

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR MACAIDAN GALLEGOS

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to welcome back to Tucson a very special boy who is coming to visit his father's gravesite on the third anniversary of his burial.

MacAidan Gallegos is the son of United States Army Staff Sergeant Justin Gallegos, a brave soldier, who was tragically killed three years ago in Afghanistan. Born in Tucson, Arizona, Justin graduated from Tucson High School before joining the Army in 2002.

Staff Sergeant Gallegos deployed twice to Iraq, fighting insurgents and helping to secure freedom for Iraqi citizens who were yearning for an end to the repression they had experienced for generations. He then deployed to Afghanistan, in support of the American effort there to put down the Taliban, fight al-Qaida and help the Afghan people.

Justin often requested the hard assignments. Except for his wife Amanda and his son MacAidan, the Army was his life. He was a fearless man who worked as a scout in hostile terrain, a gunner on Humvees and as a security guard to high-ranking officers.

As a testament to his courage and dedication as a soldier, Justin earned more than a dozen medals including three Purple Hearts, two Army Commendation Medals and two Army Achievement Medals. He also earned the Bronze Star for his actions that day defending his combat outpost with his comrades and fighting back the Taliban.

MacAidan is coming to Tucson to visit his father's grave at Evergreen Cemetery. While the visit will be sad, I am positive that MacAidan, and his mother Amanda Marr will relive the wonderful times they spent with Justin. My hope is that MacAidan will continue to learn about Justin—a fantastic dad, brave soldier and deeply loved husband.

I am honored to meet MacAidan, and share in the memories of his father and of his time in Tucson. It is in remembrance that we keep the faith of a father lost, missed and revered. Yet we also celebrate his shining achievements, his bravery as a soldier and his beautiful boy MacAidan.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF PACIFICA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Rotary Club of Pacifica on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Rotary International brings together business and professional leaders to help build

peace and goodwill in the world, and the Pacifica club fulfills Rotary's admirable mission of "Service above Self."

The Rotary Club of Pacifica equips students with the skills and resources to thrive and become contributing members of society. Scholarships and underwriting coaching for student loans help students and their families afford college. Other projects spark curiosity and motivation in young people including the Dictionary Project, which involves distributing dictionaries to every third grader in the Pacifica School District. Likewise, Rotary Club-sponsored career days teach middle school students about vocations and professions, sparking curiosity and motivation at a young age.

The newly built Rotary Plaza, a beautiful public space in Pacifica, represents the Rotary Club of Pacifica's commitment to service. Rotary Plaza was created in partnership with local arts organizations, businesses and public offices to celebrate the Club's 50th anniversary. This project provides an essential outdoor space for people to gather, talk and connect with others.

In addition, Pacifica's Rotary Club does whatever is needed to beautify and improve the community—from painting the public library, to landscaping the Boys and Girls Club. The club holds annual food drives, provides financial aid to single-parent families and assists in rescue operations from flooding in lower Linda Mar. The Rotary Club of Pacifica creates an essential social safety net for needy families.

The Club's reach even extends beyond the close perimeters of Pacifica—to Pakistan, where it provides vocational training for Afghan refugees. It makes microcredit loans to women with families in Ecuador, Guatemala and Colombia. Because of the Rotary International's persistence, polio will soon be eradicated from the world, and the Rotary Club of Pacifica has consistently participated in this important global mission.

Mr. Speaker, it is right to honor the Rotary Club of Pacifica on this day, October 12, 2012, for 50 years of outstanding service and to wish the members the best for the next 50 years.

TRIBUTE TO TOM DUFFORD

HON. ROBERT T. SCHILLING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Tom Dufford on his recent retirement. For more than 40 years Tom has faithfully carried out the mission of the Social Security Administration, and I applaud and admire his dedication to those he serves.

From his start as an intern back in 1972 and to his rise to Operations Supervisor in 2009, Tom has been a leader with tremendous loyalty and a passion for service. Over the course of his career he has received many

awards for his work at the Social Security Administration, including the 2009 Regional Commissioner's Citation for Area 2.

I join the many who have commended Tom's efforts in saying "thank you." It is stories like this that make me proud to serve the 171 District and all the hard-working individuals who reside there. I am honored to have Tom as my constituent.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM (BILL) PUTNAM, JR.

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William, Bill, Putnam Jr., a recent recipient of the National Eagle Scout Association's Outstanding Eagle Scout Award and the Distinguished Citizen Award.

The Outstanding Eagle Scout Award was first awarded in 2010 as part of the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. A local council can honor one recipient per year and Bill is the Ozark Trails Council's first recipient.

A Carthage native, Bill first became involved with scouting in Cub Scouts, where his mother served as a Den Mother. He received the Arrow of Light, earned his Eagle Scout Award in 1959, and is a brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow. This latest addition to his scouting accolades, the Outstanding Eagle Scout Award, is awarded to Eagle Scouts who have demonstrated outstanding achievements at the local, state, or regional level. Bill has served as an inspiring example to his family and neighbors. This is evident in the fact that his son John, two brothers and three nephews are also Eagle Scouts.

Bill is a Rotarian who was named Carthage's Citizen of the Year in 1995 and received the Spirit of Giving Award from the Carthage Area United Way in 2009. He was named to the Prep School All-America Swim Team in 1961, was recognized as an Outstanding Alumnus at Beloit College, and is a member of the school's Athletic Hall of Honor.

Bill is the president of TAPJAC Company Inc. He has served on numerous boards including the board of the Ozark Trails Council-Boy Scouts of America, Carthage Area United Way, Carthage Republican City Committee, Carthage Community Foundation, Carthage City Council, Missouri Southern State University Board of Regents, Board of Public Works, and Hardware Wholesaler.

The Distinguished Citizen Award recognizes noteworthy and extraordinary leadership of citizens in communities across the United States. Bill's numerous achievements stand as testimony to his exemplary quality of character. I am proud of his achievements and honored to call him a neighbor in the 7th Congressional District of Missouri.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

IN RECOGNITION OF LLOYD R.
LACUESTA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lloyd R. LaCuesta, one of the best-known faces in the Bay Area. For 36 years, Lloyd's face and voice have been beamed into millions of living rooms every night during the award-winning Ten O'clock News on KTVU. His reporting is a chief reason why the newscast is rated as one of the best in the country.

With 43 years in journalism, Lloyd is often considered the dean of reporters in the Bay Area. He is the longest tenured reporter at KTVU and has run its South Bay Bureau for decades. I have had the pleasure to be interviewed by Lloyd many times and have witnessed his professionalism and attention to detail first hand; he is meticulous, fair and won't give any public official a pass.

Lloyd has covered some of the biggest stories of our region and time: The Loma Prieta earthquake, the Oakland Hills fire, the eruption of Mt. Saint Helens, the L.A. riots in 1992, the Columbine school shooting, Hurricane Mitch in Honduras, the Kobe earthquake, the Marcos vs. Aquino presidential campaign in the Philippines, and the list goes on. So many of us in the Bay Area experienced these events through his eyes.

Early in his career Lloyd covered a story that would affect the way he reported for decades. He was doing a live stand up from Stanford Hospital where the family of a Castro Valley man was holding a vigil because he needed a heart. Lloyd reached into his wallet, pulled out his driver's license with the pink donor dot and said, being an organ donor is a way to make a life-changing gift, even though you will never meet the recipient. A few days later, he received a call from a woman who told him that her daughter had died in an accident and she donated the daughter's heart because she had seen his story and remembered his words. This experience powerfully reminded Lloyd that his reporting affected lives and that he carried a responsibility to always be mindful of people.

Before coming to KTVU in August of 1976, Lloyd worked for the Los Angeles Herald Examiner, KMPC Radio, KNX-CBS Newsradio, American Forces Korea Network, KABC Radio, KABC TV and KGO TV.

He has won several of the most prestigious journalism awards, including six Emmys from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, NATAS. His reporting was essential in the Ten O'clock News winning a national Edward R. Murrow Award for Newscast Excellence in 2004 from the Radio-Television News Directors Association, RTNDA.

One of his award-winning series took Lloyd to Vietnam in 1986. He followed three Vietnam veterans who went back to find their Amerasian children they had fathered during the war. It was fathers like them that in 1982 led to the Amerasian Act which allowed children born in Cambodia, Korea, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam after December 31, 1950 and before October 22, 1982 to immigrate to the United States.

Lloyd was the first elected national president of the Asian American Journalists Association

and the first president of Unity Journalists of Color. He is on AAJA's list of pioneer Asian American journalists and received the group's Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2004, he was inducted into the NATAS Silver Circle for his many years of outstanding Bay Area reporting.

Lloyd was born in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1947. He received his BA in journalism from Los Angeles and San Jose State Colleges and his Masters in Journalism from UCLA.

In his retirement, Lloyd is looking forward to spending more time with his family and friends and a slower pace of life with more time to read, play tennis and travel. He is married to Mona Lisa Yuchengco and has two daughters, Angelisa Marie LaCuesta-Russo and Elena Maria LaCuesta-Roberson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor a broadcast icon who has been part of the fabric of the Bay Area for decades. Not long ago, a person saw the retired reporter in San Mateo, stopped him and said, "You used to be Lloyd LaCuesta!"—I'm sure that won't be the last time. Lloyd will be deeply missed by viewers, public officials and his co-workers alike.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION
FOR UNITED STATES ARMY
STAFF SERGEANT ORION NELSON
SPARKS

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Army Staff Sergeant Orion Nelson Sparks, who was killed in action with a fellow soldier on September 26, 2012 when an insurgent wearing a suicide vest detonated the device near their patrol in Pule-Alam, Afghanistan. He leaves behind his mother, father, two brothers and numerous friends.

Born in Tacoma, Washington, Staff Sergeant Sparks spent most of his childhood in Gig Harbor, Washington. He attended Peninsula High School before joining the Army in 2003. Staff Sergeant Sparks was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team based in Germany.

Staff Sergeant Sparks was on his first deployment to Afghanistan, but he had already completed two previous deployments to Iraq, the first a 14-month deployment from May 2003 to July 2004 and the other a year-long deployment from November 2005 to 2006.

Since entering the Army, Staff Sergeant Sparks was considered a great soldier. Over his career he earned more than a dozen honors including two Army Commendation Medals, five Army Achievement Medals, three Army Good Conduct Medals, an Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star and four Iraq Campaign Medals with Bronze Service Stars. For his bravery in action, Staff Sergeant Sparks was awarded a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star posthumously.

We remember Staff Sergeant Sparks and offer our deepest condolences and sincerest prayers to his family. I am heartsick for their loss and my words cannot offer adequate consolation.

Everyone in our great country owes Staff Sergeant Sparks and his family a debt of grati-

tude for his selfless sacrifice and courage. It is vital that we keep our men and women in uniform who are in harm's way in our thoughts and prayers. I call on my fellow colleagues and all Americans to remember Staff Sergeant Sparks and his fellow fallen comrades—those who have paid the ultimate price.

RECOGNIZING THE GILMORE FAMILY AS THE 2012 ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Gilmore family for being selected as the 2012 Escambia County, Florida Outstanding Farm Family.

Jacob and Carla Gilmore, along with their twin daughters Sydney and Ella, own and operate the Gizmo Angus Farm in Molino, Florida. Thanks to programs like 4-H and FFA, Jacob gained invaluable experience in agriculture at a young age, and this experience has helped the Gilmore family establish a successful cattle farm. From the ages of 8 to 19, Jacob consistently won accolades from 4-H, FFA and the Escambia County Interstate Fair. He also twice produced the Grand Champion Steer, while also raising Grand Champion Laying Hens, and becoming a state finalist in beef production entrepreneurship.

Seven years ago, the Gilmores were married, and Carla immediately embraced the hard work and dedication necessary to successfully operate a family farm. She supports her husband in every way possible, and together they are helping to instill a love of farming in their daughters. Today, Gizmo Angus Farm prides itself on integrating the latest technologies available to the industry, such as Artificial Insemination and embryo transfer, with traditional cattle farming activities.

In addition to their work on the family farm, the Gilmores are active in working with the youth of their community to spark interest in agriculture and family farming. By actively engaging young agriculture enthusiasts through the Young Farmers and Ranchers program, the Gilmores are a key influence in promoting agriculture throughout the state. The Gilmores have a true commitment to promoting agriculture in the Northwest Florida community, and their success is indicative of their dedication to farming and commitment to family.

Mr. Speaker, our great nation was built by farmers and their families. The Escambia County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year Award is a reflection of the Gilmores' tireless work and their dedication to family and farming. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Gilmore family for this great accomplishment. My wife Vicki and I extend our best wishes for their continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
FRANCESCO VITUCCI

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Francesco "Frank" Vitucci, who passed away on September 26, 2012 at the age of 74. Frank will be remembered in the hearts of many as a generous and ambitious man whose drive gave him unprecedented achievement in business. His memory will live on through his family whom he loved deeply.

Frank was born on September 29, 1937 in Pacentro, Italy and his family lived there until the German invasion during World War II. When Frank was only five years old his father, Paolo passed away, so his mother, Maria was left with two young children, Frank and his younger brother Roberto. When the war ended, Maria met Pasquale DiCicco. He was a widower with four young children: Nick, Alberto, Giuseppina, and Lucia. Shortly after meeting, Maria and Pasquale married and conjoined their families.

In 1952, Frank and his younger brother Roberto made the journey to America to join the rest of their loved ones as well as three new additions to the family: Giulia, Paul, and Rosaria. After living in Detroit for a few years, the DiCicco's uprooted their lives again and moved to Fresno, California.

Frank and Alberto washed dishes at Maselli's Italian Restaurant. Money was tight, but with hard work and dedication, Frank, Roberto, Alberto, and Nick seized the opportunity to buy Maselli's Restaurant when the owner, Sam Maselli was looking to sell.

Subsequently, the four brothers became widely known as the Four Sons of Italy. Frank was in charge of the pizzas while his other brothers handled the other functions of the business. DiCicco's Italian Restaurant quickly became a family business requiring long hours of hard work. Successfully, Frank and his brothers were able to open various locations across California for a total of 15, twelve of which are in the San Joaquin Valley.

In 1972, Frank married Lindain, which resulted in a 40-year marriage with four children: Greg, Ron, Mario, and Joanna.

In his final years, Frank spent time most of his time with family, playing with his grandchildren, and catching up with close friends. One of Frank's greatest joys was traveling, and he did it very often. Going back to his hometown, Pacentro, Italy, was something Frank loved to do. His roots were there and even though he was a part of a successful restaurant business in America, he never forgot where he came from.

Frank exemplified the American Dream through his hard work, dedication and compassion. A lasting legacy has been built not only by his business achievements but because of the generosity and endearment created by all those who were blessed to enjoy his companionship. As the last of the DiCicco's founders passes on, we shall not forget the legacy and impact Frank has had on the community. A model to follow, Frank will be remembered for his kind gestures and enthusiasm for creating a better life for his family.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAN CARLOS ADULT COMMUNITY CENTER AND THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRIENDS OF THE SAN CARLOS ADULT COMMUNITY CENTER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the San Carlos Adult Community Center on the occasion of its 30th anniversary, and the Friends of the San Carlos Adult Community Center on the 20th anniversary of its founding as a nonprofit. The center is dedicated to providing programs and activities for persons age 50 and above while recognizing the importance of people of all ages.

Groundbreaking for the 17,000 square foot center took place in 1982 and at the time the building was the most completely equipped facility of its kind in the nation. It cost \$1.5 million to build and about \$550,000 of that funding came from federal and county sources. The remainder was contributed by San Carlos. The residents received quite a bargain, given all of the amenities of this facility.

The center has a modern kitchen and its meeting room, which I've been privileged to speak in, is first-rate. The center also has a paperback library and computer lab, regular health screenings and is available for community events. In short, the San Carlos Adult Community Center is a place where people come to refresh themselves after a hard day's work or to maintain their connections to others while in retirement.

Mr. Speaker, there are a handful of public services that connect people to their governments. One such service is recreation, including physical activity and continuing education classes. The San Carlos Adult Community Center draws people out of their homes and into recreational activities and thereby knits the community together. For example, the AARP offers driver safety classes. Adults can create lasting friendships by participating in health and wellness classes or by learning a new hobby such as painting, cooking or gardening. Adults can become better creative writers by taking a class and the current events sessions often feature local experts. Pedro tournaments draw persons from age 18 and up, while the moonlight and roses social dance draws people who remain young at heart.

There is another aspect to the San Carlos Adult Community Center that also merits special mention because not everyone in San Carlos is self-sufficient. Some need additional assistance, and this is where the Caring Cupboard Food Program becomes important. Twice per month, the Caring Cupboard, operated in part by center volunteers, delivers canned food, boxed food or packages that are non-perishable to seniors whose budgets do not stretch through an entire month. The volunteers in the Caring Cupboard also check on the welfare of the seniors who are served, and provide companionship for those who might not see another face for many days in a row. The center also helps seniors understand their Medicare choices by supplying HICAP volunteers who can explain options during open enrollment, a vital way to ensure that seniors remain independent.

The Friends of the San Carlos Adult Community Center provide extensive fundraising support for the budget of the center. Anchored by a strong board of directors, the "Friends" are a group of volunteers who know that communities thrive when their volunteers build local institutions that provide great services. I'm sure that this mission of providing a place for adults to learn and to build bonds with the community makes the "Friends" one of the largest official matchmakers on the San Francisco Peninsula.

Mr. Speaker, there are quite a few strong community institutions in San Carlos. The city prides itself on being the City of Good Living. The San Carlos Adult Community Center is a concrete example of why people love this town. In his book "Democracy in America," the 19th Century French historian Alexis de Tocqueville remarked on the role of volunteerism in the young nation known as America. He contrasted it with the lack of a similar ethic of volunteerism in France at that time—a nation that he said required an official act to create even the smallest civic accomplishment. San Carlos is very much like America in its early years, filled with the warmth of volunteerism and the ethic that actions speak louder than words. We salute the San Carlos Adult Community Center on the occasion of its 30th anniversary, and the Friends of the San Carlos Adult Community Center on its 20th anniversary. During every single day, they make a difference for the better in the lives of countless persons in the special community on the San Francisco Peninsula known as San Carlos.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
ANASTASE POMONIS

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life of Mr. Anastase Pomonis, lifelong entrepreneur and community icon. He was born in Athens, Greece on May 3, 1941 and passed away on July 10, 2012. He was an inspiration to the local Greek community and the community at large. He came to the Champaign-Urbana area in the 1960s and soon developed many entrepreneurial ventures.

Anastase, or Stacy as he was commonly known, was an excellent example of what living the American dream is all about. He came from a far away land to become a life story of great American success. Stacy developed The Brown Jug club in Champaign, whose house bands included the now famous REO Speedwagon. He went on to establish several local restaurant and diner chains, as well as several other businesses that thrive to this day.

He was proclaimed a Patriarch of the Three Hierarchs Greek Orthodox Church upon his passing. It is important to also remember him as a good father and husband. He was a man who was a mentor to many people. Speaking five languages and capable of reciting philosophic doctrine from heart, he was known as an intelligent and insightful man. He offered himself to the community through his words, heart and charity. Thank you, Anastase, for

your extraordinary life and contribution to our community. We will miss you tremendously.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BE-
LOVED REVEREND WILLIE H.
CARTER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is my privilege to honor the life and service of Northwest Florida's beloved Reverend Willie H. Carter. All of Northwest Florida, and in particular the people of Century, Florida, mourn the loss of this extraordinary man.

Reverend Carter spent the majority of his adult life in service to his fellow man. He was a strong advocate of human dignity and a tireless proponent of the importance of living up to one's God-given potential. Whether it was early on, as a counselor in the schools of Century, Florida, or later as Pastor of Pilgrim Lodge Baptist Church, Reverend Carter's love of our Lord was matched only by his devotion to the betterment of the youth in his community.

Friends and neighbors warmly recall this humble man with a ready smile and firm handshake who made a deep impact on all who had the good fortune to know him. "Your life is in your hands," he was fond of telling young people. "You can make it anything you want it to be." But Reverend Carter also called upon them to improve themselves by turning off the television and picking up a book. He was famous for challenging young people to "watch TV for an hour, close your eyes and see what you got out of that. Then read a book, close your eyes and see what you learned."

Aside from his work in education and in the church, he was an advocate for schools in the community, was named one of the Grand Marshals of the Northview High School Homecoming Parade in 2010, took part in the 2010 Northview Baccalaureate service, and was previously named a NorthEscambia.com Person of the Year. Additionally, in 2011, I was pleased to welcome Reverend Carter, a World War II veteran, to Washington D.C., when he took part in the ninth and final Emerald Coast Honor Flight.

To some, Reverend Carter will be remembered as a spiritual leader; to others, he will be remembered for his tireless work on behalf of the youth of the Northwest Florida Community; and to his family and friends he will always be remembered as a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He touched the lives of many with his self-giving devotion and tireless commitment to service.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize the life, honorable service and accomplishments of Reverend Willie H. Carter. He will be missed by many, but his memory will live on through the timeless legacy he leaves behind. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our thoughts and prayers to Kraig, Audra, Paris, Lauren, Aerial, and the entire Carter family.

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM NEIS

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of William E. Neis, a resident of Bucks County who passed away on September 22 at the age of 93. Mr. Neis served as the honorable Mayor of Doylestown, PA, retiring after 25 years of volunteer service. He retired at the age of 86 as the longest serving mayor in Doylestown history and was known as "The Doylestown Cupid" for the thousands of weddings he performed for local couples. Friends and colleagues remembered him as a soft-spoken, modest man who embodied the characteristics and contributions of the "greatest generation."

Mr. Neis enjoyed distinguished careers. First, he served as a master sergeant in chemical warfare for the U.S. Army in World War II. He was the owner and CEO of William Neis & Son, Doylestown's soft drink bottler and beverage distributorship. He also was the state director of the PA Bottlers Association before becoming Mayor of Doylestown.

William Neis represented the best of Bucks County. A lifelong resident of Doylestown, he served his community for a majority of his life, maintained a loving family and was respected by all in Doylestown for his humble and selfless nature. His contributions will be missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF RUTH WISNOM

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ruth Wisnom, the most committed and altruistic volunteer I know. Ruth has dedicated her life to helping others and creating a better future for all of us.

Ruth started volunteering with Peninsula Family Services 48 years ago, a testament to her perseverance and commitment. She and her husband David Wisnom have also passed on their passion for volunteering to their children and grandchildren.

I commend Peninsula Family Service for honoring her with the Wisnom Family Award. The organization could not have chosen a more deserving family which exemplifies its mission to empower children, families and older adults to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency.

Ruth grew up in Ontario, Oregon. She went to Ontario High School and received her B.A. in Speech and Hearing Therapy from the University of Oregon.

From 1955 to 1957 she was the Assistant Director of the speech clinic at the May T. Morrison Rehabilitation Center in San Francisco. The following year she was a speech and reading consultant and English teacher at the Taipei American Schools in Taiwan.

She used her speech therapy expertise to set up speech clinics at the Crippled Children's Society in Monterey County and at UCSF Medical Center.

Since Ruth started volunteering for Peninsula Family Services—formerly Family Service

Agency—in 1964, she has served on many boards of directors and committees, including Family Service Agency 75th Anniversary, Biennial Family Service Agency International Conference in Detroit, Family Service America, Family Service Agency of San Mateo County and as president of San Mateo County's Hillsborough Auxiliary. She is still an active member of the auxiliary and established its popular annual travel auction in 1970. Ruth is an honorary lifetime board member of Peninsula Family Service.

Ruth's service to the community includes other non profits—Peninsula Community Foundation, the Monterey County Symphony, and the San Francisco Opera Guild Board where she has been a tireless advocate for children's education and served as vice-president of fundraising. Her love for children is also evident in her work for the Avery Fuller Children's Center Foundation, the Episcopal Church of St. Matthew's and the Junior League of San Francisco and of the Monterey Peninsula, the Children's Home Society and the Crippled Children's Society.

Ruth's love of flowers, especially roses, has driven her to support the Hillsborough Garden Club where she was president from 1995 to 1997 and served on the Bay Area Steering Committee planning a weeklong flower, horticulture and ecology show.

Her unwavering commitment and service to our community have been recognized with several volunteer of the year awards from different groups.

Ruth and David are the parents of two children, David Wisnom, III and their late daughter Carol Wisnom Kastner who passed away in 2008. The garden at the Peninsula Service's Child Development Learning Center is named in her memory, "Carol's Kinder Garden."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor an extraordinary human being who epitomizes inexhaustible generosity and kindness. Our community and the world is a better place because of Ruth Wisnom.

TRIBUTE TO MALALA YOUSAFZAI

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call my colleagues' attention to an eloquent op-ed article by First Lady Laura Bush, published in the Washington Post this week following the horrific attack by Taliban gunmen on a 14-year-old girl, Malala Yousafzai. Mrs. Bush writes: "Malala inspires us because she had the courage to defy the totalitarian mindset others would have imposed on her. . . [she] refused to look the other way. We owe it to her courage and sacrifice to do the same."

We are all horrified by the news of the savage attack on Malala. Taliban gunmen hunted her down as she returned home from school in the Swat Valley town of Mingora, Pakistan. The Taliban attackers also wounded two other schoolgirls riding on the bus with her.

This was a tragedy that could easily have been foretold. Malala was perhaps the most famous 14-year-old girl in the world, and for

good reason. An activist since age 11, she had forcefully advocated for the cause of girls' education through a BBC blog, and she is a nominee for the International Children's Peace Prize. All she wanted to do was attend school like her brothers, in the hopes of becoming a doctor. But the Taliban announced their intention to kill her for her beliefs.

We can honor Malala by recommitting ourselves to invest in the development of girls all over the world. It is painfully ironic that, as Malala fights for her life this week, the world marks the first ever International Day of the Girl Child, designated by resolution of the United Nations General Assembly in 2011. Today, as we pray for Malala's survival and full recovery, our hopes must go beyond the Swat Valley and beyond the tribal totalitarianism of the Taliban.

The U.S. Agency for International Development points out that of the 850 million girls in the world, some 62 million do not attend school. This has devastating effects, not only on these girls and their families but on the generations that succeed them.

One in seven girls in the developing world marries before the age of 15. This leads to early pregnancy, and a host of risks to her life and health. But, with at least 7 years of basic education, young women tend to marry up to 4 years later, and they have 2.2 fewer children. USAID points out that with each extra year of basic education, a young woman earns 10 to 20 percent more in income. And women tend to spend a greater proportion of the finances under their control for the benefit of their family than men.

The Pakistani people value education, as we well know from our own admiration for the Pakistani Americans who so enrich our society. It is encouraging that the Pakistani people and government have rallied in support of Malala. The government has committed itself to bringing her attackers to justice, and spontaneous demonstrations of support for her and for the cause of basic education for girls have sprung up throughout the country.

Malala's hope was to become a doctor. But in the New York Times video posted this week after the attack, we learn from Malala's family that she was also thinking of becoming a politician, so that—in the words of her father Ziauddin Yousafzai—she could help create a society where a girl could easily achieve a doctoral degree, or any other academic goal.

That should be our focus as we work with the Pakistani people to create that society, and destroy the mind-set that says women and girls must remain subjected to domination by men.

[From the Washington Post, Oct. 11, 2012]

WHY MALALA INSPIRES US

(By Laura Bush)

On Tuesday afternoon, Malala Yousafzai was a 14-year-old girl riding home on a school bus. Now, after a masked gunman apparently boarded her bus, asked for her by name and shot her in the head and neck, she is fighting for her life. Malala was targeted by the Pakistani Taliban because for the past three years she has spoken out for the rights of all girls to become educated. After this despicable shooting, a Taliban spokesman said that his organization considers Malala's crusade for education rights an "obscenity" and accused her of "propagating" Western culture. If she survives, the group promises to try again to kill her.

Eleven years ago, America awoke to the barbaric mind-set of the Taliban. Its regime

in Afghanistan was dedicated in part to the brutal repression and abject subjugation of women. Women were not allowed to work or attend school. Taliban religious police patrolled the streets, beating women who might venture out alone, who were not dressed "properly" or who dared to laugh out loud. Women could not wear shoes that made too much noise, and their fingernails were ripped out for the "crime" of wearing nail polish.

Today, the Taliban has been pushed back, but it still operates in parts of Afghanistan and in the northern and western regions of Pakistan along the Afghan border. The city where Malala was shot, Mingora, is in Pakistan's Swat province, which has been on the front lines of the battle against Taliban extremists. In 2007, the Taliban gained control of Swat, only to be largely pushed out in the summer of 2009 by a Pakistani military offensive. During its time in power, the Taliban closed and destroyed girls' schools, leaving behind little more than piles of rubble; enforced its own interpretation of sharia law; and banned the playing of music in cars.

At age 11, to protest what was happening in her homeland, Malala began to write about her experiences, producing a blog for the BBC's Urdu-language service. She described wearing plain clothes, not uniforms, so that no one would know she was attending school and wrote about how she and other girls "hid our books under our shawls." Nonetheless, after the Taliban forced the closure of her school, Malala had no choice but to stay home and suspend her education. In another blog entry, she wrote: "Five more schools have been destroyed, one of them was near my house. I am quite surprised, because these schools were closed so why did they also need to be destroyed?" A few weeks later she wrote, "I am sad watching my uniform, school bag and geometry box" and "hurt" because her brothers could go to school while she could not.

Malala had dreamed of becoming a doctor, but recently she became interested in politics and speaking out for the rights of children. In 2011, Malala was a nominee for the International Children's Peace Prize, which lauded her bravery in standing up for girls' educational rights amid rising fundamentalism at a time when few adults would do the same. Last year, she was awarded Pakistan's first National Youth Peace Prize. These are the accomplishments of the young girl who so terrified the Taliban.

Condemnations of the attempt on Malala's life have been swift and powerful. The U.S. government called it "barbaric" and "cowardly." Pakistan's prime minister said, "Malala is like my daughter, and yours too. If that mind-set prevails, then whose daughter would be safe?" And the Pakistani army's chief general said that the Taliban has "failed to grasp that she is not only an individual, but an icon of courage."

Speaking out after an atrocious act, however, isn't enough. Malala inspires us because she had the courage to defy the totalitarian mind-set others would have imposed on her. Her life represents a brighter future for Pakistan and the region. We must speak up before these acts occur, work to ensure that they do not happen again, and keep our courage to continue to resist the ongoing cruelty and barbarism of the Taliban. Malala Yousafzai refused to look the other way, We owe it to her courage and sacrifice to do the same.

Malala is the same age as another writer, a diarist, who inspired many around the world. From her hiding place in Amsterdam, Anne Frank wrote, "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." Today, for Malala and the many girls like her, we need

not and cannot wait. We must improve their world.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF U.S. BORDER AGENT NICHOLAS J. IVIE

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated Border Patrol Agent and American hero who died tragically while working to keep America's southern border secure. In the early morning hours of October 2, 2012, 30-year-old Border Patrol Agent Nicholas J. Ivie died near Bisbee, Arizona, while responding to a sensor in a remote border region. He died in the line of duty of injuries sustained from a gunshot wound. We honor his service and sacrifice to the security and safety of the American people.

Born in Charleston, South Carolina on October 31, 1981, Agent Ivie later moved to Provo, Utah, where he graduated from Timpview High School. He subsequently spent two years in Mexico serving as a full-time missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In Mexico, he not only developed a fluency in Spanish, but a great love of the people of Mexico. He eventually became certified as a firefighter and EMT because he felt it was the right thing to do. At the time of his death, Agent Ivie was living and serving near Naco, Arizona with his brother Joel, who was also a Border Patrol Agent. He died in a beautiful place among rugged terrain which he had frequently patrolled on his beloved horse and companion, Mouse.

After joining the Border Patrol's horse patrol, Agent Ivie was assigned a new mustang that had been captured in the wild, according to his brother Joel. The horse's ears were rounded because the tips had frozen off in the cold, so he named it Mouse. Nick loved horses and had a special relationship with Mouse, the horse who rode riderless in Ivie's 5-mile funeral procession ahead of dozens of agents on horseback.

Agent Ivie was an outstanding agent and, according to his family, a compassionate man. He once carried a pregnant woman with bare, badly-blistered feet for a mile and a half after she and her group of illegal border crossers became lost in the desert. He took his obligations to his family, friends and to his church, very seriously. He is remembered for his selflessness and his absolute commitment to family, country and faith. He also distinguished himself as a dedicated and accomplished agent who loved his job, his coworkers and his service to his fellow man.

We honor the tremendous personal sacrifice of Agent Ivie's family. He leaves behind his wife, Christy Lyn and two daughters, 3-year-old Raigan and 22-month-old Presley. Those around him knew he had a deep love for his wife and called his daughters his pride and joy. We also recognize his mother, Cheryl, father, Doug, four siblings: Chris, Andrea, Rick and Joel, and his stepmother Donetta. Agent Ivie was the youngest of his five siblings.

The United States of America is a beacon for freedom and liberty around the world because of the honorable and dedicated service

of agents like Nicholas Ivie and his brother, Joel. The Ivie family has endured a terrible tragedy and made an extraordinary sacrifice on behalf of all Americans and we are forever thankful.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me as we honor the life and legacy of Border Patrol Agent Nicholas J. Ivie, as well as each man and woman in our Border Patrol, and all of those in harm's way supporting their efforts, who toil daily to secure our borders and maintain our safety. I also ask that we recognize the sacrifice and burdens these families endure in support of this great country. We owe them all our eternal gratitude.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL
GARB

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael Garb for his 20 years of service as the CEO and board member of StarVista, an outstanding non-profit organization in San Mateo County that transforms the lives of children, youths, adults and families. Michael embraces StarVista's philosophy that building strong and healthy communities begins with helping each individual to develop his or her own path to personal growth. The organization serves over 34,000 residents of San Mateo County every year, providing counseling, prevention, early intervention and education resources.

Michael was named Chief Executive Officer of StarVista in May 2008. He served on the board of directors for two decades, long before Youth and Family Assistance and Family and Community Enrichment Services merged in 2003 to become StarVista—a process he oversaw. The merger revitalized the organization, broadened its services, increased awareness of its programs, strengthened its branding, and increased both collaboration with other agencies and revenue. In short, more people now benefit from better services.

Under Michael's leadership the Bridge to Success Initiative was launched to expand programs for early childhood, family and youth. StarVista and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation brought together 20 partners, including school districts, preschools, non-profits, agencies, and the San Mateo County Office of Education, to help children in eight school districts.

The Youth Development Initiative, launched in 2011, has attracted diverse groups of youth and adults who learn to make their voices heard and become strong and contributing members of the community.

Jewish Family and Children's Services incorporated their Early Childhood Mental Health Programs into StarVista's array of services in 2012 to improve childcare and healthy childhood development.

StarVista's Women's Enrichment Center program was the first outside program to be selected to work with the County AOD and Mental Health departments to implement electronic medical records software that will eventually be used throughout the county.

Michael was born in Newark, New Jersey. He earned his BA in accounting from Bloomfield College.

He was on the school board of the Belmont-Redwood Shores School for eight years, two of them as president, on the 2-1-1 Steering Committee, the Community Health Reform Advocacy Committee, the Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council, and the Belle Haven Community School Executive Team.

In his well deserved retirement, Michael is looking forward to spending more time with wife of 44 years, Judy, their daughter Mindy Shelton and son Dave Garb and their four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Michael Garb who has turned StarVista into a smooth-running and highly respected agency that touches young and old lives every day.

San Mateo County is a better place for all of us because of Michael's vision, work and commitment to our community.

IN HONOR OF THE 80TH BIRTHDAY
OF MARY ANNA MEYER

HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. SCHOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mary Anna Meyer, of Peoria, Illinois on her 80th birthday, which she celebrated on October 4, 2012. Throughout her life, Mary Anna has exemplified the American values of civic duty, service above self, and love of family, which includes her 7 children, 30 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren.

Mary Anna has been an outstanding Peoria citizen for the past 40 years, deeply involved in civic, church, and social causes far too numerous to list. She has been a leader in the Republican Party, serving as a delegate in the 1980 National Convention, as a precinct committee person for over two decades, and as a member of the Peoria County Republican Women. Because of her years of experience and valued insights, she has served as a mentor and guide to many in political office, promoting legislation to build strong families and protect the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Her service has crossed party and political lines, reaching the impoverished in Peoria by volunteering with the Missionaries of Charity and Sacred Heart Church programs. On a broader level, she has served many roles for the Catholic Diocese of Peoria—as a member and officer of the Respect Life Board and Council of Catholic Women, as a Director of Religious Education for over 30 years, and as a leader in the Catholic Women's Apostolate.

But her impact cannot be measured merely in terms of public leadership positions. Mary Anna has served as a role model and mentor to countless area citizens, working tirelessly to provide help for unwed mothers, counsel for troubled marriages, advice to confused youth, and recommendations to the Peoria City Council on many social issues. She takes Pride in Peoria to heart, and in turn, Peoria has much to be proud of in celebrating the achievements of her generous and selfless life. It is my honor to recognize her today, and to thank her for her decades of service to Central Illinois.

IN HONOR OF GENE DOVIDIO

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gene Dovidio, a U.S. Navy Veteran of World War II and last Bucks County survivor of the attacks on Pearl Harbor. Mr. Dovidio passed away at the age of 87 on September 22, 2012.

He represented the best of Bucks County. A family man, He was the widower of Shirley Thompson Dovidio, father of Sandy Norris, David, Philip, Steven and the late Gerald and Sharon. He was the brother of Margaret De Luca, grandfather of seven, great-grandfather of nine; and also survived by many nieces and nephews. Mr. Dovidio was an Eagle Scout and served honorably as a Boy Scout leader in the community for many years.

Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Gene Dovidio, we mourn not just the man, who served his county honorably, but we also mourn the passing of an era. His death reminds of those who have served and those who continue to serve their country in the armed forces and we honor their sacrifices.

A TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER
GENERAL JENNIFER WALTER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jennifer Walter for attaining the rank of Brigadier General as she becomes the next Chief of Staff of the Iowa Air National Guard. This is a truly momentous occasion for the State of Iowa as Jennifer is the first female General Officer in the history of the Iowa Air National Guard.

Jennifer Walter began her historic career as a technician in 1975 as a temporary Clerk in Operations. Airman Walter would serve the next 11 years of her career as an enlisted person in various roles before receiving her commission for the Academy of Military Science as a Second Lieutenant in 1986. Three short years later, Lieutenant Walter had received a Bachelor of Science degree from Upper Iowa University, and would go on to successfully complete Squadron Officer School in 1994, Air Command and Staff College in 2000, and Air War College in 2004. Throughout her career, she has won numerous awards and decorations including the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, NATO Medal, and the State of Iowa Commendation Medal, just to name a few.

Since January of last year, Colonel Walter had held the position of Vice Wing Commander of the 132nd Fighter Wing in Des Moines where she was uniquely responsible for exercising command responsibilities and providing a combat ready force for mobilization. This position included ensuring mission ready personnel, equipment, and F-16C aircraft for worldwide tasking by commanding over 970 personnel and 21 aircraft. On Sunday, the Iowa Air National Guard will formally bestow Brigadier General Walter with her new

role as she assumes the prestigious role as Chief of Staff of the Iowa Air National Guard where she will directly assist Iowa's Adjutant General.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a long-time, outspoken supporter of Iowa's 132nd Fighter Wing in Des Moines because of the remarkable men and women who are the best in the Nation at what they do. Jennifer Walter's career is a testament to the 132nd Fighter Wing and what Iowans are capable of through hard work and unwavering commitment to a cause greater than themselves. I applaud Brigadier General Walter on her most recent promotion in her remarkably storied career. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Jennifer, and all of the Iowa Air National Guard, on the continued excellence they provide to Des Moines, the State of Iowa, and our Nation as a whole.

IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND
DR. LARRY WAYNE ELLIS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Reverend Dr. Larry Wayne Ellis for his 25 years of service and inspiration as senior pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church in San Mateo.

Dr. Ellis understands the power of the written and spoken word. He has authored six books, including *Trust*, *The Congregation Driven Ministry* and *The Uncommon Book of Prayers*. He was also selected to contribute to the *Oxford Sermons Volume II*. His soothing voice fills his parish and the airwaves of KFAZ-AM and KMEL-FM radio on a regular basis. His radio ministry "Teach the Word" is broadcast daily on KFAZ and the "Dr. Larry Show" is broadcast monthly on KMEL.

Dr. Ellis started as the pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church in September 1987 and has grown and revitalized his congregation ever since. Originally from Clarksville, Tennessee, he earned his bachelor's degree from Austin Peay State University in Tennessee. He moved to California and received his Master of Divinity degree from Golden Gate Theological Seminary and his Masters Degree in Counseling from the College of Notre Dame. In 1995, he topped off his education with a Doctorate of Ministry from the Northern Baptists Theological Seminary in Illinois.

Dr. Ellis continues his lifelong commitment to religious education. He currently serves as vice president and professor at Southern Marin Bible Institute and an adjunct professor at Golden Gate Seminary in Mill Valley. In 1999, he was selected as president of Bay Area Baptist Congress Christian Education and in 2002 served as vice president of the California State Congress of Christian Education. He was president of California State Baptist Congress of Christian Education from 2005 until 2010. He is on the board of directors of The National Baptist Congress of Christian Education.

Members of Dr. Ellis' congregation describe him as a teacher and encourager who lives by example—or as he puts it, "I am my message. I have to model my ministry." A few years ago, a veteran joined the church after some 10 years in the military. She had drifted into a

life of drugs and hopelessness. Dr. Ellis encouraged and mentored her to turn her life around. She cleaned up, moved into transitional housing the church had purchased and went to school to earn her BA and Masters degrees. Today she is a double homeowner and mentors children and members of the Pilgrim Baptist congregation.

In addition to preaching, teaching and encouraging, Dr. Ellis is always looking for ways to stay engaged with our community outside the church. He founded C.H.O.I.C.E.S., a drug information and referral nonprofit agency and became president and CEO of the Pilgrim Organization, Inc., a youth through senior nonprofit organization.

Our community has recognized his invaluable contributions. He received the Hero of Health Award from the African American Community Advisory Board, the Pastoral Excellence Award from Samford University, and he was inducted into the San Mateo Library Wall of Fame.

Dr. Ellis is married to Vanderler Hines-Ellis and is the proud father of Tawana, Justin and Austin.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Reverend Dr. Larry W. Ellis who has touched thousands of lives and lifted the spirits of the residents of San Mateo, California and throughout the world.

HONORING ELIZABETH "LIBBY"
CURRAN, PEOPLE MAGAZINE'S
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Elizabeth "Libby" Curran, who was recently named Teacher of the Year by People Magazine, one of only five educators across the country to receive this award for her efforts to change the lives of her students.

Libby is a special education teacher at Richards Elementary School in Newport, New Hampshire. She also serves as a district trainer for Newport School District's Alternative Assessment Program, mentoring her colleagues and serving as a role model for new educators.

Libby's dedication to her students goes beyond the classroom and normal school hours. She created a successful afterschool reading buddies program for students to improve their reading skills by reading to each other, and Libby has encouraged 500 children and their families become regular library users. Libby even writes and illustrates small hand-made books that she distributes to her students. As Libby says in the magazine, "Reading is the key to success, not just in school, but also in life."

Our children's success in the classroom starts with great teachers, and Libby is a terrific example of the caliber of teachers we are proud to have in the Granite State. It is an honor to represent Libby in the United States Congress, and I wish her all the best as she continues to touch the lives of so many students in New Hampshire and beyond.

IN HONOR OF HARRY CROHE

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry Crohe, a member of the Bucks County Rescue Squad. Mr. Crohe joined the Rescue Squad in 1963 as a volunteer and is presently an Emergency Medical Technician. He has held the following positions, Director of First Aid, Chief, and President of the Board of Directors. He was Chairman of the employee relations, fundraising, ambulance and building committees.

During his tenure with the Bucks County Rescue Squad, Mr. Crohe also served as a volunteer fireman and on the Bristol Borough Town Council. Presently, he serves on the Bristol Borough Planning Commission. His wife Cathy also volunteers with the Rescue Squad.

Mr. Speaker, Harry Crohe exemplifies all of the best qualities in a Bucks County resident. He has worked tirelessly for 50 years to help members of his community and improve the local quality of life. His efforts should be commended. Mr. Speaker, I yield back.

HAZLETON LIONS CLUB'S MELVIN
JONES FELLOWSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Frank Molinaro IV, Mr. James Warnagiris, Dr. Joseph Bafile, Mr. Richard Hudak, and Mr. Richard Piskel, recipients of the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. This award is presented by the Hazleton Lions Club and given for a person's outstanding service to the club and the community. It is the highest award given in Lionism.

Since 1917, Lions Clubs have offered people the opportunity to give something back to their communities. On October 23, 1923, the Hazleton Lions Club was formed, and this year, the club will celebrate its 89th anniversary. Since its founding, the Hazleton Lions Club has been extremely active within the community, completing numerous projects and making donations in support of many other organizations.

Mr. Molinaro, Mr. Warnagiris, Dr. Bafile, and Mr. Piskel have all served as president of the Hazleton Lions Club. Mr. Hudak currently serves as first vice president and will begin a term as president in July 2013. All five men are being honored for raising \$5,000 over a five-year period for the Lions Clubs International Sight First II Project. Sight First is a Lions initiative to restore sight and prevent blindness around the world. Each of these men also took part in the construction of the Hazleton Lions Pavilion in the Hazle Township Community Park. They have each served our community loyally.

Mr. Speaker, today Mr. Frank Molinaro IV, Mr. James Warnagiris, Dr. Joseph Bafile, Mr. Richard Hudak, and Mr. Richard Piskel stand as civic leaders in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

I commend them for their years of admirable service to the Hazleton Lions Club, our community and country, and I wish them continued success in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF EDWARD
SONNY NAKISO

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Police Sergeant Edward Sonny Nakiso for his 29 years of service at the Burlingame Police Department.

Sergeant Nakiso has worked in multiple positions during his long career in law enforcement. He started out as an officer in 1983 and quickly rose through the ranks of the department. He was appointed inspector and responsible for the investigation of juvenile crime. Other duties included patrol, investigations, traffic enforcement and tactical training. From 1989 to 1997 he was an operator with the SWAT team. As the department's first school resource officer, Officer Nakiso taught 3rd-graders about the dangers of gangs and drugs. He was promoted to sergeant in 1997.

Sergeant Nakiso has demonstrated exemplary dedication, loyalty, integrity and work ethic. He is well-liked by citizens from whom he has received hundreds of letters of appreciation for his service. His colleagues describe him as heroic, compassionate, professional, efficient and a problem solver. For example, Sergeant Nakiso was part of a law enforcement contingent that traveled to Tonga to learn about the relationship between the

Tongan police and the local residents. He used that experience back here at home to improve the relationship between police and our Tongan community.

Edward Nakiso was born in San Francisco in 1957 and graduated from Crestmoor High School in San Bruno in 1975.

In his well-deserved retirement, he is looking forward to spending more time with his wife Kim and their two sons, Chris and Kevin. He will also enjoy having extra time to play basketball, bowl and ride his motorcycle.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Sergeant Edward Sonny Nakiso—or “Eddie”—for keeping the residents of Burlingame safe for almost three decades and for making our community a better place.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
BETTY PIA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Betty Pia, who passed away on September 24, 2012 at the age of 95. Betty will always be remembered for her kind heart, intelligent mind, and go-getter attitude.

Betty was born on May 29, 1917 in the beautiful state of Georgia. She moved to Southern California for a period of time, and in 1965, Betty and her husband Joe settled in Madera, California. Together they raised their daughter, Nancy.

To say Betty led an exciting and fulfilling life is an understatement. She served as President Franklin D. Roosevelt's nurse, was close friends with President Jimmy Carter, served on Congressman George Radanovich's Education Committee, and owned and operated Magic Heart Guest Home for almost 40 years. It is evident that serving others was a key focus of Betty's life.

Betty Pia paved the way and opened doors for thousands of women in America, and it was easy for her to do so because her morals and principles always led her in the right direction. She was a lifelong Democrat, but her party affiliation never interfered with her respect for people. Compromise and hard work were values that she taught by example to those that had the privilege of working with her.

Betty's efforts in politics were complemented by her deep commitment to community organizations. A natural leader, she was involved in the Local Women's Improvement Club, Kiwanis Club, and the Madera Chamber of Commerce. As a resident of Madera for over 49 years, she was always a strong advocate for the Central Valley. Up until the day she passed, Betty never slowed down, and the citizens of Madera and the Central Valley will be forever thankful for her work ethic and her contributions to her community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Betty Pia, one of Madera's most distinguished public servants and a true champion for the people of the San Joaquin Valley. Her leadership and community service made her a role model and a source of pride for our community. Betty's caring nature and vibrant spirit will be sorely missed.