EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF MARCUS HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate another stellar attainment by the Marcus High School Marching Band. This is not the first, second, or even third time that the Marcus Band has won the University Interscholastic League (UIL) Class 5A State Marching competition, but their fourth time to be state champions! The Marcus High School Marching Band has achieved a first in UIL history in any conference, by winning its fourth consecutive state marching finals contest. It is an amazing accomplishment that epitomizes their work ethic and musicality.

The Marcus High School Marching Band has a talented and committed leadership team, headed by Amanda Drinkwater, Director of Bands, and Associate Directors: Kennan Wylie, Dominic Talanca and David Simon as well as Color Guard Director, John Leonard. The student members of the Marauder Band have worked long hours over many months to bring their winning performance ''Gilded Memories'' to fruition. They have been capably led by Drum Majors Sarah Jones and Scott Van Gundy.

Edward S. Marcus High School is located in Flower Mound, Texas within the Lewisville Independent School District. The school's administrators, teachers and students as well as its dedicated booster organization have whole heartedly supported the band's endeavors and should also be recognized and commended.

I am pleased to join the community in congratulating the Marcus High School Band. They have been excellent ambassadors for Flower Mound and the 26th District of Texas. It is my privilege to serve them in the U.S. House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO MATILDA SYKES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Maltida Sykes, a tenacious leader and advocate in the community and an inspiration to all of New York.

Matilda, known affectionately as ''Mattie'', was born in Bennetsville, South Carolina. At a young age, she attended Sunday Service at Shiloh Baptist Church with her grandmother. Like her grandmother, she became a faithful church parishioner. As the second oldest of three siblings, she developed a loving concern for others.

Her family moved to Brooklyn, NY, where she joined First Baptist Church of Crown Heights and started singing in the youth choir. She accepted Christ at an early age and became involved in youth ministry.

Living in the big city, Mattie continued her education at Rothchild JHS and Bay Ridge HS, graduating and going on to further her education at Kingsborough Community College, where she majored in Business Administration and received an A.A.S. Degree. While attending college, she met her late husband John M. Sykes, Sr. They had one child, John M. Skyes, Jr.

As a young mother, Mattie returned to the work force, landing jobs in the retail field. After that, she accepted a position with the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Bureau of Child Care. During her 29 years in the department, she became an advocate for children, working on special projects with the Associate Commissioner. Mattie is also strongly active with District Council 37, working as a shop steward and delegate for Local 1549.

Mattie worked in the community with the Neighborhood Youth Corp and summer lunch programs while sitting on the Board of the Five Block Daycare Center. She enjoys promoting AIDS and Breast Cancer Awareness at local health fairs around the city.

Currently a member of the Bethany Baptist Church, Mattie has served as secretary to the Ladies Usher Board for several years. With the love and guidance she receives from above, she is content with caring for her elderly mother and watching her two darling granddaughters, Chyna and Aja Sykes grow up.

Mattie enjoys spending her free time with her family and dearest friends whenever possible and truly feels the Lord's blessings.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Matilda ''Mattie'' Sykes.

JONI INMAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Joni Inman for her outstanding service to our community.

Joni Inman has been a leader of the Denver community for decades. Most recently, Joni consults for ActionCOACH which helps her clients grow their businesses and create new jobs. Joni also owns her own consulting firm for lobbying, strategic and business planning, small business support for federal regulations and public relations.

Prior to her consulting career, Joni served as the Deputy City Manager for Lakewood where she pioneered the city's communications and sustainability programs. As Deputy City Manager, she oversaw Lakewood's economic development and was the city's legislative lobbyist.

Joni was a behind-the-scenes force in the development of Colorado Mills at Belmar and the St. Anthony Hospital Campus in Lakewood.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Joni Inman for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

A TALL TEXAN AMERICAN HERO

SPEECH OF

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for yielding to me.

It has been a pleasure to work with Chairman HALL ever since I joined the Science Committee in 2005. First and foremost, I want to thank him for the work he has done as Chairman of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee and as a champion of NASA. When the Republicans captured control of the House in 2010, there was no one more deserving of being elevated to chairman than RALPH HALL, especially given the fact that he is probably the only member of Congress to ever serve as Ranking Member of a committee from both sides of the aisle before becoming chair.

The Science Committee has historically been a place where the day-to-day grudge match of partisan politics takes a backseat to thoughtful policy making. Chairman HALL is a great exemplar of that tradition, in the same vein as past chairmen such as Bart Gordon and Sherwood Boehlert. RALPH knows how to make things work and get things done, and he always has a way of doing it with a smile. That style is a throwback to the days when Congress was a more genial place and members worked together across the aisle with others even when they had disagreements. We could use more people in Congress like Chairman HALL, and I look forward to continuing to work with him to get things done for our constituents and for our nation.

LEAH VARNELL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Leah Varnell for her outstanding service to our community.

In 2000, Leah Varnell was a leader in the creation of the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Jefferson and Gilpin Counties (CASA Jeffco/Gilpin). Its mission is to recruit, train and manage community advocates who act as officers of the court for the best interest of children that are abuse and neglect victims.

Since its inception, Leah's success with CASA Jeffco/Gilpin has led to a 110% increase in revenue and 60% increase in staffing, which enables the program to serve more

children. In addition, Leah's has been successful creating numerous partnerships with courts and human services to better utilize CASA volunteers.

In 2010, Leah was selected as the Staff Person of the Year by the State Association of CASA programs in Colorado. She also serves on numerous boards including Rewired, Inc., Leadership Jefferson County Alumni Association, Jefferson County Good News Coalition, Jefferson County Best Practice Court Team, and the Emancipation Court Steering Committee.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Leah Varnell for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO LARAY BROWN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor LaRay Brown for her track record in public service and her commitment to improving the community.

LaRay Brown is the Senior Vice President for Corporate Planning, Community Health and Intergovernmental Relations at the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC), the largest municipal public hospital system in the country. She has been acknowledged by Modern Healthcare as one of the Top 25 Women in Healthcare. LaRay Brown directs strategic-planning efforts for the corporation, and formulation and execution of legislative initiatives and advocacy strategies. Among the many corporate-wide initiatives that she led, Ms. Brown is spearheading the development of affordable and accessible housing on behalf of HHC's patients.

She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Commission on the Public's Health System's Marshall C. England Memorial Public Health Award in 2010 and the Community Health Care Association of New York State's Rosemarie Forstner Award in 2011.

She was a member of Governor Cuomo's health care transition team and his Medicaid Redesign Team Work Groups on Housing and Health Disparities. Ms. Brown also serves on the board of New York State Health Foundation.

Ms. Brown previously held leadership positions with the State of New Jersey including its Division of Mental Health and Hospitals and its Division of Youth and Family Services.

Ms. Brown graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania and received her graduate training at the University of Pennsylvania Fets Center for Government Policy.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Ms. LaRay Brown for her successful career and continued work in service to the community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH ANNUAL 26TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, I held the 10th Annual 26th Congressional District of Texas Transportation Summit along with the Texas Department of Transportation at the University of North Texas.

Transportation is always a popular topic of discussion in North Texas and for obvious reasons. With one of the world's largest airports, thousands of miles of roads, highways, rail lines, and several other modes of infrastructure, North Texans recognize the importance of transportation and its role in our region's continued growth.

This event provided a great conversation and I would like to thank:

The Texas Department of Transportation for cosponsoring and Texas Transportation Commissioner Jeff Moseley speaking at the event, as well as the University of North Texas for serving as host.

Other speakers and panelists for the summit who provided excellent insight into transportation issues: Andrew Harris, Vice President of Finance and Administration, University of North Texas; Michael Morris, Transportation Director for the North Central Texas Council of Governments; Larry D. Tegtmeyer, Wichita Falls District Engineer, Texas Department of Transportation; Bill Hale, Dallas District Engineer, Texas Department of Transportation; Andy Eads, Commissioner Precinct 4, Denton County; Maribel Chavez, Fort Worth District Engineer, Texas Department of Transportation; Gary Fickes, Commissioner Precinct 3, Tarrant County; Marc Williams, Director of Planning, Texas Department of Transportation; and Carlos Swonke, Director of Environmental Affairs, Texas Department of Transportation.

Congressman Steven LaTourette was gracious and keynoted the event. As Vice-Chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, he provided a unique perspective and insight. I thank him for his time and information, and I would like to thank him for his service. Congress is losing such a great asset and I wish him well in the next chapter in his life.

North Texas is a rapidly growing area. As our population expands, our need for wider roads and highways also expands. I look forward to continuing this conversation and to working with local and state leaders on transportation issues.

RECOGNIZING CLARENCE BROWN

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize the retirement of a lifelong civil servant, Clarence Brown. Clarence has selflessly served the citizens of Bartow County for more than 38 years, and his tenure as Bartow County Commissioner is the longest to date.

Clarence began his service with a plan and vision for Bartow County, and under his leadership it has flourished. Some highlights of his public service are the implementation of the county's growth management plan in 1996, the completion of Georgia Highlands College, and the development of the nation's first county-wide Environmental Management System.

Each of these accomplishments shaped Bartow County, but Clarence's legacy of leadership is truly defined by his character. He paid extraordinary attention to public input and cared deeply for the people he governed.

In recognition of Clarence's selfless service and commitment to the community, the county named the conference center in Cartersville in his honor. However, this was not an easy task given Clarence's humble nature!

It took the community, a judge, and Clarence's wife to convince him to agree to the dedication. To this day when asked about the Clarence Brown Conference Center, Clarence will humbly reply, "It's just a name on a building."

Through his philanthropic and civic contributions, Clarence's impact on our community is immeasurable. He has, and will, continue to lead our community with integrity and honor.

Clarence represents the best of the 11th District, the best of Georgia, and indeed the best of public servants. I am proud to call him a friend,

TRIBUTE TO KIMBERLY WELCH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Kimberly Welch, a model servant of the needs of the public, a person dedicated to the importance of family, and native New Yorker.

Ms. Kimberly Welch has been working at the Health & Hospital Corporation for 22 years, beginning as an office aide and now Assistant Associate, providing much help in Mental Health Services to the citizens of Brooklyn. She has focused and devoted her time enlightening, understanding and caring for patients.

An advocate of education, Ms. Welch attended Boricua College in Brooklyn, where she earned a Bachelors of Science Degree in human services. She is active in her children's education and was elected vice president of the PTA at her children's school.

Ms. Welch has always had an interest in helping families, especially in underserved communities. Thinking about ways she could fulfill this desire, she joined an organization named "SomeMeTime", which allows her the ability to empower women. The annual Mother's Day Brunch provides mothers with a day of rest and relaxation. Ms. Welch also participates in programs that educate women on the importance of good health and hygiene.

Ms. Welch volunteers in a very special organization named "L.A.C.E. Leading Ladies" which is dear to her heart because her daughter is one of the founding members. This organization based in Brooklyn, collects, cleans, and distributes prom and graduation dresses to underprivileged junior high school girls throughout New York City. In the spring of

2012, they provided dresses to more than 625 young girls.

Ms. Welch enjoys the holidays and says it's her favorite and busiest time of the year. She participates in an annual turkey giveaway to the community and she helps feed less fortunate families on Thanksgiving Day. At Christmas, she assists with coordinating the distribution of toys for chronic substance abuse families and children with a history of mental illness. Kimberly is also affiliated with an organization that allows these families to have their photos professionally taken for their holiday memories.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Ms. Kimberly Welch for her efforts advocating for the well-being of our disenfranchised fellow citizens.

DOT WRIGHT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dot Wright for her outstanding service to our community.

Since 2008 Dot has served as President and CEO of the Arvada Chamber of Commerce. Her successes have led to significant growth in the chamber's membership and outreach efforts. In addition, Dot has worked tirelessly to create a better trained workforce for jobs of the 21st Century.

In 2011, Dot created the Jefferson County Business Education Alliance (JCBEA) which partners business owners and students with educational opportunities such as internships and job shadowing. Her vision led to a full-time position with the Jefferson County Department of Human Services tasked with expanding this successful program county-wide.

Dot is also involved with many community organizations. She serves on the Arvada Colts Board of Directors, Arvada Economic Development Association, Arvada Jefferson Kiwanis Club, the Arvada—Wheat Ridge Ambassadors for Youth and the Historic Olde Town Arvada Board of Directors. She also serves on my Small Business Advisory Committee.

I extend my deepest congratulations to my friend Dot Wright for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ROGER MORRIS CARTER

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the accomplished life of one of Louisiana's own, Roger Morris Carter. Born in Ferriday, La., to William Prentiss Carter, Jr. and Carolyn Rogers Carter, he attended Louisiana State University for both a B.S. in Agriculture (Entomology) in 1972 and M.S. in Plant Pathology in 1975. During this time, he married his wife, Lise' Anne Clower on December 21, 1972. Their union later produced one son, Anthony Bronson Carter, who with his wife, Jessica Boyette, has given Roger and Lise' five grandchildren.

With an impressive foundation of scientific knowledge, a natural aptitude for working the land and a political astuteness uncommon in a single person, Roger's work has been instrumental in revolutionizing farming in Louisiana and throughout the country. As a highly sought after agricultural consultant, Roger pioneered the use of precision agriculture in our area by using electrical conductivity (EC) to separate soil types and developing ''zones'', so that the fertilizer and lime needs of the soil could be addressed precisely in each zone.

Additionally, Roger is a prominent member of the National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants (NAICC), having served as both president and treasurer over the years. NAICC is widely respected for its impartial and independent views on topics related to agriculture. It was very influential in assisting the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in creating the Worker Protection Standard regulations as well as Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Conservation Stewardship Program with various conservation measures. While Roger was treasurer of NAICC, he began ''Dads in DC'' which later became ''Crawfish Boil on the Hill,'' an annual institution. Over 300 people attended this year, including six congressmen, and individuals from the House and Senate Ag Committee, EPA and United States Department of Agriculture staffers including those in NRCS and the Food Safety Administration.

Over his lifetime, Roger has been a member of scores of professional associations, and has received countless awards, while always maintaining his own farm and continuously giving back to his community. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life works of Roger Morris Carter and to wish him future success in all of his ventures.

HONORING THE SANTA ROSA SYMPHONY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Santa Rosa Symphony on the occasion of its orchestral opening of the Green Music Center. The Green Music Center is a recently-completed music and art venue on the campus of Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, California. Named after Donald and Maureen Green, it is comprised of the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Hall and the Schroeder Recital Hall as well as a multi-use education facility and an elegant hospitality center. The symphony made its debut performance as Resident Orchestra of the Green Music Center on September 30, 2012.

In 1998, the Board of Directors of the Santa Rosa Symphony marked a new era by joining Sonoma State University to raise funds for a new concert hall. Although this was no easy task, persistence paid off. Donald Green has been the spirit of the project; start-up financial support and leadership from Don and his wife Maureen, the vision of Sonoma State President Ruben Arminana, and the assistance of Sandy and Joan Weill plus hundreds of supporters of the Santa Rosa Symphony has made the Center a reality. With this project, the symphony enhances its dream of being one of the leading regional symphony orchestras in America.

Fourteen years later, the completion of the Green Music Center and Weill Hall is an impressive and important step towards fulfilling that vision. On September 30th, the Santa Rosa Symphony celebrated 85 years of music and stepped over the threshold of its new home at the Green Music Center. The symphony also recognized three talented individuals who helped develop and usher in this new era: Conductor Emeritus Corrick Brown, Conductor Laureate Jeffrey Kahane and current Music Director Bruno Ferrandis.

The first performance was mesmerizing as Maestro Brown conducted Beethoven's overture, Consecration of the House as an appropriate beginning in the acoustically-superb Weill Hall, and Maestro Ferrandis took the podium for the remainder of the program. It included Ravel's Bolero, Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto performed by Kahane, Copland's great Canticle of Freedom, featuring the 100–voice Symphony Honor Choir, and ended with three encores.

To mark this long-awaited moment, the Symphony also commissioned an orchestral work. by Petaluma resident and critically-acclaimed contemporary composer Nolan Gasser. His Sonoma Overture evoked the natural beauty of Sonoma County and recognized the energy and dynamism of its cities, industries and people.

This was truly a transformative moment that seldom is afforded any American orchestra—to call a world class concert hall its home, rivaling the Vienna Philharmonic's Musikverein concert hall and the Boston Symphony's Ozawa Hall at Tanglewood.

In addition to being a home for the symphony, the Center will serve as a venue to showcase excellent music from around the Bay Area and beyond. In fact, just a day before the symphony's opening performance, renowned Chinese pianist Lang Lang dazzled at the Green Music Center's grand opening with a one-night-only recital. And only a week later, on October 6th, Music Director Bruno Ferrandis partnered with the Kronos Quartet to perform Mozart's Overture to The Magic Flute, Mahler's Symphony No. I, Titan, and the world premiere of Concerto for String Quartet, Orchestra and Electronics, The Last Internal Combustion Engine by composerin-residence Edmund Campion.

Mr. Speaker, we congratulate the Santa Rosa Symphony for all its hard work. Truly a new dawn is breaking for this orchestra and for Sonoma County that will both invite and challenge them to new heights of artistic excellence and community engagement.

TRIBUTE TO EVARISTO OLANREWAJU AKERELE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate and pay tribute to Dr. Evaristo

Olanrewaju Akerele for his contributions to the community.

Dr. Evaristo Olanrewaju Akerele was born in Nigeria. He comes from a long line of physicians and attorneys. His great Aunt was the first woman physician in West Africa. He is a devoted father of three beautiful daughters whom he loves dearly.

Dr. Akerele received his Bachelor of Science with Honors in Biochemistry from the University Of London, England. He went on to earn his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj Napoca, Romania. He trained as a research fellow in Addiction Psychiatry and later served as the Co-director of the Substance Abuse Research Fellowship program at Columbia. While there he pursued a Master's in Public Health Policy and Management from Columbia University. Dr. Akerele, is an accomplished researcher, educator, administrator and clinician. He has published several papers, received State and Federal Grants from agencies like the National Institute on Drug Abuse. He also served as the Associate Director of Psychiatry and Director of the Residency Training at Harlem Hospital, and Columbia University. Dr. Akerele also served as the Vice President and Medical Director for Phoenix House where he was responsible for the Medical Management for over 3000 patients.

Equally important, Dr. Akerele has served as the Board Examiner for the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology since 2005. Dr. Akerele is very active in multiple professional associations at National and State levels. Finally, he served as the chair of the New York State Substance Abuse committee, also as State representative to the American Psychiatric Association National Assembly. He is a distinguished fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and past President of the New York County American Psychiatric Association. With all of his achievements, Dr. Akerele is filled with thankfulness, because he understands that he is the beneficiary of the hard work and sacrifices of those that came before him.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of Dr. Evaristo Olanrewaju Akerele.

CHERI JAHN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Senator Cheri Jahn for her service to our community.

Colorado State Senator Cheri Jahn is a single mother of three and small business owner in Wheat Ridge. For 30 years, Cheri has proudly owned and operated Colorado Housekeeping Services, LLC, which she has grown into a cornerstone of the community.

While raising three children and running her business, Cheri earned her Paralegal degree from the Community College of Denver. Cheri uses her business acumen in her position as a Colorado State Senator.

Her successes in the business world led to her most recent accomplishment as a State Senator. By striving to aid other local businesses, Cheri passed legislation to save small businesses hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars in unemployment insurance premiums.

It is with extreme gratitude that I commend Cheri Jahn for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

IN SUPPORT OF SECTION 1096 OF H.R. 4310, THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013, TO DISPLAY TERRITORIAL FLAGS AT MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support for section 1096 of H.R. 4310, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013. The provision, sponsored by my friend and colleague, Congressman GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN, fixes oversights by the Department of Defense. The provision would ensure that flags of the U.S. territories and the District of Columbia are required to be displayed alongside the flags of the 50 states. Current regulations by the Department of Defense are too permissive and many military installations across the globe do not include flags from the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories.

Millions of men and women from the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories have answered the call to duty in every conflict the United States has engaged in over the course of its history. Most recently, thousands of men and women have answered the call to support missions in Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa and Iraq. Moreover, National Guardsmen from DC and the U.S. territories have supported homeland defense missions from protecting the border, to recovery efforts following Hurricane Katrina and Superstorm Sandy. Men and women in uniform from DC and the U.S. territories have answered the call to duty and it is only right that the symbol of their homes be displayed wherever and whenever the Department of Defense displays the flags of the 50 states.

As Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness and as a member of the Subcommittee on Military Personnel, I will advocate for this provision to be carried in any Conference Committee report on the FY13 NDAA. As the Senate begins consideration of their version of the FY13 NDAA, I urge my colleagues in the U.S. Senate to include this provision in their bill as well. This provision just makes sense and it is important to reflect the colors of the flags of the District of Columbia and U.S. territories in any display of the flag by DoD. Servicemembers from these jurisdictions are respected and important members of the Armed Services and deserve to have the colors of their homes displayed.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HARBOR BEACH PIRATES, DIVISION 8 STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincerest congratulations to Michigan's Harbor Beach Pirates High School Varsity Football Team. The Harbor Beach Pirates ended a remarkable 2012 season last Friday by winning Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) Division 8 State Championship!

This win marks the first football state championship win in Harbor Beach High School's history, and ending a 13 games won and only one loss season for the Pirates, a season that includes a. Greater Thumb East Conference title, a district title, and a regional title.

The Harbor Beach Pirates were able to accomplish this feat at Detroit's Ford Field, home of the Detroit Lions. The Pirates won the Championship despite the best efforts of their opponents, the Beal City Aggies.

The Pirates dominated their competition throughout the state playoffs, a journey that culminated in the Pirates winning the Michigan State Championship game by a score of 35–10. This winning score was achieved through a combination of a stingy defense that had multiple red-zone stops and a complete team offensive effort.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor the hard work and sportsmanship displayed by all the members of the Pirates. I applaud these young men for always remaining both mentally and physically ready to compete, and for staying energized and focused each time they stepped on to the gridiron. I understand this can be extremely difficult considering the numerous pressures and distractions high school student-athletes can encounter, but these brave men are wonderful examples of hard-work to achieve your goals.

I also wish to acknowledge the administrators, teachers, cheerleaders, parents, students and fans alike for their assistance and support in making this a truly unforgettable season.

The Pirates proved they had the talent and the perseverance to rise to the challenge and accomplish their ultimate goal—a Michigan State Championship!

In closing Mr. Speaker, I am so proud of how hard this team worked together, and I want to offer my personal congratulations and best wishes. All the accolades, awards, and trophies are rightfully deserved. Way to go Pirates!

KATHY HODGSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kathy Hodgson for her outstanding service to our community.

As Lakewood City Manager, Kathy Hodgson's efforts have bolstered the city's financial

reserves to an historic level. Her successful leadership has led her team to entice new businesses to locate in Lakewood.

Kathy's collaborative nature was demonstrated when she spearheaded an effort to save a Lakewood middle school from closure. Now, that school is part of the International Baccalaureate (IB) program and home to Jefferson County's first Boys and Girls Club.

Among her successes, Kathy is president of the Metro City and County Management Association and sits on the Jeffco Schools Capital Asset Advisory Committee. Also, Kathy was appointed by Governor Hickenlooper to the Red Rock's Community College President's Advisory Council.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kathy Hodgson for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County and to thank her for her commitment to our community. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO ERIC ADAMS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Eric L. Adams, a former Captain of the New York City Police Department and current member of the New York State Senate.

As a Captain in the NYPD, Eric Adams became well-known to New Yorkers as a tireless and thoughtful advocate for the people and communities he served, and he earned widespread praise for creating innovative programs on issues ranging from conflict resolution to child abuse prevention. Eric Adams co-founded 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement Who Care, a group comprised of law enforcement personnel and their supporters, to provide assistance and subsidies to community-based organizations that strive to improve their neighborhoods. He also is a former Chairperson of the Grand Council for the Guardians and serves on the board of the Eastern District Counseling Service, an organization that assists former substance abusers to live productive lives without dependency on drugs or alcohol. On November 7, 2006, Captain Adams ended his 22-year career in the New York City Police Department; Eric L. Adams traded his blue uniform for a blue suit when the resident of the 20th Senatorial District elected him to the New York State Senate.

Eric Adams is well known for his efforts in closing the gap through changing relationships between law enforcement and the residents of New York's diverse neighborhoods. His highly-regarded instructional workshops, ''What To Do When Stopped By The Police,'' has helped thousands of young people throughout New York learn to interact more appropriately with the police by using established conflict resolution skills. The forums have been duplicated throughout the country and provided a generation of youngsters with a better understanding of reliable methods to resolve difficult conflicts—not only with the police, but also with teachers, peers, and others. Senator Adams also created a series of free public safety seminars for New York City parents to address issues including gang awareness and child abuse prevention and to review methods to protect children from abduction. He also created an annual ''Cradle to College'' Parent and Youth Empowerment Seminar to empower families and enable parents to build upon their progeny's strengths to avoid the pitfalls of youth.

Mr. Speaker, may our country continue to benefit from the civic actions of committed and laudable community leaders such as Eric L. Adams.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to New York State Senator Eric Adams.

HONORING CONGREGATION AHAVATH SHOLOM

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Congregation Ahavath Sholom for its 120 years of dedication to the Fort Worth community. Congregation Ahavath Sholom was established in1892, and is the oldest Jewish congregation in Fort Worth, Texas.

Led by Rabbi Andrew Bloom and Cantor Shoshana Abrams, this Conservative Congregation holds a deep commitment to Tikkun Olam, repairing of the world. Through interfaith programs and outreach, Congregation Ahavath Sholom acts upon this commitment.

For many years the congregation has collected food for the Tarrant County Food Bank on Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish calendar. This year, Congregation Ahavath Sholom is holding its 2nd Annual Community-wide Chanukah Candle Lighting in which the City of Fort Worth has joined as an official sponsor. Mayor Betsy Price and I will serve as honorary candle lighters.

Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, commemorates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem after the Jewish victory over an oppressive army of Syrians and Greeks in 165 B.C.E., who had not allowed the Jewish people to live or worship freely. This Festival celebrates the freedom of religion, culture and self-determination that God has granted to all human beings—a founding principle of our country.

Congregation Ahavath Sholom participated in Mayor Betsy Price's ''Connect with the Community'' program on October 25th. During the ceremony, the Congregation was honored for its participation in the Tarrant Area Community of Churches and Fort Worth Housing Authority's ''Clean for Quarters'' program—a program allowing those who were formerly homeless to have clean clothes ready for job interviews and work assignments.

Through Rabbi Bloom's involvement and leadership, the congregation has enjoyed new initiatives in the areas of pluralism and cultural diversity in collaboration with the Fort Worth Intermediate School District, and has worked to foster greater understanding between faiths with its neighboring churches, the Brite Divinity School and Texas Christian University.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COLUMBIA NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM CRITICAL AUTHORITIES ACT OF 2012

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, The National Park System Critical Authorities Act of 2012, which I introduce today, is a bill that I have worked on with the National Park Service (NPS), at its request, to create greater efficiency and to address three common-sense issues: (1) snow removal from federal agency property in the District of Columbia, (2) visitor and employee access to historic NPS property' in Virginia, and (3) uniform penalties for violations on NPS lands.

Section two of the bill amends a 1922 law by making federal agencies in the District responsible for the removal of snow and ice in public areas associated with their buildings. For years, agencies have taken this commonsense approach in the District and assumed this responsibility, but the law has never been updated to reflect the practice, leaving NPS with legal liability. This bill simply brings the law in line with current practice.

Section three of the bill promotes greater efficiency and protection to NPS, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) by authorizing a small interagency land exchange near the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Currently, Colonial Farm Road provides public and staff access to Claude Moore Colonial Farm (the Farm), but also serves as an entrance road to the CIA's George Bush Center for Intelligence and the FHWA Turner Fairbanks Research Center. NPS and FHWA have a written agreement permitting visitor access to the Farm. However, the three agencies have discussed concerns over crossing property lines, the need to improve security and add perimeter fencing, and the need to have uninterrupted access to their properties. The agencies have identified parcels on their boundaries suitable for exchange that will provide access to the Farm, and provide the means to improve security for the CIA and FHWA facilities.

Section four of the bill eliminates inconsistencies in federal penalties for crimes committed in certain park units. The inclusion of a number of military and historic sites in the National Park System during the 1930s resulted in a disparity in criminal penalties, which undermines fair and effective law enforcement and criminal prosecution. The bill would remedy this problem by making violations subject to the same penalties.

I ask that my colleagues support this no-cost bill.

JEANNE OLIVER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jeanne Oliver for her continued commitment to our community.

Jeanne Oliver is an essential member of the executive management team for the Jefferson Center for Mental Health. Her position encompasses many roles including corporate communication, marketing and fund development. Jeanne is the center's Public Information Officer and is a part of its Political Action Network.

Jeanne is an expert in crisis management and presents nationally on crisis communication. Her commitment to aiding members of our community throughout times of crisis was instrumental in helping families after the Columbine shootings, the recent wildfires and the Aurora movie theater tragedy.

Through her concerted efforts to secure private donations and grants, Jeanne has helped the Jefferson Center better serve the mentally ill in our communities during these hard economic times. It is thanks to her commitment and outstanding leadership, the Jefferson Center for Mental Health's donations have grown substantially. Jeanne truly epitomizes every aspect of a selfless steward to the community.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jeanne Oliver for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO EDNA M. JOHNSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Edna Johnson, for her contribution to her community and dedication to my Brooklyn office.

Edna Johnson was born and raised in small steel mill town in Clairton, Pennsylvania, the youngest of nine children where her parents also raised four of their grandchildren. She studied music at the Hayes Schools of Music in Pittsburgh at a very young age. After graduating from Clairton High School she relocated to New York City where she lived in Manhattan for over 30 years. She joined Broadway United Church of Christ and served as Deacon, Trustee, and Steward. The church took it upon itself to pay her college expenses, which led her to Pace University in the evenings for seven years before receiving a BA in Political Science.

Edna previously worked as a Parent Organizer working with parents in the public schools. While living in Manhattan she became chairperson of the Tenant Association in Clinton Towers for five years. Edna also chaired the 79th Precinct Community Council for six years where she changed the attitudes of people in the community to work with the local police.

Edna served as Special Assistant to in my office serving the 10th Congressional District in Brooklyn. She is also a member of Community Board 3 and has received several citations for perfect attendance. In her first year on the board she was Chairperson of the Police, Fire and Safety Committee. Edna now Chairs the Health Hospital and Social Services Committee. She is currently in her third year as Chair of the Board of Directors for Northeast Brooklyn Housing Development Co.

In recognition of her services she has received citations from me, City Councilwoman Robinson, The NYC Police Department, The 79th Precinct Council, The Brooklyn Job Corps, A.I.D.P. at P.S. 26, Hebron Baptist Church, Greater Cross Road Baptist Church, Bridge Street Development Corporation, The Bedford Stuyvesant Community Block Association and The National Night Out Committee.

Edna is a very active mother in the lives of children, D'Shawn & Fred, her son-in-law Mark, and two grandchildren, Markell and Kayla. She is Choir Director, Trustee, Chair of the Pastoi's Aide Committee and member at The Greater Cross Road Baptist Church. She is also an original member of Naomi Shelton and the Gospel Queens singing all over the United States and Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mrs. Edna Johnson for her commitment to our Brooklyn community.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT HENRY OBERMAN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Henry Oberman of Clive, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Henry raised over one thousand dollars as he oversaw the installation of a meditation garden at Heartland Presbyterian Church. The work ethic Henry has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Henry and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

CONGRATULATING JACK TAYLOR AND THE GRINNELL COLLEGE BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jack Taylor and the Grinnell College basketball team. On November 20th, Taylor broke the NCAA single game scoring record by scoring 138 points in one game. The Grinnell Pioneers won by a final score of 179 to 104.

Taylor, a sophomore at Grinnell, broke the NCAA record by 25 points. The previous scoring record was set at 113 points back in 1954. Taylor attempted an astonishing 108 shots, an average of one shot every 20 seconds. Overall, Taylor made 52 out of his 108 scoring attempts. He also made 27 of his 71 3-point attempts. His record setting game drew praise from some of the NBA's biggest stars. Taylor was also interviewed on Sports Center, Good Morning America and the Today Show about the game. When asked about the game, Taylor said he was thankful to his teammates for their support and their willingness to give him the ball so he could try and break the record. Taylor said he would not have been able to break the record without their help.

Next year, I will have the honor and privilege to represent Grinnell College in the House of Representatives. I'm proud to have Grinnell College in my new district and I congratulate both Jack Taylor and the Pioneers basketball team on their record breaking victory last week.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND RANDY LEE WARE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor to Reverend Randy Lee Ware for his ongoing service to his community.

Reverend Ware is a native of Brooklyn, New York and now resides in Arverne, New York. He received his elementary education at P.S. 191 and high school education at Fort Hamilton High School in Brooklyn. He went on to continue his education at Staten Island Community College for two years. In May 1990 he completed his B.A. degree in Liberal Arts and Psychology from the College of New Rochelle and in May 2011 he received his Master of Divinity degree from New York Theological Seminary. Reverend Ware has been accepted to the doctoral programs at the New York Theological Seminary.

Reverend Ware joined Berean Missionary Baptist Church in 1977 and was baptized under the leadership of the late Dr. Hylton L. James. He entered the ministry at Berean in 1983 under the leadership of Reverend Gus Roman. On April 12, 1992, under the leadership of Dr. Arlee Griffin Jr., he was ordained. He was an associate minister at Berean Missionary Baptist Church and was involved in the Christian Education Department, taught the Young Adult Sunday School class and taught at the Berean Bible Institute. He served two years as the interm minister at Kenilworth Baptist Church, Brooklyn.

In October 2004, Pastor Ware was appointed 2nd Vice President of the Congress of Christian Education for the New York Progressive Baptist State Convention, Inc. In August 2005, Pastor Ware preached at the Progressive National Baptist Conference's Ministers Seminar in Detroit, Michigan. In October 2011, Pastor Ware became the President of the New

York Progressive Baptist State Convention, Inc. In the same month, he was also unanimously voted in as the Moderator of the New York Missionary Baptist Association. Reverend Ware also worked at Metropolitan Hospital for 21 years and is presently employed at the New York City Department of Education.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Reverend Randy Lee Ware as an outstanding citizen and commend him on his commitment to his community.

LYNN JOHNSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Lynn Johnson for her service to our community.

Lynn is the epitome of a collaborator. She works hard to ensure bipartisanship and takes pride in her ability to help organizations reach common ground in order to best work together to meet a common goal. In 2009, Lynn collaborated with local county Commissioners around the state to find ways for state and local governments to be less adversarial and more willing to work together to achieve greater results.

As a result of her efforts, Lynn created ''REAL Colorado'' a program now starting to take effect. Also, Lynn is focusing on creating two new initiatives at Human Services to bolster our local economy. She created the Jeffco Prosperity Project which partners with Jeffco Public Schools to address poverty in our community. In her spare time, she also created the AddONE Campaign to generate jobs and boost the economy.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Lynn Johnson for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO BELVA DAVIS

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary woman, Belva Davis, and her storied career. She has been an icon of Bay Area journalism, and the first African-American reporter on the West Coast of the United States.

Belva Davis was born in Monroe, Louisiana, on October 13, 1932, to John and Florence Davis. She moved with her parents and three younger siblings to West Oakland at the age of eight, and the family later moved to Berkeley. Belva graduated from Berkeley High School in 1951, the first in her family to graduate from high school, married at the age of 20, and had two children. Belva's first job was as a typist, and next as a freelancer for Jet. She began writing for the Sun Reporter and the Bay Area Independent, and in 1961 she became an on-air interviewer for KSAN. She made her television debut hosting an African-American beauty pageant. In 2010 she published her autobiography, Never in my Wildest Dreams: A Black Woman's Life in Journalism, which begins with her story of being chased from the 1964 Republican Convention at the Cow Palace in San Francisco by a threatening crowd screaming racist slurs.

During her news career, Belva Davis covered the birth of the Black Panthers, the assassination of Mayor George Moscone, and the Free Speech Movement at Berkeley. She has interviewed countless world leaders, anchored hundreds of news programs on several stations, and been part of many organizations, including the Museum of the African Diaspora, which she was instrumental in creating.

Belva Davis has earned countless accolades. She was inducted into the Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame in 2007, and has been awarded two honorary doctorate degrees. She has earned six regional Emmy Awards, and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences in 1996. Leader Nancy Pelosi said of Belva, ''When she speaks, people listen.''

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude to Belva Davis for her inspiring leadership of countless women who seek careers in broadcasting, and for the thousands of hours of quality television she has provided as host of ''This Week in Northern California'' on KQED, from which she retired in November, 2012. We wish Belva and her beloved husband Bill Moore every blessing as they enjoy the fruits of their well-deserved retirement. Because of her first rate professionalism, broad knowledge and intellect, she has informed Bay Area citizens for decades, strengthening our communities, our country and our democracy.

IN HONOR OF MR. MARK ARMOUR

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Financial Officer of Reed Elsevier Mark Armour as he announces his retirement from the company. Mark Armour has been with Reed Elsevier for over 17 years and is the longest serving Chief Financial Officer in the FTSE–100. During his tenure, Mr. Armour has been an instrumental and continuous member of the leadership team that has transformed Reed Elsevier from a broad-based traditional print publisher to a world leading provider of digital information solutions across scientific, health, legal and risk markets. Reed Elsevier helps its professional customers improve outcomes by helping them to make better decisions, get better results and be more productive.

In addition to serving its professional customers, Reed Elsevier is committed to contributing to society in the many ways its businesses are uniquely equipped. Elsevier plays an important role in advancing science and improving healthcare through its information solutions, of which the U.S. is the largest contributor. LexisNexis Risk Solutions provides important information to law enforcement agencies across the country to help them locate missing children, investigate crimes and track down criminals. LexisNexis Legal & Professional is dedicated to advancing the Rule of Law around the world and has provided thousands of hours of pro bono work to protect basic human rights and help promote fair and equal justice for all. Reed Exhibitions and Reed Business Information bring communities together by enhancing productivity and efficiency.

When Mr. Armour joined Reed Elsevier in 1995 just 4 percent of the company's $5.8 billion revenue was derived from electronic products. Today, Reed Elsevier is a $9.6 billion business employing over 30,000 people across more than 100 locations worldwide, with nearly 65 percent of revenues sourced electronically. In the United States, Mr. Armour has helped to grow Reed Elsevier from a business with approximately $2.4 billion in revenue and 11,500 employees in 1995 to a $5.2 billion business with over 16,000 employees today. During his time at Reed Elsevier Mr. Armour has also made significant contributions to his profession, serving on a number of advisory panels and working groups for the UK government and the Financial Reporting Council.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Armour on his achievements and thanking him for his contribution and dedication to Reed Elsevier and its employees.

BETTY PROCTOR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Betty Proctor for her continued service to our community.

Betty Proctor founded the organization, Helping Hearts and Hands, to give thousands of people a second chance. For over 30 years, her organization has helped people in our community who are facing eviction, utility shutoff, life saving prescriptions or other necessities such as car repairs to get to work.

Betty's personal commitment to the community spans for more than 50 years. Betty continues to help those in need find a way out of the proverbial rock and hard place. After retiring from her position as a caseworker, Betty founded the organization Helping Hearts and Hands. Now, at 80 years of age, Betty advocates for seniors in our community.

I extend my deepest congratulation to Betty Proctor for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY SMALL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate and pay tribute to Ms. Dorothy Small for her contributions to the community.

Professor Dorothy Small has dedicated her life to strengthen the growth and development

of children from all areas of the world. Professor Small was born in Colon, Panama. She attended Elementary School at Escuela Republica del Paraguay and continued her education at Abel Bravo High School. Professor Small initiated studies for a Spanish professorship at Panama University in 1955 and graduated in 1960. She continued Graduate Studies at Panama University and obtained a Ucentiate in Philosophy and Letters with Specialization in Spanish in 1962. In 1963 she attended the Interamerican University of Coahuila, Mexico and obtained a Masters Degree in Spanish Grammar and Literature.

Ms. Small migrated to the United States in 1966 and attended Columbia University pursuing studies toward school administration. She graduated in 1969 and obtained a Professional Diploma. Upon graduating from Columbia University she worked for Cornell University as a bilingual research associate. Her duties were to instruct low-income homemakers in home management and consumer education. From 1974 to 1977 she served as a director of education in the South Bronx for drug addicts and alcoholics. Her mission was to place them in schools and jobs after rehabilitation. Ms. Small joined the Board of Education in 1977 as a bilingual teacher. In 1979 she transferred to bilingual special education in order to guide and assist Hispanic students who were wrongfully placed. With the assistance of the Board of Education, she continued her studies in special education at Brooklyn College.

In 1982, she obtained a Master of Science Degree in Education with Specialization in Children with Special Needs. Professor Small served in the evenings as an adjunct professor of spanish at Bronx Community College and at City College for 10 years. Professor Small is an assiduous community worker. She is a member of the Canarsie Community Council, the Vice President of the Women's Caucus for Congressman Edolphus Towns, the Trustee for the Day of Independence Committee of Panamanians in New York. She is also a soloist of the choir of St. Martin Roman Catholic Church and a member of the choir of the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music. She is also a member of many other organizations. Currently Professor Small is a retired assistant principal and her life goal and aspirations are to produce successful students and citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of Ms. Dorothy Small.

HONORING THE GRADUATES OF THE ROOFER'S LOCAL UNION 26

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sincerity and respect that I offer congratulations to several of Northwest Indiana's most talented, dedicated, and hardworking individuals. On Saturday, December 1, 2012, the Roofers Local Union 26 will honor the graduating class of 2012 at the Annual Apprentice Graduation Banquet, which will be held at the Patio Restaurant in Merrillville, Indiana.

At this year's banquet, the Roofers Local Union 26 will recognize and honor the following individuals who have completed their apprentice training in 2012: Jeremy Villarruel, Curtis Mueller, Jason Gutierrez, Jeremy Marsh, Mike Sallee, Fausto Jimenez Jr., Kevin Cooper, Travis Nuss, Chris Kittle, Tommy Haynes, and David Garcia.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in its craftsmanship and loyalty by its tradesmen. These graduates are outstanding examples of each. They have mastered their trade and have demonstrated their loyalty to both the union and the community through their hard work and tireless dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these dedicated and hardworking individuals. Along with the other men and women of Northwest Indiana's unions, these individuals have committed themselves to making a significant contribution to the growth and development of the economy of the First Congressional District, and I am very proud to represent them in Washington, D.C.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF AUDREY NEAL

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of Ms. Audrey Neal. After four decades of faithfully serving the Wilson community, Audrey Neal will retire next month. Ms. Neal began working at the Wilson County Register of Deeds in 1972 as a Deputy Register of Deeds. In her position she helped to oversee Wilson County's real property and vital records.

In 2002, Ms. Neal was appointed to complete the unexpired term of then-Register of Deeds, Ms. Celia Brinson. Due to Audrey's leadership and experience, she was elected in 2004 to serve a full term as Register of Deeds, and has been reelected since.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Neal is retiring from Wilson County Register Deeds after a remarkable 40 years of service on December 3.

As she enters this new chapter in her life, I ask my colleagues to join me in showing gratitude for Audrey's service, and in congratulating her on retiring. Congratulations Audrey, well done.

PRISCILLA BOHL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Priscilla Bohl for her outstanding service to our community.

Priscilla's passion for business and economic development is exemplified through her efforts with the Jefferson County Career Center and collaborating with local businesses to match the unemployed with jobs.

Priscilla was instrumental in the development and implementation of the successful AddONE campaign, an initiative to generate local jobs. She worked tirelessly to bring together elected officials, local businesses, and economic development professionals to bolster AddONE's efficacy.

Priscilla serves on the Advisory Council of the Jefferson County Business Resource Center and the Jefferson County Advanced Manufacturing Council. Priscilla also works with various tactical teams related to the Governor's Blueprint for targeted industries in the State of Colorado.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Priscilla Bohl for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County and thank her for her commitment to the community. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO BEATRICE GONZALEZ

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Beatrice Gonzalez. She inherited her love for serving people and her community from her father Mr. Salvador and mother Pilar Gonzalez, who were part of the founding members of the Puerto Rican Merchants Association in the 1950's in Brownsville, Brooklyn. Ms Gonzalez is a devoted single mother to her son Julian Michael Perez who has become a well renowned musician.

Ms. Gonzalez has acted as a community leader and advocate for the intellectual disabilities as the Director of Human Resources and Special Assistant to the President/CEO of the Federation of Multicultural Programs, Inc. For the past 28 year She has initiated several programs that have enhanced the quality of life for people with intellectual disabilities throughout city.

Ms. Gonzales has been active in programs that address violence within youth populations working with community leaders, State Legislators and clergy. Ms Gonzalez is well known for her tenacity, hard work and generosity towards those who are less fortunate in our society. Mr. Speaker, Beatrice Gonzalez is truly one of the New York City's unsung heroes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Ms. Beatrice Gonzalez.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REVEREND JIMMY PYLES

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Reverend Jimmie Pyles of Quitman, La. Reverend Pyles was a beacon of light to countless souls during his 60 years of Methodist ministry, and he will be sorely missed.

Born on May 20, 1935, Reverend Pyles grew up in Jonesboro, La. He received his degree in theological studies from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, and married Dessie Hinton Pyles of Quitman. Their union produced Andy Pyles, who is now the

head football coach at Winnfield High School. Pyles's three grandchildren, Tyler, Dustin, and Kayla, were his pride and joy. Reverend Pyles was very much a family man who lived an honorable life, striving to lead by example and be the best he could be, personally and professionally.

Reverend Pyles's passion in life was serving God and people. He lived this passion every day through his work, while serving as a pastor of 10 different Methodist churches, on the board of the United Methodist Children's Home in Ruston, at the General Secretary of the United Christian Ashram, on the Executive Committee for the World Methodist Council, as Ruston District Supervisor, and in his daily life as a husband, parent, and grandparent, among many other posts he has occupied. He gave freely and generously of himself and his time, and the world is truly a better place for his efforts.

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 remember Reverend Pyles, there can be no doubt that he lived and died in his faith. Reverend Pyles's life is an example to all of us.

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

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL (U.S. ARMY-RET) LEE F. KICHEN)

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Lieutenant Colonel (U.S. Army-Ret) Lee F. Kichen of Sarasota, Florida. Colonel Kichen is a great American who recently retired after decades of service to his country and his fellow veterans.

Colonel Kichen most recently served as a state service officer with the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) at the Veterans Affairs Regional Office in St. Petersburg. He was also the VFW's state legislative chairman. Successive VFW Commanders in Chief also appointed Lee to the National Security and Foreign Affairs Committee, National By-Laws and Resolutions Committee, Veterans Services Resolution Committee and the National Legislative Committee. In these positions, he has been a tireless and effective advocate for our Veterans.

As a state service officer for the VFW and in a previous position as a veterans service officer for Sarasota County, Lee has helped countless veterans and their families obtain from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs benefits, such as disability compensation, pensions, health care, and vocational and rehabilitation training.

I had the privilege of working with Lee in his capacity as VFW legislative chairman on several issues, including the establishment of a national cemetery in Sarasota to ensure area veterans are laid to rest with the respect and dignity they deserve and passage of the Post 9/11 GI bill to provide service men and women who have served in active duty since September 11, 2001 with additional education benefits similar to those provided in the G.I bill.

Lee is a native of Framingham, Massachusetts.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and Master of Arts degrees from Pacific Lutheran University and Chapman University.

In addition to his civilian education, Lee is a graduate of the Army's Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas and the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

He retired from the United States Army in 1997 after twenty-seven years of service as an Armor officer. He served in various command and staff positions in the Continental United States and overseas.

His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, with one oak leaf cluster; the Meritorious Service Medal, with two oak leaf clusters; the Army Commendation Medal, with two oak leaf clusters; the Army Achievement Medal and the Korea Defense Service Medal. He also wears the Army Staff Identification Badge, the Army Superior Unit Award, the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, the Bronze Medallion of the Order of St. George, and the Silver Medallion of the Order of St. George.

He is a Gold Legacy Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Children's Home, the Military Officers Association of America and the Military Order of the World Wars.

He is also a member of the Jewish War Veterans, the AMVETS, the American Legion, the Association of the United States Army, the Armor Association, the United States Cavalry Association, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks.

Lee is on the Board of Directors of the 3rd Cavalry Association. He served as President of the Sarasota County Veterans Commission from 1999–2002. He is the Vice Chairman of the Sarasota National Cemetery Advisory Committee. He also serves on Senator George Lemieux's and Congressman VERN BUCHANAN's Service Academy Selection Boards

He was recognized by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3233 as its Man of the Year, Elks Lodge #2495 as its Citizen of the Year, the Bradenton-Sarasota Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars with the Silver Patrick Henry Medallion for Patriotic Service and by the Sarasota County Veterans Commission as its Veteran of the Year.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 13th District, I thank Lee for his dedicated service to our nation and wish him and his wife Carol a happy and healthy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT GRAHAM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor to Master Gunnery Sergeant Graham for his dedication and commitment to his country.

Master Gunnery Sergeant Graham graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in Brooklyn, New York in 1981. On February 23, 1982 he enlisted in the Marine Corps and attended recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in Parris Island, South Carolina. After graduating Recruit Training, Private First Class Graham transferred to the U.S. Army Transportation School in Forth Eustis, VA for training in his occupational field.

In September 1982 after he was transferred to Marine Corps Base, Camp S.D. Butler, Okinawa Japan, Graham was promoted to Lance Corporal and subsequently meritoriously promoted to Corporal. On December 1, 1985 he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant after being transferred to Marine Corps Base in Quantico, Virginia. In 1996 he was promoted to the rank or Gunnery Sergeant. On May 1, 2001 he was promoted to Master Sergeant and was ultimately promoted to Master Gunnery Sergeant in February of 2006.

His personal decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Unity Commendation Ribbon 2nd Award, Navy Meritorious Unity Commendation Ribbon, Maine Corps Good Conduct Medal 8th Award, National Defense Service Medal 2nd Award, South West Asia Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon 6th Award, Navy Marine Corps Overseas Ribbon, Drill Instructor Service Ribbon, Kuwait Liberation medal (Saudi Aribia), Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait) and the Iraq campaign medal.

On December 16, 2011 Master Gunnery Sergeant Graham retired from the Marine Corps after thirty years of Active Service.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Master Gunnery Sergeant Graham for his outstanding service to our country.

MARGOT ZALLEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Margot Zallen for her outstanding service to our community.

Upon receiving her J.D. from the DU College of Law, Margot began working as an attorney for the U.S. Department of Interior (USDOI), representing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Margot rose through the ranks for 33 years until her retirement last year as a senior attorney.

While representing the FWS, Margot worked on many controversial and significant cases passionately protecting wildlife, endangered species and their habitats in Colorado and across the nation. Margot has been tasked with many leadership roles within Colorado such as the creation of the Lookout Mountain Water District, the Jefferson County Open Space Program, and in 1972 helped found Plan Jeffco.

Margot also facilitated the acquisition, settlement and protection of North Table Mountain and was a founding member of the Canyon Area Residents for the Environment (CARE). CARE works to protect the foothills and its mountain backdrops of Jefferson County.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Margot Zallen for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County and thank her for her many contributions to our community. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING LYNN BRANTLEY, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Lynn Brantley, co-founder, president and CEO of the Capital Area Food Bank, who will retire at the end of the year.

Ms. Brantley helped found the Capital Area Food Bank 32 years ago and has worked tirelessly to feed the hungry and serve those in need. The Capital Area Food Bank started as a small operation serving a few thousand people and today is the largest supplier of food to people suffering from hunger in the Washington metro area. I had the privilege of working with Ms. Brantley many times over the years to fight hunger in northern Virginia, including in 2009 when we established Feds Feed Families food drive, a national canned food drive conducted by federal employees around the country that has collected more than 20 million pounds of food.

I want to commend Lynn for her leadership in addressing the serious challenge of hunger and I extend my deepest gratitude for her service to our community. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

I also submit a recent Washington Post article on Ms. Brantley's outstanding career.

[From The Washington Post, Nov. 17, 2012]

WASHINGTON-AREA HUNGER SEEN AS WORSENING

(By Robert McCartney)

As she prepares to retire, Lynn Brantley, 70, ought to be satisfied with her standout career as a Washington area do-gooder.

Driven by the religious teachings of her Pennsylvania Dutch upbringing, Brantley has worked for 32 years as a key leader feeding the hungry in our region. A co-founder and longtime chief executive of the Capital Area Food Bank, she helped transform a small operation that served a few thousand people into a giant clearinghouse that collects and helps distribute groceries to nearly half a million needy.

Despite that success, Brantley remains unsatisfied. She's distressed that after so many years, the extent of hunger in our region is much more widespread than when she began.

It used to be that families who relied on charity for food were concentrated in inner-city neighborhoods with entrenched poverty. Now the dependence has spread to numerous lower middle-class neighborhoods in the suburbs.

It's a sobering thought for those of us fortunate enough to worry mainly about what the scale will say after we pack away too many mashed potatoes at the Thanksgiving feast.

''I can say now that the problem seems 10 times worse than it did when I started out. It's a terrible way to be leaving, to be thinking that people are worse off than when we began,'' Brantley said in an interview Thursday.

''It's the economy; it's what's happening with the middle class. That's who's coming to our agencies now,'' she said. ''These are people who are maybe working two and three jobs, and can't make ends meet. These are people who've been laid off.''

Brantley was mostly earnest and matter-of-fact as she reflected on her career in an interview in her office at the food bank's brand-new, sprawling warehouse near Catholic University in Northeast. She is stepping down at the end of the year, to be succeeded by Nancy E. Roman, an executive at the UN World Food Programme.

Brantley rattled off statistics about hunger and offered sociological analysis of why the problem continues to exist. But her voice cracked and she turned visibly emotional at several points when she recalled the need that she's witnessed.

It happened when she described seeing children at an after-school meals program at a low-income housing community in Northeast.

''They sit down and they just use their hands to stuff their mouths, because they don't get an evening meal. People don't realize the conditions and what people are facing,'' Brantley said.

As she spoke, trucks at nearby loading docks were delivering fresh produce, canned and dry goods and other food and household items that the food bank buys or receives as donations. Some is ''salvage'' food, in slightly dented containers or with nearing use-by dates.

At other docks, trucks carried away the food to 700 nonprofit organizations including food pantries, faith-based groups, churches and community centers. They give away bags or boxes of groceries to the needy in the District, Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland.

The modern, 123,000-square-foot facility is quite a contrast with the cramped, leaky warehouse where Brantley and others launched the food bank in 1980 in response to cuts in federal food stamp programs. The operation had two volunteers and used shovels to unload trucks.

Brantley became chief executive in 1988. Today the food bank has a staff of 133 and uses forklifts.

Brantley was active in the civil rights movement in the 1960s before she got involved in hunger issues as a food stamp outreach coordinator in Prince George's County. Her motivation to help the underprivileged sprang from her roots in York County, Penn.

''I went to a Lutheran parochial school and my grandparents were Quakers, so I was ingrained with a sense of the gospel in terms of where I came from and what I did,'' Brantley said. She said food is ''just a profound, moral right that people should have.''

Although she tried to avoid saying anything overtly political, it was clear she wished the government would take a bigger role in helping the needy.

''This is an important point, and something for people to really remember. Back in the '70s, before the [food stamp] cuts came, hunger had nearly been obliterated in this country,'' Brantley said. ''When the cuts came, we as a country have never rebounded from that.''

Now Brantley is looking forward to moving to a Quaker retirement community in Lewes, Del. She hopes to spend more time with her five grandchildren, and to enjoy her hobbies of bicycling and bird watching.

She says she worries about the focus in Washington on cutting spending for domestic programs. ''We're looking at cuts coming down the road. It's going to be hurting the most vulnerable people,'' she said.

At least she can comfort herself that she devoted her life's work to softening the blow.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WHITTAKER MACK III

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Mr. Whittaker Mack III who's talents and service have been of great value to his community.

Whittaker Mack III was born in New York City, the oldest of two children Whittaker Mack is a retired NYC Sanitation foreman and real estate developer, and the late Ethel Devone Mack, a real estate developer and homemaker. His sister, Tiffany, is a math teacher in the NYC school system, He has been a resident of New York his entire life. He began his educational career in the Lutheran private schooling system from kindergarten through eigth grade. He graduated from August Martin High in 1984.

Whittaker is the current Chairperson for the Urban Resource Institute, a major non-profit organization dedicated to assisting families affected by domestic violence, mental development issues, and substance abuse. He is an active member of the Male Usher Ministry in the Greater Allen Cathedral since 2008 and has been actively attending Allen since 1982. In other community activities, Whittaker is the chairperson for Duke University's Alumni Advisory Committee for Orange and Rockland Counties of New York, the Immediate Past President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.—Eta Zeta Lambda of Westchester County Chapter lifetime member of the National Black MBA Association, and an active member in local Rotarian Clubs and Chamber of Commerce organizations.

Whittaker received his Bachelor's Degree from Duke University and Master's of Business Administration in finance and wealth management at Fordham University Graduate School of Business. Currently, Whittaker is employed as Vice President, JP Morgan Securities, LLC as a financial advisor in the Wall Street area. Prior to Chase, he worked in the financial services industry with Merrill Lynch and LPL. Before working in the financial services industry, he started his career in the pharmaceutical industry in a variety of roles including analytical research chemist, formulation research scientist, production manager, plant manager, and a pharmaceutical representative.

He is happily married to Keisha Mack, a Clinical Nurse Manager for United Health Care, and currently resides in Rockland County New York. In his free time, Whittaker enjoys playing sports, mainly golf and baseball, and traveling the world.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. Whittaker Mack III for his valuable contributions to his community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 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 $16,317,681,766,441.44. We've added $5,690,804,717,528.36 to our debt in 3 years. This is $5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DECKERVILLE EAGLES HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM, 8-PLAYER STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege today to recognize the Deckerville Eagles High School Football Team. The Eagles capped off a remarkable and extremely memorable season by bringing home to Sanilac County the second ever Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) 8-Player State Championship!

The Eagles defeated the Bellaire High School team in the State Championship game on November 16th by a score of 14–12.

This championship game was a hard-fought defensive battle, with the Eagles keeping constant pressure on their opponent. The Eagles were able to come up with numerous important stops on defense, and capitalized on the errors of their opponents to earn the victory.

The Eagles proved they had the talent, fortitude, and resilience to rise to the challenge and accomplish their ultimate goal—a State Championship! Teamwork, perseverance, and friendship all contributed to this title. I know the community and the entire Thumb Region takes great pride in what these young men were able to achieve.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor the hard work and sportsmanship displayed by all of the members of the Deckerville Eagles team. I also wish to acknowledge the parents, the cheerleaders, the school teachers and administrators, and all of the students, fans, and community members who came out this season to support the Eagles. Together they combined to make this an unforgettable season.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my personal congratulations and best wishes. All the accolades, awards, and trophies are rightfully deserved. Way to go Eagles!

TRIBUTE TO MS. DIONDRA JADE HARP

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate and pay tribute to Ms. Diondra Jade Harp for her contributions to the community. Ms. Diondra Jade Harp is a fourth generation member at the historic Berean Baptist Church in Brooklyn, NY where Dr. Arlee Griffin, Jr. is their Pastor and Rev. Byron Benton is the Youth Pastor. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Diondra says "I was destined for greatness and am privileged to be one of the honorees of the Concerned Women of Brooklyn, Inc." Ms. Harp is currently a sophomore at Delaware State University where she is pursuing a degree in criminal justice with a 3.4 grade point average. She is a student mentor for the 2012–2013 incoming freshman class. She is also a member of the Delaware State University Gospel Choir and will join the Concert Choir in the spring of 2013.

Diondra's future professional studies include attending law school. Her main goals in life have always been to achieve success in a career that involves helping others and to live her life in a way that may be pleasing to God. Diondra attended John Dewey H.S. and served as a peer mediator of the Conflict Resolution Program. During her senior year she was elected President of the Student Government Organization. She was also a member of the National Society of High School Scholars (N.S.H.S.S.), and was elected to represent New York in the Lead America career and leadership conferences. Aside from her academic achievements, Diondra's extra-curricular activities include gymnastics and playing the piano. Diondra gives credit to her mother's teachings and prayers for molding her into the young woman she has become.

Mr. Speaker I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of Ms. Diondra Jade Harp.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 29, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 4

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mark Doms, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs, Polly Ellen Trottenberg, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy, Mignon L. Clyburn, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, Joshua D. Wright, of Virginia, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, and Christopher R. Beall, of Oklahoma, and Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, of California, both to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors.

SR–253

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

DECEMBER 5

9 a.m.

Foreign Relations

African Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine assessing developments in Mali, focusing on restoring democracy and reclaiming the north.

SD–419

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 3472, to amend the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 to provide improvements to such Act, the nomination of Erica Lynn Groshen, of New York, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, and any pending nominations.

SD–430

DECEMBER 6

9:30 a.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the fiscal cliff, focusing on how to protect the middle class, sustain long-term economic growth, and reduce the Federal deficit.

SH–216

10:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine superstorm Sandy, focusing on the devastating impact on the nation's largest transportation systems.

SR–253

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

DECEMBER 12

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Keith Kelly, of Montana, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.

SR–418