

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA AND GROUNDS OF THE CAPITOL FOR A CEREMONY TO AWARD THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO TENZIN GYATSO, THE FOURTEENTH DALAI LAMA

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 196, which authorizes the use of the Rotunda grounds of the Capitol for a ceremony to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Tenzin Gyatso, the Fourteenth Dalai Lama. I would like to thank Congressman Brady for introducing this bill to honor such an inspirational and charismatic person who has touched the lives of millions around the world.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest expression of national appreciation for exceptional service and for lifetime contributions. The medal has been awarded to individuals from all walks of life. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King, Pope John Paul II, the Navajo Code Talkers, Rosa Parks, Frank Sinatra, and Elie Wiesel are among those who have been honored. The Dalai Lama is well qualified to join the list of individuals who have received this most distinguished of honors.

Tenzin Gyatso, the Fourteenth Dalai Lama, is recognized in the United States and throughout the world as a leading figure of moral and religious authority. He is the unrivaled spiritual and cultural leader of the Tibetan people, and has used his leadership to promote democracy, freedom, and peace for the Tibetan people through a negotiated settlement of the Tibet issue, based on autonomy within the People's Republic of China.

This Dalai Lama has led the effort to preserve the rich cultural, religious, and linguistic heritage of the Tibetan people and to promote the safeguarding of other endangered cultures throughout the world.

For his efforts on behalf of humanity, this Dalai Lama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989. His efforts to promote peace and non-violence around the globe, and to find democratic reconciliation for the Tibetan people through his "Middle Way" approach, has won him world-wide acclaim.

This Dalai Lama has significantly advanced the goal of greater understanding, tolerance, harmony, and respect among the different religious faiths of the world through interfaith dialogue and outreach to other religious leaders and, perhaps most important, he has used his moral authority to promote the concept of universal responsibility as a guiding tenet for how human beings should treat one another and the planet we share.

For these reasons, I strongly support H. Con. Res. 196 and urge my colleagues to join me in voting to authorize the use of the Ro-

tunda grounds of the Capitol for a ceremony to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Tenzin Gyatso, the Fourteenth Dalai Lama.

HONORING SHARON K. HAHS

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sharon K. Hahs on her installation as President of Northeastern Illinois University.

Dr. Hahs has displayed a lifelong commitment to education and academics, and is well suited for her new role. Prior to her service at Northeastern Illinois University, she was Dean of the School of Humanities and Sciences at the University of South Carolina at Spartanburg, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, and Professor of Chemistry at Metropolitan State College in Denver, Colorado.

For over 140 years, Northeastern Illinois University has been providing excellent educational opportunities to students from Chicago and around the country. As one of the most diverse student bodies in America, the University provides a rich melting pot of experience and interaction. With a curriculum of over eighty undergraduate and graduate majors, Northeastern Illinois University offers a wide tapestry of academic opportunity. And with a historical emphasis on teacher education, the University produces a significant number of Chicago's vital public school teachers.

Undoubtedly, Dr. Hahs will not only contribute to Northeastern Illinois University's proud legacy of academics, but also expand the University's ability to educate young minds and shape Chicagoans into spirited and productive members of society.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois, I congratulate Sharon Hahs on her lengthy and influential career, her recent selection as President of NEIU, and her many outstanding contributions to education. I wish Mrs. Hahs and NEIU continued success as they work to enhance the University's already sterling reputation.

CONGRATULATING MR. JACKSON CAIN

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Jackson Cain of Littleton, Colorado, who

will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Cain to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Cain and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MR. ERIC LANGHORST FOR THE 2007-2008 MISSOURI TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mr. Eric Langhorst, of Liberty, Missouri. Mr. Eric Langhorst is the recipient of the 2007-2008 Missouri Teacher of the Year Award.

Mr. Eric Langhorst has been an educator for fourteen years. For the past seven years, he has taught history at South Valley Junior High School in order to effectively communicate with his students, Mr. Langhorst incorporates technology, debate, and guest speakers into the curriculum.

Mr. Eric Langhorst currently serves as the social studies department chairperson for South Valley Junior High School as well as being on the district's technology team. In addition, he also serves on the Clay County Board of Directors.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in honoring Mr. Eric Langhorst, whose dedication and service to the people of Liberty has been truly exceptional.

RECOGNITION OF THE RAMADAN CELEBRATION

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the commencement of Ramadan, the Muslim holy month of introspection, fasting and spiritual renewal.

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

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

Throughout the entire ninth month of the Islamic calendar year, Muslims demonstrate their devotion to God by fasting from sunrise until sunset. The holy month of Ramadan is also an important time for Muslim families and communities as they join together in expression of their devotion.

Many Muslims take the month of September to seek physical and spiritual renewal. In fact, more than 25,000 Muslims in my Congressional District observe this celebration to mark their steadfast commitments to faith, peace, family and heritage.

Madam Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring the celebration of the month of Ramadan and wishing Muslims a peaceful and blessed holiday.

TAIWAN

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of Taiwan's decision to apply for admittance to the United Nations. I urge the Administration and the Secretary General to reconsider their positions and accept Taiwan, a sovereign and democratically elected government, as a peer in the international community.

For over 50 years, Taiwan has been a flourishing, independent and sovereign government in the developing world and Southeast Asia. Taiwan has developed a world-class democracy, serving as a model for countries in the region. The people of Taiwan inspire others in Southeast Asia and around the world who desire freedom and prosperity. America should stand with our friends who engage in peaceful democracy and Taiwan deserves our support.

Taiwan has all the qualifications for a sovereign state as laid out in the "Montevideo Convention on the Rights and Duties of States." Taiwan has a permanent population, a recognized and defined territory, government, and the capacity to enter relations with other states, including 23 members of the UN. Under Article 4 of the UN Charter, Taiwan clearly has the right to apply for membership. The Secretary General should allow Taiwan to present its case to the General Assembly and allow a vote to proceed.

Taiwan plays an important role in the international community because of its democratic and economic success. Other nations are benefiting from Taiwan's access to markets and technology. It defies logic and the principle of fairness that the Taiwanese people and government are not given the same voice as everyone else throughout the world.

In petitioning the UN for membership under the name Taiwan, President Chen Shui-bian is dutifully responding to the sentiments of his people, of which three-quarters support applying for UN membership under the name of Taiwan. This is a responsible decision by the government and not a new initiative. The government in Taipei has been petitioning for UN membership since 1993.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I urge this body to stand with our friends and allies in Taiwan. I hope you will join me in supporting strong democracy in the world by supporting Taiwan's bid for membership to the United Nations.

HONORING WOODROW SKAFF

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Woodrow "Woody" Skaff on his 90th birthday. Woodrow turned 90 on August 26th. A celebration hosted by the University of Michigan-Flint is being held on September 12th in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Woody's father came to the United States in 1906. He settled in Flint and married Martha VanDemark. They started a carpet business and had five children. Woody began working in the family business during the 1930s. After World War II, his two brothers, Don and Jack, joined Woody and the three sons expanded their father's business to include furniture. The brothers continued to grow the business and operated 6 different stores. By the 1970s the third generation became involved when Woody's oldest son, George, became involved. The business continues today to be a vibrant family run enterprise built on the cornerstone of respect and service to the customer and community.

Even after retirement, Woody Skaff still maintains this respect for the community. He is involved in numerous organizations including Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint, Young Life—Christian Camp, Crossroads, the YWCA, the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, First Presbyterian Church, the Flint Institute of Music, the Flint Institute of Art and the Cultural Center. Woody has funded a scholarship program at the University of Michigan-Flint and over 30 students have benefited from his generosity.

Madam Speaker please join me in congratulating Woodrow Skaff for 90 years of living his Christian faith by loving, caring and helping others. He has made a significant contribution to the Flint community through his generosity and his example. I wish him the best in the coming year and many, many more.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ON THE DEATH OF THE
HONORABLE PAUL E. GILLMOR,
A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
STATE OF OHIO

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great American and a member of this House. PAUL E. GILLMOR was a veteran, lawyer, businessman, and Member of Congress from Ohio.

Congressman GILLMOR, who died on Wednesday, September 5, 2007, was a respected member of this body and respected by all who knew him. He was actually a legislator's legislator. He was known often to put aside partisan politics and reach across the aisle to legislate in a bipartisan manner for the best interests of the American people.

In 1961 he received a bachelor of arts degree from Ohio Wesleyan University. Although

he was a lifelong Buckeye, PAUL GILLMOR received a law degree from the University of Michigan Law School. From 1965 to 1996, he served his country in the U.S. Air Force as a judge advocate, attaining the rank of captain. He married Karen Lako, who also served in the Ohio Senate, in 1983. He had five children: daughters Linda and Julie and sons Paul and twins Adam and Connor.

Before he came to Capitol Hill in 1988, he spent 22 years in the Ohio statehouse where he became the senate president for three terms. He got to know the people, because half of this work is getting to know the people. His presence will be greatly missed and we all mourn his loss and extend our sincerest condolences to his family and friends.

More interested in policy than in seeking the limelight, PAUL GILLMOR focused his time here in the House squarely on the needs of his constituents. On the Energy and Commerce Committee, he was deeply involved in consumer issues, including protecting consumers from unfair credit report practices. He also worked to preserve our history by supporting and improving sites honoring our Nation's Presidents.

PAUL GILLMOR was unanimously elected in 2006 by representatives of the 26 NATO countries to serve as Vice President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. As vice president of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, Congressman GILLMOR was the highest ranking American in this highly esteemed international organization.

Most recently, Ohio has been plagued by scandals arising from predatory lending, and Representative GILLMOR was a leader in trying to help families and communities that had been subject to predatory lending, pulling together the Ohio delegation to identify ways we can impact our neighborhoods and support laws that could impact families that had been subject to predatory lending.

Mr. Speaker, a dear colleague has fallen but he will not be forgotten. We are all saddened by our loss but we are happy to have served with him. Our prayers and condolences go out to his widow Karen, his five children, and to thousands of his friends around the Nation. He touched so many lives during his career in politics, and he will truly be missed by me and the American people.

CELEBRATING THE INSTALLATION
OF DR. SHARON K. HAHS AS
PRESIDENT OF NORTHEASTERN
ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Sharon K. Hahs on her official installation as President of Northeastern Illinois University.

Located in Illinois' 5th Congressional District, Northeastern Illinois University serves over 12,000 students from the Chicago metropolitan area, providing students with an affordable, high-quality academic experience. NEIU has a population that is richly diverse in ethnicity, culture, age and language. The institution today offers over 80 undergraduate and graduate majors, and has the largest teacher

education program of the public universities in Chicago and is one of the top producers of education degrees in the state.

Dr. Hahs is the perfect choice to lead this fine school, as demonstrated by her career which has been devoted to post-secondary education. Prior to assuming the role of president, Dr. Hahs served as Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Director of Special Projects at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

Dr. Hahs has more than 30 years of experience in higher education, beginning with a 10-year term as a member of the chemistry department at Metropolitan State College in Denver. She served as Dean of the School of Humanities and Sciences at the University of South Carolina at Spartanburg from 1984 to 1994. She then became the first-ever Dean of the newly formed College of Arts and Sciences at SIUE, and served in that role from 1995 to 2000. On July 1, 2000, Dr. Hahs was appointed Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at SIUE.

A native of Washington, Indiana, Dr. Hahs earned a B.A. in chemistry from Illinois Wesleyan University, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from the University of New Mexico. She and her husband of 38 years have two daughters and a grandson.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the 5th Congressional District, I again wish to congratulate Dr. Sharon K. Hahs on her installation as President of Northeastern Illinois University. Her experiences as both a teacher and an administrator make her a valuable leader at Northeastern Illinois and for the State of Illinois. I wish her continued success as the President of NEIU and beyond.

CONGRATULATING MS. MAGGIE
CARTER

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Maggie Carter of Greenwood Village, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Carter to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Carter and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SETH KRAUSE FOR
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Seth Krause, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 100, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Seth has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Seth's Eagle Scout project was to arrange for the purchase and installation of a 25 foot flag pole outside the local community gymnasium. Over the years Seth has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON
H.R. 2669, COLLEGE COST REDUC-
TION AND ACCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the conference report for the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (H.R. 2669) and congratulate Speaker PELOSI and Chairman MILLER on keeping a key promise of the new Democratic Majority—increasing access to higher education for all Americans.

The College Cost Reduction and Access Act is the largest investment in higher education since the G.I. bill and at no new cost to the taxpayer. This legislation makes a common-sense choice by cutting excessive subsidies to lenders and investing those dollars in our students.

H.R. 2669 will make a real difference in the lives of students, families and new graduates. We know that too many students are making the choice to delay home ownership or marriage because of student loan debt. This bill cuts the interest rates on student loans in half and ensures that borrowers have manageable re-payment requirements. In real terms, over 7 million students will save \$4,400 over the life of their loans.

By increasing the purchasing power of the Pell Grant and expanding access to this critical resource, we will help to ensure that qualified students do not delay or refuse college based solely on ability to pay.

In addition, too many student interested in public service careers cannot pursue them because of the debt to salary ratio after graduation. With the passage of H.R. 2669, upfront tuition assistance is available for students who

commit to teachers in high-poverty school districts, and loan repayment will be available for military service members, first responders, nurses, early childhood educators and others.

Education is a top priority for the 110th Congress. It is an issue that is important to students, families and communities. It is also a critical part of ensuring our global competitiveness and economic stability. I urge my colleagues to support, and the President to sign, this critical bill.

INTRODUCTORY FLOOR STATEMENT FOR A BILL TO RATIFY A CONVEYANCE OF THE JICARILLA APACHE RESERVATION TO RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO, PURSUANT TO THE SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION BETWEEN THE JICARILLA APACHE NATION AND RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO, TO AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF A PATENT FOR SAID LANDS, AND TO CHANGE THE EXTERIOR BOUNDARY OF THE JICARILLA APACHE RESERVATION ACCORDINGLY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill to ratify a conveyance of a portion of the Jicarilla Apache reservation to the county of Rio Arriba, New Mexico. This legislation will bring resolution to a long-standing dispute between the Jicarilla Apache Nation and Rio Arriba County. In the 109th Congress, H.R. 4876, a nearly identical bill, passed the House under suspension of the rules.

The dispute, which has been ongoing for nearly two decades, is over the ownership of a road on a parcel of land formerly referred to as Theis Ranch. The Jicarilla Nation purchased Theis Ranch in 1985 and, in March 1988, the Nation subsequently conveyed a trust deed for Theis Ranch to the United States. The Theis Ranch property then, by proclamation of the Secretary of the Interior, became part of the Jicarilla Reservation in September 1988.

A lawsuit was filed in October 1987 and the District Court was asked to determine the ownership status of the disputed road. In the original lawsuit, Rio Arriba County sought to establish that the county acquired the disputed road by prescription and, therefore, the county was the road's rightful owner. However, the Jicarilla Nation contended that the Nation owned the road because the road was, and continues to be, within the boundaries of the expanded 1988 Jicarilla reservation. On December 10, 2001, the District Court found in favor of the Jicarilla and determined that the disputed road traversed the Jicarilla Reservation in several locations. Rio Arriba County appealed the December 2001 District Court decision; the appeal is currently pending before the Court of Appeals of the State of New Mexico. In a separate yet relevant matter, Rio Arriba County appealed a February 2003 decision by the Southwest Bureau of the United States Department of the Interior to acquire a

tract of land referred to as the Boyd Ranch in trust for the Jicarilla Nation. Rio Arriba's appeal for this determination is currently pending before the Interior Board of Indian Appeals.

In an effort to settle the road dispute, the Jicarilla Nation and Rio Arriba County entered into mediation. The parties successfully reached a settlement that was subsequently executed by the Jicarilla Nation on May 3, 2003, and Rio Arriba County on May 15, 2003. Representatives of the Secretary of the Interior approved the settlement on June 18, 2003. The settlement agreement, which would be implemented by this legislation, provided that the Jicarilla Nation would transfer approximately 70.5 acres of land located with the expanded 1988 Jicarilla reservation to Rio Arriba County. In exchange for the Jicarilla Nation's land conveyance, Rio Arriba County agreed to permanently abandon any and all claims to the disputed road. The settlement also provides that the terms of the agreement do not take effect until all parties complete their respective promises in the agreement and the United States, pursuant to federal law, approves of the conveyance of this particular Jicarilla trust land to Rio Arriba County.

Both parties and the Secretary of the Interior have fully performed the terms agreed to within the settlement agreement. All that stands between the parties to this dispute and long overdue resolution is Congressional approval. Consequently, the legislation will adjust the Jicarilla Reservation border in order to account for the transfer. At the same time, this legislation upholds Congress' trust responsibility to the Jicarilla Nation by placing restrictive covenants on the trust land transferred to the County. In other words, this legislation recognizes that the transferred land is immediately adjacent to the remainder of the Jicarilla Nation. As a result of the transferred land's proximity to the reservation, certain uses of the transferred land would have a detrimental effect on the remaining reservation. Therefore, this legislation allows the County to use the land only for governmental purposes but specifically prohibits the County from using the land for prisons, jails, or other facility for incarcerating persons.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to expedite passage of this legislation. Both the Nation and the County have waited years for this agreement to be implemented. Congress must now do their part to provide long overdue resolution.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF MAJOR HENRY SAN NICOLAS
OFECIAR, U.S. ARMY**

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay grateful tribute to the life of MAJ Henry San Nicolas Ofeciar who recently made the ultimate sacrifice in Afghanistan for our Nation. MAJ Henry Ofeciar, 37, lost his life in the cause of freedom in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, as a result of an attack on August 27, 2007. The people of Guam suffer the loss of outstanding soldiers like Major Ofeciar with profound sadness. But it is Henry's loved ones and friends who bear the greatest burden and

for whom we send our messages of support and gratitude.

MAJ Henry Ofeciar graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in 1988. He joined the University of Guam Reserve Officers Training Corps, ROTC, where he excelled as a leader and as a soldier. Henry Ofeciar graduated from the University of Guam in 1993, and received his commission as a second lieutenant in the United States Army in 1994, beginning a distinguished career of service to our country. He earned a master of arts degree in business administration and public administration from Syracuse University in 2005, continuing his development as a professional soldier.

MAJ Henry Ofeciar was assigned to the 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, KS. Major Ofeciar, like the many sons of Guam who served before him and gave their lives in defense of our country, served with honor and distinction. He lost his life answering the call to duty of our Nation, fighting in Afghanistan in order to help make the United States more secure. For his sacrifice on our behalf, we will always be eternally grateful.

We offer our thoughts and prayers to Henry's wife Angali, who he married in January 2007. We offer our deepest sympathies to his parents, Agnes S.N. and Leonard Rillera of Talofoto, Guam, and Pedro and Lougene Ofeciar of El Paso, TX. We also extend our sympathies to his sisters and brothers, Orlene Ofeciar Arriola, Pete, Doreen, Chris, April, and Patrick San Nicolas Ofeciar. On behalf of a grateful country and the people of Guam, we share their loss and we offer our prayers for their comfort.

Henry Ofeciar had a favorite quote from the Greek philosopher Epictetus, which epitomizes his personal commitment to duty, "First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do." Today we honor MAJ Henry Ofeciar, a hero who did what he set out to do, and for whom we will be forever in his debt. His family, his people, and his fellow soldiers take pride in knowing that we will all remember him for many years for what he did for us. God bless MAJ Henry Ofeciar, God bless Guam, and God bless the United States of America.

**CONGRATULATING MS. BRENNAN
DIVITA**

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Brennan Divita of Littleton, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments

cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Divita to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Divita and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

**RECOGNIZING SPENCER FRAZIER
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT**

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Spencer Frazier, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 138, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Spencer has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Previously, he volunteered his time to work with the Second Harvest Food Bank where he organized an effort to make 35 quilts for the Backpack Buddies program. Over the years Spencer has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

**SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST
AWARENESS DAY**

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, today I rise to remember those who have died as a result of sudden cardiac arrest, and to introduce a House Resolution in support of the goals and ideals of Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Day.

Sudden cardiac arrest, SCA, is a condition in which the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating, causing blood to stop flowing to the brain and other vital organs. SCA usually causes death if not treated in minutes.

Annually, 250,000 to 450,000 Americans have sudden cardiac arrest, and 95 percent of these people die within minutes. But SCA does not have to take this many lives. Rapid treatment of SCA with a defibrillator, a device that sends an electrical shock to the heart, can be lifesaving. According to the Department of Health and Human Services' National Heart, Blood and Lung Institute, automated external defibrillators, AEDs, which are often found in public places like airports and office buildings, can be used to save the lives of people having SCAs.

On May 20, 2005, 14-year-old Travis Roy was at school in Murrieta, CA, when he suffered SCA. His school, like most schools, did

not have an AED, and tragically, Travis died because treatment could not be administered fast enough.

Since Travis's death, his family has campaigned to raise awareness of SCA and to get AEDs placed in schools. To date, several schools in the southern California area have implemented AED programs, including the Murrieta Valley Unified School District, Temecula Valley Unified School District, San Jacinto Unified School District and Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego.

California has proclaimed September 12 as Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Day, to honor those who died as a result of sudden cardiac arrest. Awareness about sudden cardiac arrest and ensuring defibrillators are available in schools and other public buildings can save lives. Raising awareness of sudden cardiac arrest is a task worthy of Congress's attention.

COMMENDING THE WORK OF SAMARITAN HOUSE ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I take tremendous pride in recognizing the staff and volunteers of Samaritan House, a shelter for homeless and abused women in Lima, OH.

The seeds of Samaritan House were sown more than two decades ago, when Pastor Doneta Warren opened her home to an abused woman and her children. Word of this selfless Christian act spread quickly to others in need, who came to Pastor Warren to see if she might also have room for them. Recognizing that the area lacked a permanent place where those in abusive relationships could seek help, Pastor Warren worked with the Catholic Diocese of Toledo to found Samaritan House on the site of a former convent.

Since its founding, Samaritan House has assisted more than 10,000 women and children in times of need, providing food and shelter, job training services, recovery support programs, and other needed help. A staff of nine dedicated professionals works round the clock to provide this assistance, working with a 15-member board of directors to ensure that the House's mission and outreach activities are best carried out.

Madam Speaker, Samaritan House is marking its 20th anniversary with a fundraising dinner and silent auction this Wednesday. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Ohio, I congratulate everyone who has worked and volunteered to make Samaritan House successful through the years. The people of Allen County and the entire region can take great pride in this life-changing facility.

HONORING PALM BEACH COUNTY NULITES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the NULITES of the

Urban League of Palm Beach County. NULITES is the National Urban League Incentive To Excel and Succeed. These fine young people focus on academic achievement and are actively involved in improving their communities. The Palm Beach County chapter has been awarded NULITES Chapter of the Year for the third time. Having been chosen from among NULITES chapters across the country, this is a very impressive accomplishment of which we can all be very proud.

Fadley Charles, a Florida State University student who is president of the chapter, stressed that, as Chapter of the Year, Palm Beach County NULITES have a "responsibility to strive for better, respect all others, celebrate achievement, create a better future, care for each other and promote an empowering environment like no other." With three individual winners of scholarships in addition to Chapter of the Year honors, obviously, Palm Beach County NULITES are fulfilling their promise. It is my very great pleasure to recognize them today, and I know we will be hearing more good things about them in the future.

CONGRATULATING MR. REMY DUFRESNE

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Remy Dufresne of Highlands Ranch, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Dufresne to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Dufresne and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL THORNTON FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Thornton, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 138, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Michael's interest in working with community and veteran affairs inspired him to clean and preserve over 200 headstones of fallen soldiers at Ashland Memorial Cemetery. Over the years Michael has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, September 6, 2007, I was not present for rollcall vote 857.

Had I been present for rollcall 857, on agreeing to the King amendment to H.R. 2786, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2007, I would have voted "aye."

On Wednesday, July 25, 2007, I was not present for rollcall vote 728.

Had I been present for rollcall 728, on agreeing to the Etheridge amendment to the FY08 Commerce, Justice, Science appropriations bill, I would have voted "aye."

INTRODUCTION OF UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON AN OPEN SOCIETY WITH SECURITY ACT OF 2007

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the United States Commission on an Open Society and Security Act; expressing an idea I began working on when the first signs of the closing of parts of our open society appeared after the Oklahoma City bombing tragedy, well before 9/11. I introduce this bill on the sixth anniversary of 9/11 because the bill grows more urgent as increasing varieties of security throughout the country proliferate without any thought about their effect on common freedoms and ordinary access, and without any guidance from the government or elsewhere. The bill I introduce today would begin a systematic investigation that takes full account of the importance of maintaining our democratic traditions while responding adequately to the real and substantial threats terrorism poses.

To be useful in accomplishing its difficult mission, the Commission would be composed not only of military and security experts, but for the first time, they would be at the same table with experts from such fields as business, architecture, technology, law, city planning, art, engineering, philosophy, history, sociology, and psychology. To date, questions of security most often have been left almost exclusively to security and military experts. They

are indispensable participants, but these experts cannot alone resolve all the new and unprecedented issues raised by terrorism in an open society. In order to strike the balance required by our democratic traditions, a cross-cutting group needs to be working together at the same table.

For years before our eyes, parts of our open society have gradually been closed down because of terrorism and fear of terrorism—whether checkpoints on streets near the Capitol even when there were no alerts, or applications of technology without regard to their effects on privacy. We have also seen heightened controversy, litigation, hearings, legislation and court decisions because of the use of technology that intercepts terrorist communications but also covers communications among Americans.

Following the unprecedented terrorist attack on our country, Americans expected additional and increased security adequate to protect citizens against this frightening threat. However, in our country, people also expect government to be committed and smart enough to undertake this awesome new responsibility without depriving them of their personal liberty. These years in our history will long be remembered by the rise of terrorism in the world and in this country and the unprecedented challenges it has brought. We must provide ever-higher levels of security for our people and public spaces while maintaining a free and open democratic society for as long as is necessary. Yet, this is no ordinary war that we expect to be over in a matter of years. The end point could be generations from now. The indeterminate nature of the threat adds to the necessity of putting aside ad hoc approaches to security developed in isolation from the goal of maintaining an open society.

When we have faced unprecedented and perplexing issues in the past, we have had the good sense to investigate them deeply and to move to resolve them. Examples include the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (also known as the 9/11 Commission), the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction (also known as the Silberman-Robb Commission) and the Kerner Commission that investigate the riotous uprisings that swept American cities in the 1960s and 1970s. The important difference in the Commission proposed in this bill is that it seeks to act before a crisis-level erosion of basic freedoms takes hold and becomes entrenched. Because global terrorism is likely to be long lasting, we cannot afford to allow the proliferation of security that neither requires nor is subject to advance civilian oversight or analysis of alternatives or repercussions on freedom and commerce.

With no vehicles for leadership on issues of security and openness, we have been left to muddle through, using blunt 19th century approaches, such as crude blockades, unsightly barriers around beautiful monuments and other signals that the society is closing down, or anti-privacy applications, without appropriate exploration of possible alternatives. The threat of terrorism to an open society is too serious to be left to ad hoc problem-solving. Such approaches are often as inadequate as they are menacing.

We can do better, but only if we recognize and then come to grips with the complexities associated with maintaining a society of free

and open access in a world characterized by unprecedented terrorism. The place to begin is with a high-level presidential commission of experts in a broad spectrum of disciplines who can help chart the new course that will be required to protect our people and our precious democratic institutions and traditions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, due to a family obligation, I unfortunately missed recorded votes on the House floor in the afternoon of Friday, September 7, 2007.

Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on rollcall vote No. 862 (on agreeing to the Conyers amendment to H.R. 1908), “no” on rollcall vote No. 863 (on passage of H.R. 1908), and “no” on rollcall vote No. 864 (on passage of the conference report H. Rept. 110–317 to H.R. 2669).

CONGRATULATING MS. EVANGELINE EDWARDS

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Evangeline Edwards of Morrison, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower’s belief that “people can make a difference where governments cannot.” This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Edwards to gain a greater understanding and insider’s perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado’s own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Edwards and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING BRYCE FRAZIER FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryce Frazier, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest

qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 138, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bryce has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Bryce has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

CELEBRATING THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Louisiana State University at Alexandria’s celebration of the 65th anniversary of the founding of the 101st Airborne Division at Camp Claiborne, La., which was held on August 7, 2007.

Since its activation on August 16, 1942, this unit has answered the call of duty during many of our Nation’s most dire military conflicts, fulfilling the prophecy of MG William C. Lee, who promised the first recruits the unit had a “rendezvous with destiny.”

Perhaps the truth of this prediction was first realized during World War II, when the 101st Airborne Division led the way on D-Day in the night drop prior to the invasion. Later, during the Siege of Bastogne, BG Anthony McAuliffe and the Screaming Eagles fought on until the siege was lifted. For their heroic efforts in these missions and others during the Second World War, the division was awarded four campaign streamers and two Presidential Unit Citations.

The 101st triumphant role in our Nation’s military history did not end there. In the mid-1960s, the 1st Brigade and support troops were deployed to the Republic of Vietnam, followed by the rest of the division in late 1967. In almost 7 years of combat in Vietnam, elements of the 101st participated in as many as 15 campaigns, further solidifying its reputation for military professionalism.

The 101st Airborne Division again brushed with destiny in January 1991, this time in Iraq. During the deepest combat air assault into enemy territory in world history, the 101st emerged from 100 hours of fighting with no casualties, while also capturing thousands of enemy prisoners of wars.

In 1948, the 101st Airborne Division was reactivated as a training unit at Camp Breckinridge, Ky., and again in 1950. It was reactivated in 1954 at Fort Jackson, S.C. Two years later, in March 1956, the 101st was transferred to Fort Campbell, Ky., to be reorganized as a combat division.

In addition to its impressive history in combat, Fort Campbell soldiers have supported humanitarian relief efforts in Rwanda and Somalia as well as supplying peacekeepers to Haiti and Bosnia.

Today, the 101st Airborne Division stands as the Army’s and the world’s only air assault

division with unequalled strategic and tactical mobility.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 101st Airborne Division, currently based in Fort Campbell, Ky., as it continues its mission to support training, mobilization, and deployment of mission-ready forces who stand ready to defend and protect our Nation.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POINT MOUILLEE WATERFOWL FESTIVAL

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge, honor, and celebrate an event taking place in "the world's largest freshwater marsh restoration project." Ever more popular each year, the Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival is celebrating its 60th year of bringing together all manner of wilderness enthusiasts and outdoorsmen for an exciting weekend of appreciation, competitions, and games.

The Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival is a unique event open to all wildlife lovers of every age, and it is free of charge to the public. This event is made possible through the hard work of the organizers of the Festival, sponsor businesses, conservation groups, and the hundreds of visitors who travel with their families for the annual event. Of course, one must also remember the many diverse species of waterfowl whose presence at Pointe Mouillee highlights the work of those who spend their precious time working to restore and maintain the marsh. The whole festival is a wonderful opportunity to see all the benefits of conservation come together in one remarkable weekend for everyone to enjoy.

Pointe Mouillee, aptly named "wet point" in French, began its role as a haven for sportsmen in the late 19th century when it was owned by an upper-class group of only eight men. It endured as such—only adding two new membership slots—for seventy years. In 1945, however, the aristocratic ownership of the 2,608 acres of marshland ended when it was sold to the Michigan Department of Conservation. At that point, the beautiful channels and lands were opened to the happy public. Ten thousand outdoorsmen, one thousand times the previous restricted membership, flocked to enjoy Pointe Mouillee that season alone.

Over time, however, as construction began on dams and the natural flow of the Huron River was shifted, the important balance of the habitat began to shift as well. As this trend was exacerbated in the 1960s and 1970s the damage only worsened. Nonetheless, despite the many obstacles, the Festival continues to work to preserve the marshland and bring even greater attention to the beauty and utility of those 2,608 acres.

Madam Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in saluting the Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival as it celebrates its 60th anniversary. I have every hope, and every confidence, that this great festival will carry on its proud tradition of appreciation toward the natural beauty of the Pointe Mouillee and other

such sites throughout Michigan and the entire region.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES T. HEINLEIN, UNITED STATES ARMY, PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Madam Speaker, our Nation is sustained by men and women who so willingly risk their lives to defend our liberty and our way of life. Private First Class Charles T. Heinlein was one such soldier, and he gave the last full measure in service to his country and to his fellow citizens.

Today, I want to recognize on the floor of the United States House of Representatives the life of Charles T. Heinlein. In saluting heroes like Charlie, we remember him with undying gratitude. And we resolve, though we cannot repay the debt we owe him or his family, to live our lives in such a way as to be worthy of their sacrifice.

Charlie joined the United States Army to become "a better person," but it is his heroism in battling back tyranny and terror halfway around the globe that has helped build a better America and a better world. His actions on the field of duty will forever stand as a reminder that America remains the land of the free and the home of the brave.

May God keep Charlie; may God watch and comfort his family; and, may God continue to grant this Nation with the courage to defend life and liberty.

CONGRATULATING MS. SOFIA EVANGELISTA

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Sophia Evangelista of Aurora, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Evangelista to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Evangelista and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JASON McCOLLUM FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jason McCollum, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jason has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jason has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

HONORING CHAUNCEY BAILEY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Chauncey Bailey of Oakland, California. His tragic and unexpected death has been a shock to our community. The loss of this dedicated friend, mentor, professional journalist, and steward of Oakland will be deeply felt.

Of all of the significant endeavors Mr. Chauncey Bailey was involved with, his role as a loving father was most important to him, and it is in this capacity which he will be most missed. My sincerest condolences go out to his family, friends, colleagues, and especially his fiancée, Ms. Deborah Oduwa. Fifty-seven years old at the time of his death, Chauncey was a vibrant journalist, editor, and community member, full of energy and vigor.

Chauncey Bailey grew up in Oakland, and ultimately dedicated his career to reporting on Oakland's community, with special attention and dedication to news most affecting our African American populations. After receiving his education, Chauncey became a staff writer and columnist for The Detroit News. After 12 years working for The News, Mr. Bailey returned home to Oakland and began writing for the Oakland Tribune.

Mr. Bailey diligently worked his way up in the news media profession, working with several of our local media outlets. He was a fixture in our papers, on our radios, and on our television sets. Two months ago, Mr. Bailey joined the Oakland Post as an editor.

As an internationally renowned journalist, Chauncey, through his travels abroad, brought a keen understanding of the world beyond our borders to Oakland, California. We benefited tremendously from his experiences and his knowledge of global affairs and for that we are deeply grateful.

Chauncey contributed immeasurably to the fabric of our community. Although Chauncey's

death was an untimely travesty, it is my hope that through his legacy our community will be brought together. By remembering this man and his dedication to Oakland, we can come together and strengthen our collective hand in rooting out this type of violence.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Chauncey's family and friends, as well as the community he served and the people whose lives he most contributed to. We extend our deepest condolences to Mr. Bailey's family, and our deepest gratitude to them for sharing this dedicated man and impassioned writer with us. May his soul rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING MICAH R. COOMES
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Micah R. Coomes, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 447, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Micah has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Micah has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Micah R. Coomes for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO UNIVERSITY
OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor The University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Founded in 1957, UNLV has become Nevada's largest doctoral-granting research institution, offering more than 220 degree programs, enrolling more than 28,000 students, and employing more than 3,000 faculty and staff. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has placed UNLV in the prestigious category of Research Universities with High Research Activity.

Rising from its humble beginnings, offering college classes on an extension basis out of a spare room at Las Vegas High School, UNLV has become one of the Nation's top 45 public doctoral universities in terms of overall enrollment and is the home to nationally recognized programs in hotel management, business, economics, engineering, and computer

sciences. It also reserves the distinct privilege of being Nevada's only accredited law school.

The university is connected in varied and significant ways to the community it serves, with branch campuses throughout the Las Vegas Valley that specialize in biotechnology, dental medicine, and research and technology. UNLV also opened its first international campus in Singapore in 2006, offering bachelor's degree programs in hotel administration and hospitality management.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. I congratulate the university on its successful 50 years and wish them success as they continue to grow and strive in our community and country.

IN RECOGNITION OF LECH WALESZA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of President Lech Walesa of Poland, and to celebrate his 64th birthday. As I, along with millions of celebrating Poles, recognize one of the great leaders of our time, we should look back at the contributions this man has made to his native Poland and to the world.

As the first elected leader of a democratic Poland, President Walesa laid the foundation for a Poland that remain both strong and free to this day. He worked with leaders from all around the world to promote the welfare of the poor and downtrodden. As the leader of the opposition movement, he helped his country gain independence through nonviolent means.

As a champion of labor, he led several worker strikes, risking both his livelihood and his life in the process. He fought for the rights of workers and his struggle gained worldwide recognition. His efforts won him, among other accolades, the Nobel Peace Prize in 1983. Even today, he remains a shining example of freedom and democracy in action.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring President Lech Walesa for his service to his country and to the world. Thanks to his efforts, Poland has thrived and has become a strong voice in the international community. May future democracies be inspired by his actions and his spirit.

ABSENCE FROM THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, on August 3, 2007, I underwent surgery to relieve the condition of spinal stenosis before any permanent nerve damage occurred. Due to this surgery, I was absent from the House of Representatives from 7 p.m. Wednesday, August 1st until Sunday, August 5th.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "aye" on rollcall No. 786 on motion to recom-

mit with instructions on H.R. 3162; "no" on rollcall No. 787 on passage of H.R. 3162; "aye" on rollcall No. 788 on motion to change the convening time; "aye" on rollcall No. 789 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3248; "aye" on rollcall No. 790 on agreeing to the conference report on H.R. 1495; "no" on rollcall No. 791 on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 602; "no" on rollcall No. 792 on agreeing to the resolution on H. Res. 602; "no" on rollcall No. 793 on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 601; "no" on rollcall No. 794 on agreeing to the resolution on H. Res. 601; "aye" on rollcall No. 795 on motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 3159.

"No" on rollcall No. 796 on passage of H.R. 3159; "no" on rollcall No. 797 on approving the journal; "aye" on rollcall No. 798 on motion to adjourn; "no" on rollcall No. 799 on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 599; "no" on rollcall No. 800 on agreeing to the resolution on H. Res. 599; "aye" on rollcall No. 801 on motion to recommit conference report with instructions on H.R. 2272; "aye" on rollcall No. 802 on agreeing to the conference report on H.R. 2272; "aye" on rollcall No. 803 on agreeing to the amendment on H.R. 3161; "no" on rollcall No. 804 on agreeing to the amendment on H.R. 3161; "no" on rollcall No. 805 on agreeing to the amendment on H.R. 3161.

"Aye" on rollcall No. 806 on agreeing to the amendment on H.R. 3161; "aye" on rollcall No. 807 on agreeing to the amendment on H.R. 3161; "aye" on rollcall No. 808 on agreeing to the amendment on H.R. 3161; "no" on rollcall No. 809 on agreeing to the amendment on H.R. 3161; "no" on rollcall No. 810 on agreeing to the amendment on H.R. 3161; "no" on rollcall No. 811 on agreeing to the amendment on H.R. 3161; "no" on rollcall No. 812 on agreeing to the amendment on H.R. 3161; "no" on rollcall No. 813 on agreeing to the amendment on H.R. 3161; "aye" on rollcall No. 814 on motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 3161; "present" on rollcall No. 815 on motion to reconsider on H.R. 3161.

"Present" on rollcall No. 816 on passage on H.R. 3161; "aye" on rollcall No. 817 on motion to adjourn; "no" on rollcall No. 818 on agreeing to the resolution on H. Res. 600; "aye" on rollcall No. 819 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3311; "no" on rollcall No. 820 on approving the journal; "no" on rollcall No. 821 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3356; "no" on rollcall No. 822 on motion to table H. Res. 612; "aye" on rollcall No. 823 on motion to adjourn; "aye" on rollcall No. 824 on motion to adjourn; "aye" on rollcall No. 836 on passage of S. 1927.

"No" on rollcall No. 837 on approving the journal; "no" on rollcall No. 838 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 3222; "no" on rollcall No. 839 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 3222; "aye" on rollcall No. 840 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 3222; "aye" on rollcall No. 841 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 3222; "no" on rollcall No. 842 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 3222; "no" on rollcall No. 843 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 3222; "no" on rollcall No. 844 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 3222; "no" on rollcall No. 845 on agreeing to the amendment to H.R. 3222; "aye" on rollcall No. 846 on passage of H.R. 3222.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on passage of the conference report on H.R. 2669. Were I able to, I would have voted "aye" on this important bill.

Furthermore, I was also unable to vote for final passage of H.R. 1908. Were I able, I would have voted "aye" on this legislation, noting that while the bill is not perfect, the Congress must continue to consider legislation to reform our patent laws. I look forward to considering a more refined product when this bill is next before the House.

PROGRESS IN IRAQ

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, the chief political expert and chief military expert for the U.S. before us in the FA committee. Despite the cynics, critics, and defeatists, who want there to be bad news, General Petraeus informed Congress that military progress is being made.

Our job is not over in Iraq. It is in the best interest of America to finish our mission. War is hard, but retreat and a unilateral withdrawal is a plan for another Vietnam failure. Abandonment is what our enemy wants but not what we will give them.

General Petraeus testified that substantial progress has been made by our forces and the Iraqi counterparts since the surge began in mid-June. According to the General, the security situation in Iraq is improving, while the Iraqi government continues to assume more responsibility in the political reconciliation of the country.

Despite the progress being made, nay-sayers continue to undermine the momentum that is building in Iraq for a peaceful reconciliation. Of course there is more work to be done before we can see real success in Iraq. In fact, that is exactly why we can't walk away from this war. Iraq has become the most foremost front in the war against radical Islam. The strategy of Islamic militants assumes an American withdrawal. They believe we will grow weary of fighting for liberty and freedom abroad and that we will walk away from our commitments in Iraq. If success in Iraq is the goal, nay-sayers have to understand that giving up is simply not an option. Withdrawal will only embolden our enemies. We've got to fight them where they are and show them that we mean business. This is the time for America to stand strong and stay focused on our mission. The whole world is watching us.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT C.
MESSINA, JR.**HON. JIM SAXTON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an extraordinary gentleman whom I have known personally for two decades. On September 15, 2007, Dr. Robert Messina, Jr. will be celebrated for his 20 years of Visionary Leadership at the Burlington County Community College in Mount Laurel, NJ.

Dr. Messina has been instrumental in the expansion of the Burlington County College community. While upgrading and constructing new buildings at the main campus in Pemberton, Dr. Messina saw an opportunity to truly push the College to the next level. He was steadfast in obtaining land for a brand-new, state-of-the-art second campus, located in Mount Laurel. The College and local community has enjoyed the use of six permanent buildings, including a corporate training facility and conference center, known as The Enterprise Center.

The College has expanded not only physically, but academically, as well. Dr. Messina implemented stimulating new programs that keep trend with today's industry demands. This new curriculum boasts Digital Media and Graphic Design, Biotechnology, Human Services, and several information technology certification programs that firmly cement Burlington County College as a leader in higher education for the twenty-first century.

To further reach out and benefit the surrounding Southern New Jersey community, Dr. Messina devotes his free time to the betterment of his neighbors. In the past, he has served on the national, regional, and local levels. He currently sits on the boards for the Deborah Heart & Lung Center, the Virtua Hospital Audit/Corporate Compliance Committee, and is a member of the Virtua Ambulatory Board. Nationally, Dr. Messina served two terms as the President of COMBASE, a Cooperative for the Advancement of Community-Based Postsecondary Education, and is a former board member of the American Association of Community Colleges.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Messina's infectious enthusiasm and abiding loyalty to his students is only surpassed by his genuine desire to embrace and enhance the community around him. As he celebrates 20 years of Visionary Leadership at Burlington County College, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for his leadership, commitment, and service.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the City of Bloomfield Hills, in Oakland County, Michigan which is celebrating its 75th anniversary on September 16, 2007. This city's rolling hills and beautiful gar-

dens show why it continues to rank among Michigan's loveliest communities.

Bloomfield Hills celebrates its 75th anniversary simultaneously with the 200th anniversary of Woodward Avenue, the nation's oldest byway. The two are inextricably linked because as Woodward developed, city dwellers were able to travel north of Detroit to enjoy fresh air and relaxed country living.

Originally a densely wooded wilderness inhabited by Native Americans, the Village of Bloomfield Hills grew from pastoral farms and orchards into the Estate Era, where men of vision and high ideals like, George Booth, bought huge parcels of land for summer retreats. Known by many names, including Bagley's Corners, Circle City, and Bloomfield Centre, the Village of Bloomfield Hills officially became a city in 1932 upon adoption of its City Charter.

George Booth envisioned elaborate plans for the acreage he acquired in 1904, designing a church and school for the benefit of the community. The jewel of his imagination, the Cranbrook Educational Community, a nationally acclaimed educational, scientific, and artistic complex, is on of Bloomfield Hills' most notable and unique treasures. Thousands visit the historical campus each year, enjoying the Cranbrook Academy of Art and the Cranbrook Institute of Science.

Madam Speaker, today Bloomfield Hills is a vibrant community in Oakland County that is home to over 4,000 residents, a preeminent graduate school of art, and Michigan's largest natural history museum. I congratulate them on their 75th anniversary and wish the residents many more years of prosperity.

A TRIBUTE TO DIANE BEEDLE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bid farewell to one of the most creative, competent, caring and clever Hill staffers, my Legislative Director, Diane Beedle. For four years, Diane has moved a legislative agenda that addresses issues as diverse as the safety of children's products, outsourcing of American jobs, immigrant rights, data security and identity theft, new telecommunications technologies, private military contracts, ending horse slaughter, auto safety, energy independence, expanding health care, preventing cancer, and ending the war in Iraq. She prepared me for all of the many hearings in the Energy and Commerce Committee including, of course, the priority sporting hearings—boxing, steroids, and college bowl games, and far more.

As if that weren't enough, Diane was responsible for identifying and securing funding for projects important to the 9th Congressional District of Illinois. There is less flooding, better law enforcement, improved transportation, and better services for vulnerable people because of Diane's work. How does she do it all? As Kim, our office manager and executive assistant/scheduler said, "She rose to the challenges and opportunities that the LD position offered, and she is very organized and methodical as well as being a very positive and nurturing presence in the office."

Diane has a gift for negotiating. I have watched her push my position as far as she could and then a little further, her demeanor always pleasant, her counter proposals always workable, her objections irrefutable. She won the respect and friendship of staff across party and ideological lines. I will truly miss her bargaining skills.

Diane is able to translate complicated issues into language comprehensible to her boss and to constituents. I receive many kudos for letters Diane has written that are clear and directly responsive to the concerns of individual district residents, and not just "thank you for your interest" letters and she has prepared me for meetings on issues that would otherwise be too "high tech" for me.

On top of all that, Diane has been a leader in the office, providing help to her co-workers in the office in many different ways. Kevin (though officially one of the beautiful people on Capitol Hill and quite slim) has an astonishing capacity for food. Diane affectionately calls him the "human garbage disposal" (in a good way), yet still treats him and the rest of the office with her wonderful baked goods, lemon bars being a specialty.

Our chief of staff especially appreciated Diane's magic with naming bills. Her favorite: the Stop Attempted Fraud against Everyone's Cell and Land Line—a bill title that is instantly forgettable until you realize the acronym is the SAFE CALL ACT.

Megan described what Diane has meant not only to her but to other staff members. "Diane has always been an excellent mentor to me, teaching me how to make the most of contacts and pointing me toward good legislative ideas." She also mentioned what we all know: Diane is an excellent punster.

Diane is leaving us now, soon to be embracing a new role in her life—that of Mom. Hearing the good news, everyone in the office wanted to help Diane and her husband Adrian by suggesting some really great baby names. Peter, a new father himself and Diane's "work husband," brought in baby naming books. We had a Name the Baby list put up with interesting ideas such as Noble Eagle, Sparky and Porterhouse, and some more suitable boy names including Mason, Lucas, Oliver, Cooper, Oscar, Lucca, Gideon and Felix. Disregarding our suggestions in total, they chose Franklin.

We all look forward to many visits from Diane, Adrian, Baby Franklin and Suki the dog, who we will also miss very much. All of us love Diane very much, thank her for her service and wish her and her growing family the best of everything.

RECOGNIZING 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF NEIMAN MARCUS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Neiman Marcus as it celebrates its 100-year anniversary.

The founders—Herbert Marcus, his sister, Carrie Marcus Neiman, and her husband, A.L. Neiman—were all under age 30 when they created the luxury retailer. They opened its

flagship store in downtown Dallas, TX, on this day in 1907.

Over the last century, Neiman Marcus has not only left an indelible mark on the Dallas culture and society, but continues to play a vital role in the business community.

For over 19 years, Neiman Marcus has hosted the annual Neiman Marcus Adolphus Children's Parade benefiting the Child Life Program at Children's Medical Center, Dallas. This event raises money for its specialized programs including music therapy, support groups, medical camps and bedside activities. It draws crowds of over 300,000 and it brings hope and happiness to families across the country during the holiday season.

With a long history of supporting the arts, Neiman Marcus continues this tradition by sustaining the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts and the Dallas Arts District, helping to establish Dallas as a renowned center for performing and visual arts.

Expanding from its original store in historic downtown Dallas, Neiman Marcus now operates nationwide with total store operations of over 5 million gross square feet, providing economic growth and secure jobs across the country and for the north Texas region.

With a true sense of philanthropy and generosity, Neiman Marcus has become more than a retail company; its company culture reflects the true spirit of community. On behalf of the 30th Congressional District of Texas, please join me in congratulating Neiman Marcus Group on the occasion of its 100th year anniversary.

OUR STRONG ALLY AUSTRALIA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Australia for their continued commitment to the global war on terrorism and to recognize our long and proud history of working together to promote democracy and freedom around the world. Australia is the only country to have fought beside us in every major conflict of the 20th and 21st centuries.

President Bush and Prime Minister John Howard reaffirmed our friendship last week by signing a defense trade cooperation treaty. As a partner in the fight against terrorism, Australia has committed troops and resources to assist our Armed Forces around the world. They have deployed 1,500 troops in Iraq and 970 in Afghanistan.

While our friendship and partnership extends well beyond defense, it is comforting and reassuring to have such a dedicated ally who understands that we must stop our enemies in Iraq and Afghanistan to protect American and Australian families and all those who share the values of freedom and democracy around the world.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTION
DIGITAL AND WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY
OPPORTUNITY ACT OF
2007

SPEECH OF

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 694, the Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act of 2007, and I would start by thanking House Science Committee Chairman BART GORDON and Ranking Member RALPH HALL for their work to pass this bill. Additionally, Representative ED TOWNS has been a tireless advocate in moving this bill forward and it has been a pleasure working with him to pass this legislation.

This bill would establish a new grant program to provide funding of specific technologies to help ensure institutions like historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, and tribal colleges have the tools necessary to prepare their students to engage and participate in the increasingly global and competitive economy.

Now, more than ever, we are seeing other countries become increasingly competitive with the United States, with science and math scores equaling or exceeding average scores for American students.

Additionally, another example of the nature of the problem we face globally can be seen in the engineering field. By 2008, India is expected to increase to a little over 700,000 young engineering professionals and China is expected to increase to 2.1 million. Conversely, the U.S. is predicated to stay stagnant at 700,000 engineering young professionals by 2008 and other fields like life sciences are declining. This is a trend that cannot be allowed to continue if the United States wants to maintain its leadership role in the future global economy and graduate students that have the capacity to be this world's best and brightest.

One of the realities that we need to address in order to ensure this happens is to make sure all populations in this country have access to basic technologies, something that is currently not the case for all segments of the American population. Although 55 percent of the U.S. population has internet access at home overall, only 36 percent of African-American and Hispanic households do, according to a U.S. Census report issued in October 2005.

This bill would work to eliminate this "digital divide" by establishing a new grant program within the Department of Commerce to strengthen the ability of minority-serving institutions to purchase infrastructure and provide technology education services, providing students with the same access to technology as their peers at other colleges and universities.

This legislation is about even more than just equality in education; it is about economic advancement and ensuring that America retains its edge in the math, science and technology fields—a critically important requirement in today's global economy.

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY
100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations in honor of the 100th Anniversary of Montclair State University. MSU has grown from its humble beginnings as a normal school into one of the premier educational institutions in my home State of New Jersey with over 16,000 students and 465 full-time faculty members.

Building on its proud heritage by continuing to train the Nation's finest teachers, MSU has stayed true to its original mission while developing a comprehensive range of first-class undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs. Montclair State University's remarkable growth into the second largest and fastest growing university in New Jersey is a direct result of the university's commitment to providing an exceptional educational experience to a diverse student body reflective of the population of New Jersey.

For 100 years, Montclair State University has remained dedicated to maintaining an outstanding faculty, exceptional teaching, and quality of scholarship. The university is led by a dedicated and talented team that is focused on helping meet many of the pressing educational challenges confronting our Nation. While providing the individual attention of a small college, MSU offers a vast array of majors and concentrations, including the Nation's only doctorate in pedagogy, and New Jersey's only doctorate in audiology.

I applaud the university for maintaining an active role in the local community and greater New Jersey, engaging their students, faculty and staff through such programs as the Center for Community-Based Learning, which bridges the classroom experience with local neighborhoods by addressing community needs and fostering students' community service and professional development.

Madam Speaker, I am proud of Montclair State University's commitment to educating the students of New Jersey, conducting research, and serving local and wider communities, and I applaud the university on its first 100 years of success. I am sure this is only an indication of continued growth and success for many more years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAVID
ASHLEY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor David Ashley, President of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, and I would like to take this time to recognize the esteemed President of the University. David B. Ashley became the eighth president of UNLV,

in July 2006. Prior to his time at UNLV, Dr. Ashley served as executive vice chancellor and provost at the University of California, Merced. He has also served as dean of engineering at The Ohio State University and has held civil engineering faculty positions at the University of California, Berkeley, the University of Texas at Austin, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

His work as an engineer has brought him recognition as a National Science Foundation Presidential Young Investigator. The American Society of Civil Engineers has honored him with the 2004 Peurifoy Construction Research Award and the 1992 Construction Management Award. In 2000, he received an honorary doctorate from the Chalmers University in Sweden for his academic contributions. Dr. Ashley has worked in many major projects around the world, including expansion of the Panama Canal and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Dr. David B. Ashley, eighth President of UNLV. I congratulate him on his accomplishments and I am certain that he will have continued success leading UNLV. In honor of the 50th anniversary of the school, I thank Dr. Ashley for his dedication to education.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF LUCIANO
PAVAROTTI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the notable career of one of the Three Tenors, Luciano Pavarotti, who passed away September 6.

Pavarotti was able to bring diverse audiences together like no one else could. His voice was captivating. Pavarotti's renowned career, which spanned four decades, touched more than 1.5 billion people and his charming performances came to represent what the opera is all about.

But Pavarotti wasn't just a remarkable tenor. He was also well-known for his dedication and extraordinary efforts spent raising money for refugees and the Red Cross. He used his astounding voice to raise funds for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent movement. In 2005, Pavarotti received the Freedom of the City of London and a Red Cross Award for Services to Humanity.

Pavarotti's humanitarian efforts didn't end there. He joined forces with Diana, Princess of Wales, to raise money for the elimination of land mines and performed benefit concerts to raise money for victims of tragedies. In 1998, Pavarotti was appointed the United Nation's Messenger of Peace. He used his prominence to raise awareness of the Millennium Development Goals, HIV/AIDS, child rights, urban slums and poverty.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, Pavarotti's strong and harmonious voice will be greatly missed but the charitable work he did will be remembered always.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on legislative days September 4 through September 7, I was absent caring for my one-year-old daughter.

If I were present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 847, "aye" on rollcall vote 848, "aye" on rollcall vote 849, "aye" on rollcall vote 850, "aye" on rollcall vote 851, "aye" on rollcall vote 852, "aye" on rollcall vote 853, "nay" on rollcall vote 854, "nay" on rollcall vote 855, "nay" on rollcall vote 856, "aye" on rollcall vote 857, "aye" on rollcall vote 858, "aye" on rollcall vote 859, "nay" on rollcall vote 860, "nay" on rollcall vote 861, "nay" on rollcall vote 862, "nay" on rollcall vote 863, "aye" on rollcall vote 864.

RECOGNIZING 3RD ANNUAL UNITY
DAY USA

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I rise today to commend the Foundation for Pluralism on the 3rd Annual Unity Day USA.

Unity Day USA has taken the initiative to remember one of the greatest tragedies in the history of our nation by brining about a positive response to the tragedy of 9/11. This day honors thousands of Americans who sacrificed their lives by committing to make this day pledged to the peace, prosperity, unity and security of our nation.

It is vital that we look at the human and economic cost of war to realize the urgency to actively pursue peace. The burden of peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace building cannot be left to one institution, gender, or political party. It must be a shared responsibility that encompasses all, regardless of race, class, gender or religion.

Each year Unity Day USA is celebrated on the Sunday before September 11th. On this day, Americans of every faith, race, ethnicity, culture and background, gather to pray for the peace, unity and security of our nation and the world.

The theme the 3rd Annual Unity Day USA will be One Nation under God. Leaders will seek guidance and wisdom from their respective faiths. Civil servants and community leaders will echo the same sentiment and suggest ways in which we as individuals can work toward cohesive and thriving local communities.

On behalf of the 30th Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to commend the Foundation of Pluralism on celebrating the 3rd Annual Unity Day USA.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2669,
COLLEGE COST REDUCTION AND
ACCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to acknowledge the contributions of the Education and Labor Committee staff: Tom Kiley, Danielle Lee, and Daniel Weiss.

HONORING ATRIA SENIOR LIVING
GROUP

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, the Atria Senior Living Group received the Platinum Community award from the National Assisted Living Nurses Association for 100 percent quality compliance in state surveys at 22 communities throughout the country.

With the number of elderly and disabled Americans dramatically increasing, I am proud to say that an Atria Assisted Living facility is located next to my office in Riverdale, where it is helping to care for this influx of elderly. I have visited many times since it opened.

I was proud to again visit the Atria Assisted Living Facility, this weekend as part of National Assisted Living Week which has the theme of "Legacies of Love" and highlights the value of passing on the legacies of our elders to the coming generations.

I urge everyone to visit friends and loved ones who may be at an assisted living facility to share in their love, care, and knowledge. Sadly, I recently lost my mother and value every moment I had with her.

We, all of us, should make every effort to learn more about these facilities and the people in them. Atria's Platinum Award demonstrates its determination to give quality care to these most valued citizens, care they have earned and deserve. I congratulate them for what they have done.

HONORING CHRIST UNITED METH-
ODIST CHURCH UPON ITS 50TH-
YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Christ United Methodist Church on its 50th Anniversary for providing a place to worship, learn, assist those in need and gather in Christ's name.

On January 7, 2007 a JUBILEE Worship Service was conducted on the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Christ United Methodist Church of Farmers Branch, Texas. The service was attended and conducted by twenty Charter Members, 500 congregants, a United Methodist Bishop, and eight robed ministers, gratefully celebrating the anniversary.

The City of Farmers Branch is the oldest settlement in north Dallas County, but in 1956 it was rapidly expanding with new construction of homes. The desire for a new Methodist church in the area prompted a small group of Christians to petition the United Methodist Bishop William C. Martin for the extension of the church. Upon approval by the Bishop, the Reverend Bourdon Smith was appointed church pastor. The first worship service was held at Valwood Elementary School on January 6, 1957. The name Christ United Methodist Church was voted upon, and 44 members united with the church. Charter membership closed on Easter, 1957 with 135 members registered.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the first phase of future church facilities were held in January, 1959 with 300 members in joyful attendance. Over the years a uniquely oval shaped sanctuary was constructed, accommodating 500 people for praise and worship. The current campus contains 51,000 sq ft of education and office space, a gym, and a commercial kitchen—all of it used on a weekly basis.

Dr. Victor Casad, Senior Pastor and Rev. Bob Spencer continue the message of those who served before them, and that is to live the mission statement, "To Share the love of Christ". Christ UMC provides ESL classes to the community, and financial aid to foreign missions. Child Development and Mother's Day Out programs provide a Christian learning experience. Three distinctively different worship services each Sunday morning welcome members and visitors. All ages are offered a variety of Sunday school classes and study groups each Sunday, and Bible Study groups throughout the week. Youth and Adult work teams tackle local assistance services, and travel far and wide to assist the Appalachia Service Project to make homes warmer, dryer, and safer. Men's Work Teams aid people impacted by disasters in Texas.

Those early dreams of Bishop Martin and the Charter Members have been met; however, the goal of today's 1455 members is equally as forward-reaching as theirs were. As the trumpets blasted to proclaim the year of JUBILEE at Christ United Methodist Church in January, the sanctuary was filled to capacity, and the spirit and energy was contagious. It was a day of genuine joy and appreciation for what has been accomplished and what lies ahead for each member of Christ United Methodist Church in Farmers Branch, Texas.

In honor of this special anniversary, Christ UMC is culminating its celebration with weekend events beginning on October 13, 2007. There will be a pancake dinner on Saturday and a parade begins the Sunday celebration. Following a special church service where former CUMC ministers and Charter Members will also be present, an all-church barbeque dinner will be enjoyed. An afternoon concert in the sanctuary will close the activities.

I am privileged to have had this time to honor the 50th Anniversary of Christ United Methodist Church of Farmers Branch, Texas.

IN HONOR OF THE 25TH ANNIVER-
SARY CELEBRATION OF TELECT,
INC.

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Telect, Inc. as they celebrate 25 years of business in the communications industry. Telect, Inc. has become a global leader in the development, manufacturing and service of connectivity and power products.

Bill and Judi Williams founded the company in September of 1982 with their then 18-year-old son, Wayne. Today, with headquarters in Liberty Lake and additional facilities in Texas, Latin America and Europe, they support a worldwide network of customers. In addition to providing quality service to their customers, the Williams' have also emphasized the importance of community involvement.

Together, their resumé of volunteer and community commitments is extensive. Bill has been active in the Boy Scouts of America's Northwest Council, and served on the National Association of Manufacturers' Board of Directors. Judi worked on several physician and hospital boards, was on the DSHS State Advisory Committee and served on the Whitworth College Board of Trustees. She also earned Working Woman Magazine's "Top 500 Woman Owned Business" award in 1998.

Telect continues to be known throughout the region as a model of how far a business can go when it is built on faith, integrity, and hard work. Their core values, which have been a part of the company since day one, still shape their business today. Now, as Bill and Judi have taken on the role as active members of the Board of Directors, their son Wayne is carrying the legacy of this great company into a new generation.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Bill and Judi Williams for their outstanding accomplishments as founders of Telect, Inc., and congratulate them on 25 years of quality service in the communications industry. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Bill and Judi Williams, and the employees of Telect, Inc. as they celebrate 25 great years together.

FREEDOM FOR ARTURO SUÁREZ
RAMOS

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about Arturo Suárez Ramos, a long suffering and heroic prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Suárez Ramos is a member of the Cuban Pro-Human Rights Committee and a leader of the pro-democracy movement in totalitarian Cuba. Because he believes that freedom is the birthright of every person, he has steadfastly demanded freedom, democracy and human rights for the Cuban people. He has bravely denounced the cruel policies of the dictatorship, its apartheid-style discrimination against Cubans, and its constant indoctrination campaign, and demanded that the

Cuban people be allowed to exercise their inalienable rights. Unfortunately, because the dictatorship forcefully represses those who bravely support freedom, he has repeatedly been a target of the regime's henchmen.

Mr. Suárez Ramos rejected the regime's mandated lies and propaganda early in his life and was therefore denied by the dictatorship the opportunity to pursue a higher education. Knowing full well that in a totalitarian Cuba there was no future, only dire consequences, for those who voiced dissent, he refused to allow his cries for freedom to be silenced. In 1985 Mr. Suárez Ramos was arrested by state security thugs and in a sham trial "sentenced" to 18 months in the totalitarian gulag for being a "menace to society" by attempting to leave the country without "proper permission".

Although Mr. Suárez Ramos was eventually released, his time outside the infernal totalitarian gulag was brief. On October 3, 1987, Mr. Suárez Ramos was again arrested, this time on charges of "piracy" and "illegal exit" from the country. Although he was initially sentenced to death by firing squad for attempting to divert a plane to the United States, the dictator decided to "commute" his sentence to thirty years in his dungeons.

Mr. Suárez Ramos has participated in several hunger strikes demanding his release and to draw attention to the abhorrent conditions in which political prisoners are kept. Currently, Mr. Suárez Ramos, among Cuba's longest serving political prisoners, suffers from migraines, loss of vision, severe back pains, chronic stomach pains, diarrhea and various other ailments. These maladies are brought on and compounded by the deprived, subhuman conditions to which he is subjected. Mr. Suárez Ramos has never relinquished his dream of freedom for the Cuban people. He continues to advocate for freedom and justice while locked in the hellish squalor of the dictatorship's dungeons and courageously endures countless attacks at the hands of his brutal jailers.

No matter how intense the repression, no matter how horrifically brutal the consequences of a dignified struggle for liberty, the totalitarian gulags are full of men and

women who represent the best of the Cuban nation. Madam Speaker, it is as inconceivable as it is unacceptable that Mr. Suárez Ramos continues to be systematically tortured because of his belief in freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Arturo Suárez Ramos and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ELEONOR VELASQUEZ

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Eleonor Velasquez, an intelligent and hard-working woman who has been on my staff from June 2003 until August 2007. During her tenure in my office, Eleonor was an asset to me and the constituents of the 32nd District of California. Eleonor's hard work, dedication, and skills are the reasons why I promoted her twice during her time in the office: from staff assistant to legislative correspondent in 2004 and from legislative correspondent to legislative assistant in March 2005.

Eleonor immigrated to the United States from Peru when she was just 13 years old. Her experience as a young woman assimilating to the United States provided her an invaluable perspective on issues such as immigration, education, trade, and Latino issues. Eleonor's fluency in Spanish has been of great service to my office since over half of my constituents do not speak English as their first language at home.

Eleonor has demonstrated a keen grasp of the complex issues involved in the ongoing immigration debate in the House of Representatives. Eleonor coordinated a number of sign-on letters and drafted Dear Colleague letters about immigration, trade, and education.

Recently, Eleonor drafted a letter to President Bush expressing deep disappointment regarding the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' (USCIS) increased fee structure for naturalization and asking him to work with Congress to create a fairer system.

During her time in my office, Eleonor spearheaded two pieces of legislation: H. Res. 721 (109th Congress), a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a Salvadoran-American Day (El Dia del Salvadoreño); and H.R. 5161 (109th Congress), a bill to establish a commission to study the removal of Mexican-Americans to Mexico during 1929–1941. H. Res. 721 recognized all Salvadoran-Americans for their hard work, dedication, and contribution to the stability and well-being of the United States, and was co-sponsored by 55 Members of Congress. The resolution was passed by the House of Representatives on July 18, 2006. H.R. 5161 was not considered in the 109th Congress, but its introduction was very important to the families of the 2 million individuals of Mexican ancestry who were forcibly removed to Mexico during the Depression, as many as 1.2 million of whom were United States citizens.

As the liaison in my office to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC), Eleonor has gained a wealth of institutional knowledge about issues important to the Caucus over the past 4 years. Eleonor began her tenure on Capitol Hill as a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) fellow in the office of Congressman JOSÉ SERRANO. She has been an active member of the CHCI alumni association and mentored other Latino young men and women who came through the program to work on Capitol Hill and in the private sector on public policy issues.

While I am sad to see Eleonor leave, I am confident that the future will bring her much success. I wish Eleonor and her family good health and best wishes. I join my staff in my Washington, DC, El Monte, and East Los Angeles offices in wishing Eleonor the best of luck in all of her future endeavors. Buena suerte, Eleonor!

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 Tuesday, September 11, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 12

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation Interstate Commerce, Trade, and Tourism Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Federal Trade Commission Reauthorization.

SR-253

Rules and Administration

To hold a hearing to examine the nomination of Robert Charles Tapella, of Virginia, to be Public Printer for the Government Printing Office.

SR-301

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Business meeting to mark up H.R. 3222, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008.

SD-106

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 2017, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for national

energy efficiency standards for general service incandescent lamps.

SD-366

Finance

Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "The Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP Indian Health Care Improvement Act of 2007, H. J.Res. 43, increasing the statutory limit on the public debt, and revising subcommittee assignments for the 110th Congress.

SD-215

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Julie L. Myers, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

SD-342

11 a.m.

Appropriations

Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine enhancing the safety of toy's relating to lead paint, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and toy safety standards.

SD-192

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine regulatory preemption relating to federal agencies usurping congressional and state authority.

SD-226

SEPTEMBER 18

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold an oversight hearing on the National Football League retirement system.

SR-253

SEPTEMBER 19

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine information technology.

SD-562

SEPTEMBER 20

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation by the American Legion.

345, Cannon Building

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1377, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the City of Henderson, Nevada, certain Federal land located in the City, S. 1433, to amend the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act to provide competitive status to certain Federal employees in the State of Alaska, S. 1608 and H.R. 815, bills to provide for the conveyance of certain land in Clark County, Nevada, for use by the Nevada National Guard, S. 1740, to amend the Act of February 22, 1889, and the Act of July 2, 1862, to provide for the management of public land trust funds in the State of North Dakota, S. 1802, to adjust the boundaries of the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness in the State of Idaho, S. 1803, to authorize the exchange of certain land located in the State of Idaho, S. 1939, to provide for the conveyance of certain land in the Santa Fe National Forest, New Mexico, and S. 1940, to reauthorize the Rio Puerco Watershed Management Program.

SD-366

SEPTEMBER 25

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine Persian Gulf War research.

SD-562

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1756, to provide supplemental ex gratia compensation to the Republic of the Marshall Islands for impacts of the nuclear testing program of the United States.

SD-366

SEPTEMBER 27

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine hard-rock mining on federal lands.

SD-366

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul J. Hutter, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

SD-562