areas of cooperation such as matters of international security, trade and investment, cultural exchange and education, etc. Still, there are other areas that we can work with Taiwan. For instance, we need to support Taiwan's efforts to have its voice heard in international forums. I look forward to Taiwan's inclusion in international organizations as it will assist in strengthening ties between Taiwan and my home state of Florida and the United States.

We need to continue to give Taiwan all the support it needs. Taiwan is a democracy and deserves our friendship and best wishes.

I send my congratulations to the people of Taiwan.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHOCTAWHATCHEE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of Choctawhatchee High School in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. For 60 years, the students, teachers, and staff at Choctawhatchee High have exhibited the assiduous dedication to excellence that makes our nation great.

In 1962, Okaloosa County, Florida completed plans to open a high school in

Shalimar, Florida. The county provided a state of the art building designed to hold 500 students; however, the school did not have an official name, so the local newspaper held a countywide naming contest. After the votes were counted, Choctawhatchee High School was declared the winner. Choctawhatchee—derived from a Creek Indian word meaning “coming together”—was a fitting moniker for a school that would unite students from all across Okaloosa County.

Choctawhatchee High School opened its doors on September 22, 1962 in Shalimar, Florida; however, after four years, the school had already exceeded its capacity, and the school relocated to its present location in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. From day one, Choctawhatchee established itself as an institution of academic excellence committed to educating each and every student. Nearly 20,000 students have graduated from the school since its opening, with many of them going on to achieve success in fields ranging from our military and space exploration to professional athletics and business.

Thanks to the dedicated support of teachers, staff, alumni and the entire community, Choctawhatchee has continued to excel and reach new heights. Today, the school offers the only International Baccalaureate program in Okaloosa County, Florida, more than a dozen Advanced Placement classes, an aviation program offered in partnership with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, dual enrollment college courses with Northwest Florida State College, computer and electrical engineering programs in conjunction with the University of West Florida, as well as a successful Air Force Junior ROTC program.

Choctawhatchee also has a long and successful athletics program. In fact, the school's tradition of having a student ride a horse onto the field prior to football games served as the inspiration for a similar tradition at Florida State University. Whether it is on the playing field or in the classroom, Choctawhatchee High School's commitment to excellence has served as an inspiration and point of pride for the entire Northwest Florida community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of Choctawhatchee High School. The Mayor and City Council of Fort Walton Beach have declared Friday, September 21, 2012, as Choctawhatchee High School Day. My wife Vicki and I join the entire Northwest Florida community in congratulating Choctawhatchee High School on their 60th anniversary and wishing them continued success.

HONORING MISSION EARLY
COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Mission Early College High School. Mission Early College was recently honored with the 2012 National Blue Ribbon award from the United States Department of Education for excellence in education.

The National Blue Ribbon School award honors both public and private elementary,

middle and high schools where students achieve at high levels and also schools where the achievement gap is narrowing. Since 1982, more than 6,700 of America's schools have received this coveted award.

I want to personally congratulate the teachers, administrators, and staff of Mission Early College High School for their commitment and dedication to our young students in El Paso. This year only 269 schools nationwide received the award, and a ceremony in Washington, D.C. will honor their achievement. The Blue Ribbon validates the efforts of these schools in creating a positive and effective learning environment. These schools and their communities have achieved a degree of excellence of which they can justifiably be proud.

Mission Early College is a fine example of what can be accomplished when parents, teachers and administrators collaborate to prepare our students for a prosperous future. By emphasizing the importance of leadership, hard work, and dedication, Mission Early College is enabling a new generation of community leaders. In fact, upon completion of their high school career at Mission Early College High School, students not only graduate with a high school diploma, but can also earn up to 60 hours of college credit and an associate's degree. This opportunity for excellence and achievement is giving many students an early and critical exposure to college academics.

In times of economic uncertainty, we cannot lose sight of the paramount importance of our children's education, and I am honored to represent Mission Early College High School.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, on September 14, 2012, I unfortunately missed four votes, which included rollcall Nos. 581, 582, 583 and 584.

If I had been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote 581.

If I had been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote 582.

If I had been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote 583.

If I had been present, I would have voted “no” on rollcall vote 584.

RECOGNIZING THE RENTON
HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Renton Housing Authority and congratulate them on the successes of the Sunset Area Community Revitalization Program. The commitment of all who work with the Renton Housing Authority has been instrumental in providing quality, affordable, and safe housing options for low-income individuals and families.

The Renton Housing Authority was established in 1941 to provide middle and low-in-

come workers affordable housing near the Boeing B-29 and PACAR Sherman Tank manufacturing lines. In 1959, the Renton Housing Authority constructed Sunset Terrace.

The Sunset Area Community Revitalization Program is focused on the redevelopment of the Sunset Terrace public housing project. This effort is an important community enhancement that will help all residents of Renton, Washington have a safe place to call home.

The Sunset Area Community Revitalization Program will also receive a 2012 VISION 2040 Award from the Puget Sound Regional Council. This award is given to projects that are finding solutions to the Puget Sound region's expected growth, specifically projects that promote the well-being of our communities and economic vitality.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the valuable contributions of the Renton Housing Authority. The organization's dedication to helping people in our communities is laudable.

CONCERNS FOR ECUADOR

HON. DAVID RIVERA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, I am gravely concerned about the deteriorating human rights situation, democratic shortcomings, and increased drug trafficking in Ecuador.

Corruption, inefficiency, and political influence have plagued the Ecuadorian judiciary for many years. In a referendum held in May 2011, President Rafael Correa obtained a mandate for constitutional reforms that could significantly increase government powers to constrain media and influence the appointment and dismissal of judges. President Correa continues to weaken the democratic electoral process by appointing government supporters as authorities in all branches of government.

Ecuador's Criminal Code has provisions that restrict freedom of expression and government officials use these laws against the ruling party's critics. The “desacato” (lack of respect) clause enables the Ecuadorian government to imprison and prosecute anyone who offends the president or a government official.

President Correa has taken action to strengthen trade relations with Iran, a U.S.-designated State Sponsor of Terrorism. Iran has reduced tariffs for seven Ecuadorian products as well as signed an agreement to supply oil products during 2012 and 2013 to Ecuador. President Correa has expressed his desire to continue trading with Iran and bilateral visits between Correa and Iranian dictator Mahmoud Ahmadinejad occur frequently.

With its location between the two largest cocaine producing countries in the world, Peru and Colombia, Ecuador is a major transit country for narcotics. Ecuador's porous borders and increased participation in the drug trade makes the country very vulnerable to organized crime. Counternarcotics cooperation with the United States is and should remain a major focus of U.S. assistance to Ecuador.

Recently I met with Sociedad Ecuatoriana del Exterior (SEDE), an organization dedicated to fostering freedom and democracy in Ecuador and promoting the wellbeing of Ecuadorian-American citizens. I am asking for

unanimous consent to submit for the RECORD the attached letter. This letter provides a detailed outline of the Ecuadorian government's failure to protect the fundamental human rights of its people.

It is critical that we pay close attention to the actions of the Ecuadorian government as they silence political opposition, rig elections, and strengthen ties with Iran.

SOCIEDAD ECUATORIANA DEL EXTERIOR,
Doral, FL, August 13, 2012.

Hon. DAVID RIVERA,
U.S. Congressman.

DEAR MR. RIVERA: Sociedad Ecuatoriarva del Exterior (SEDE), in an effort to be faithful to our freedom and democracy principles, considered a must to let you know that there have been very serious fundamental human rights violations in Ecuador, which are listed right below.

1. Freedom of expression have been severely limited promoting absurd and unsubstantiated judgments against prestigious national newspapers such as—"El Universol" magazines private property confiscations, such as "Vanguard" Magazine, and the closure of radio and television stations opposed to the Ecuadorian Government, such as the closing of Radio Morena, a community managed. government opposed radio station.

The electoral process to choose, not only a new president but also Assembly Members, and new Ecuadorian authorities has been null and void from its very beginning when the government simulating knowledge contests, just to end up appointing government supporter as authorities in all branches of government That, in addition to disqualifying the legally registered political parties due to mistakes made by the National Electoral Council in a clear attempt to have no political opponents in the coming presidential election.

3. The Ecuadorian government has declared Delaware, Nevada, Wyoming and Florida, as "tax havens", therefore seeking to be able force Ecuadorian-Americans in the U.S. to pay taxes in Ecuador for corporations registered in these states and in Ecuador

4. As Ecuadorian-Americans committed to freedom and democracy, we are very concerned about the Ecuadorian government's announcement on "strengthening" of trade relations with Iran, including the willingness to open a trade office in that country and start "commercial missions" when Iran is considered a country that promotes terrorism and money laundering.

5. All money remittances from Ecuadorians living abroad, sent to Ecuador will be channeled through the Central Bank of Ecuador and then "after making a few bucks" to the final destination, thus, restricting the speed of the process in order, or so they say, to record them and tax these transactions.

All points outlined above, highly affect the already low life quality and business of Ecuadorians living in Ecuador, and also the lives of those Ecuadorian-Americans and residents who live in this great country, who are a part of it and who have sworn to love, respect and defend it, with our lives if it is necessary, as we already have done in the past.

Now, and very respectfully, we would like to ask you to share this document with your colleagues, and for its formal presentation to the Congress of the United States of America.

Sincerely yours,

CARLOS R. LANGE,
SEDE President.

IN MEMORY OF PAUL
DUNNINGTON

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my closest friends and trusted advisors, the late Paul Dunnington of Monticello, Kentucky.

Paul and I quickly became friends when my family moved to Monticello. We shared a lot of great memories together and remained close friends until his battle with cancer came to an untimely end on August 20, 2012.

Paul was a savvy entrepreneur and offered great wisdom and advice to several businesses, boards, and non-profit organizations, including the Monticello-Wayne County Industrial Foundation, the Chamber of Commerce, and my own public service in Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District. In 1986, I tapped Paul to be one of the founding directors of the Southern Kentucky Economic Development Corporation (SKED), where he dedicated 26 years to helping recruit new industry and more than 10,000 new jobs to our rural region.

In addition to his astute business skills, Paul had a heart of gold and an unmatched spirit of philanthropy. He dedicated his life to civic groups and organizations interested in helping the less fortunate, including the Kiwanis Club, Habitat for Humanity, the Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief, and the Monticello Camp of Gideons International through which he dedicated 15 years to jail ministry, as well as 12 foreign mission trips. He believed everyone deserved a second chance and made it his mission to help the struggling succeed. He was a founding member of the HELP Pregnancy Center in Monticello and recently established the Oxford House in partnership with his church, the Monticello First Baptist Church, to help men overcome drug addiction, giving them a place to live and helping them find work. One of his legacy projects and his most recent venture was the renovation of the Wayne County Museum, for which he diligently raised funds and dedicated a room in my honor.

Southern Kentucky lost a true humanitarian in Paul Dunnington. May his legacy forever live on through the programs he established to improve the lives of our neighbors and loved ones. He made a difference in our region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a dear friend and a champion for the less fortunate, the late Paul Dunnington. My wife, Cynthia and I extend our deepest heartfelt sympathies to his wife Kathryn and the entire Dunnington family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 585 on the evening of September 19, 2012. Had I been present, I would have voted in this manner:

Rollcall vote No. 585—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R.

5044, the Andrew P. Carpenter Tax Act: "yes."

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF SPC
JOSHUA N. NELSON

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, it is with mixed emotions that I rise today to honor the life of Specialist Joshua N. Nelson of the United States Army. Specialist Nelson was a native of Greenville, North Carolina, which is in my Congressional District. Specialist Nelson was one of four soldiers that tragically lost their lives in Zabul Province, Afghanistan on September 16, 2012.

Specialist Nelson graduated from North Pitt High School in 2008 and later enlisted in the Army where he became a signals intelligence analyst. Specialist Joshua Nelson was a source of great pride in his hometown of Greenville. He exemplified to the community what was possible with determination, and epitomized what it meant to serve with honor and distinction.

These facts were demonstrated in the various awards and decorations Specialist Nelson received during his career in the Army. Specialist Nelson received the National Defense Service Medal, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the NATO Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon. In only 22 short years, Specialist Nelson accomplished more than most people do in a full lifetime.

Unfortunately, earlier this month, Specialist Nelson perished while serving his country. He is survived by his wife, Quamisha Nelson; his mother, Kathy Glover; his father, Brian Nelson; and his stepmother, Valorie Nelson. I offer my sincere appreciation to his loved ones for his service in the United States Army and his selfless efforts in the defense of our great nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering heartfelt condolences to Specialist Joshua Nelson's family. I pray that his life serves as a guiding force for the Greenville community and others around the country. We are forever indebted to his family for the ultimate sacrifice he paid on our behalf.

H.R. 5987

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I voted against H.R. 5987, the Manhattan Project National Historical Park Act. I recognize that the Manhattan Project played an important role in the United States' energy history and has had a significant impact in the Pacific Northwest, and it makes sense for us to draw attention to places like Hanford, Washington. However, adding these responsibilities to the National Park Service's portfolio when the agency is already underfunded and overworked does not make sense.

It is frustrating to me that while we are told by the current House majority that there is not

sufficient funding to clean up nuclear sites such as Hanford, there is apparently enough funding to turn the Manhattan Project into a national park. We should focus first on making sure these places are safe for the human and wildlife populations that live near them, before marketing them as a tourist destination.