

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN REMEMBRANCE OF HONORABLE
BLANCHE KRUPANSKY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Judge Blanche Krupansky, a pioneer for women in the judicial system, and to honor a life spent in service to her country and her community.

Judge Krupansky, a lifelong resident of the Cleveland area, has a multifaceted and rich history of public service. Her story serves as an inspiration for women everywhere and she paved the way for women to succeed in becoming lawyers and judges.

Honorable Krupansky was born in Cleveland, Ohio, where she attended West High School and Flora Stone College of Western Reserve University. A testament to her pioneering spirit, when she began law school at Case Western Reserve University in 1946, she was the only woman in her class.

After earning her law degree, she remained in Ohio where she served as assistant attorney general as well as an assistant chief counsel for the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation. In 1961, Judge Krupansky was elected to the Cleveland Municipal Court. She later moved to the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court in 1969, where she would serve for almost 10 years.

Honorable Krupansky made history twice during her long career of public service as a judge in Ohio. She became the first woman to serve on the 8th Ohio District Court of Appeals in 1977, where she would serve for over 30 years.

In 1981, she became the second woman appointed to serve on the Ohio Supreme Court in its long 185-year history. Throughout her career, she encouraged women to pursue careers as lawyers and judges, as well as to run for political office. In 1994, she told a reporter at the Cleveland Plain Dealer, "If I can do it, you can do it," in the hopes that she could inspire young women.

In 1980, she was recognized for her groundbreaking career when she was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame. She also received the Women of Achievement award from the Women's City Club of Cleveland, the Distinguished Service Award from Woman Space, the Nettie Cronise Lutes Award for an Outstanding Woman Lawyer, the distinguished Alumna Award from Case Western Reserve University, and she once served as chair of the Society of Benchers of Case.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Judge Blanche Krupansky, whose career in public service is a shining example for women everywhere. May her pioneering character and exemplary life serve as an example for all of us to follow.

THE RIGHT TO VOTE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, it's voting season. Presidential primaries are being held all across the country, giving U.S. citizens the opportunity to vote, a right guaranteed by the 15th Amendment of the Constitution. This year, record numbers of citizens of all ages are turning out in droves, standing in lines to exercise that right, they are even participating in caucuses. As wonderful as it is to see more people participating in the election process, turnout is still not as high as it should be.

We live in the greatest country in the world, and enjoy more rights than any other country in the world. When you take into consideration that many in this country struggled, fought, and even died for the right to vote, every able bodied American should proudly vote whenever there is an election. We must never become so complacent, busy, or apathetic that we take for granted this most important right.

I was privileged to travel to Iraq, on January 30, 2005, to observe its first historic election. Having been in Baghdad and Fallujah and other parts of northern Iraq, I went to polling places, and when dawn came, the whole country was shut down to vehicular traffic. Slowly, surely and defiantly, the Iraqi people, young and old, men and women walked to the polls, taking their families, relatives, and neighbors. They voted for the very first time and attained the opportunity to make a free choice. The atmosphere of democracy unfolding was almost carnival in nature, a celebration of their new rights.

In spite of intimidation, threats, and actual violence, the Iraqi people boldly spoke out against the past oppression of Saddam Hussein and his dynasty of tyrants and spoke loudly for democracy.

Almost 300 individuals were wounded because they decided to vote for their own rulers, and they wanted to vote for freedom. Many died on election day going to or from the polls, yet 60 percent of these proud Iraqis walked to 30,000 polling stations. They took a great risk, but even after they voted, they stayed around the polling places to watch history unfold. When they left the polling booths, they walked down the street with their ink-stained right forefinger, signifying that they voted, held high in the air, defiant to terrorists, who swore they would murder those who voted or attempted to vote. The Iraqi people took the risk because freedom was more important to them, they were proud to be voters in the first free and fair election, the hope of democracy.

Freedom is not free. It always comes at a cost. Freedom fighters and civil rights activists throughout countless generations in this country paid a tremendous price to deliver equality and freedom for their brothers and sisters and the posterity of others. Thankfully, no one in

this country risks being shot, or murdered for voting, so there is no excuse for able bodied Americans to stay home and remain silent. We should be proud to be part of free elections guaranteed by democracy.

A vote is a voice. It ensures that our democracy is of the people, by the people and for the people. Celebrate our hard-earned rights, remember those who fought, struggled, and lost their lives so that we could reap the benefits. Show our gratitude to those who made your freedom and rights possible by showing up at the polls, and proving that their sacrifices were not in vain. In this great country, each time there is an election, voter turnout should be so high that everything is forced to shut down because everyone is at the polls. Americans should show the world that this is what democracy is all about, and let those who yearn for democracy know that it is definitely worth fighting for!

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO THE SAN MATEO
COUNTY BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION
TRADES COUNCIL

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the San Mateo County Building & Construction Trades Council and its contributions to San Mateo County with my friend Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER.

On April 10, 1908, the San Mateo County Building & Construction Trades Council received its first charter from the California State Building Trades Council. Today it is comprised of 24 local construction unions and has a membership of over 16,000 of the highest skilled crafts women and men in the construction industry. They are plumbers, pipefitters, electricians, carpenters, roofers, ironworkers, cement masons, elevator constructors, heavy equipment operators (Operating Engineers), painters, truck drivers (Teamsters), lathers, sheet metal workers, plasterers, brick and tile layers, boilermakers, pile drivers, glaziers, carpet and soft tile layers, fire sprinklerfitters, insulation and asbestos workers, laborers, hod carriers, sign painters, millwright workers, laborers, cabinetmakers, steamfitters, and hardwood floor layers. While their jobs may be different, what links them together is their dedication to perform with high skill and great pride.

In 1908, San Mateo County was young and growing, and through the hard work of another generation, the county was shaped into what it is today. The single biggest accomplishment was the construction of San Francisco International Airport and more recently, a new terminal at the airport.

The mission of the San Mateo County Building & Construction Trades Council has always

• 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.

been to improve the quality of life for all construction workers, promote the value of highly skilled union crafts women and men, and to increase the union market share in the construction industry.

The San Mateo County Building & Construction Trades Council has also understood the importance of not only developing a strong foundation of skilled crafts persons through apprenticeship programs, but also the need to reach out to developers, public agencies, and elected officials to explain why it makes good business sense to use union contractors and union workers. The San Mateo County Building & Construction Trades Council's active approach in voicing the need for construction workers to be paid decent wages with pension and health benefits so they and their families can afford to live in the community illustrates its commitment to every single worker.

Madam Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in honoring the San Mateo County Building & Construction Trades Council as it celebrates a century of building and serving San Mateo County. We salute Bill Nack, the council's business manager and every single member of the council. The work of generations has shaped and built San Mateo County as we know it today, and contributed to the building of our country as well.

May the next century be marked by the excellence and achievements of the first 100 years of the Building and Construction Trades Council of San Mateo County.

HONORING THE MOREHOUSE
COLLEGE GLEE CLUB

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Morehouse College Glee Club, as they visit Saints Rest Missionary Baptist Church in Fresno, California.

Established in 1945 by the late Rev. A.W. White, and currently led by Pastor Shane B. Scott, the Saints Rest Missionary Baptist Church is an esteemed member of the local religious community. Their hosting the Morehouse College Glee Club is certainly an exciting occasion worthy of special recognition.

The Morehouse College Glee Club boasts a 90-year tradition of excellence in musical achievements. Then current director, Dr. David Murrow has been a member of the music faculty at Morehouse College since 1981. In 1994, the glee club performed the National Anthem with Natalie Cole for Super Bowl XXVIII in Atlanta, Georgia. They also participated with Stevie Wonder, Gloria Estefan and Trisha Yearwood in the opening and closing ceremonies of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games held in Atlanta. Furthermore, the glee club has toured cities in Russia as well as Poland. Along with international tours and local concerts, the glee club presents an annual spring tour which averages 10 to 15 cities in 2 to 3 weeks.

The history of this institution demonstrates that it is only by embracing the importance of cooperation and vision that great success can be achieved. I am honored to congratulate Morehouse College Glee Club as they visit Fresno, California.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on May 6, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my votes for rollcall No. 253 and No. 255.

Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 253—"yes"—Honoring the memory of Dith Pran by remembering his life's work and continuing to acknowledge and remember the victims of genocides that have taken place around the globe; rollcall No. 255—"no"—On Motion to Adjourn.

TRIBUTE TO MARINE SGT. GLEN
MARTINEZ

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Marine Sgt. Glen Martinez, a great American who gave his life in service to our Nation. Born in Alamosa, Colorado, and raised in Monte Vista, Colorado, Sergeant Martinez was a born leader who inspired everyone he met throughout his life. His family describes him as a strong and highly driven individual. His desire to work hard, ability to see the best in others and motivate them allowed him to excel at school, sports and as a marine.

Sergeant Martinez was very involved in his school and community. After his passing, many people have contacted the family thanking them and sharing memories. His family remembers him always trying to get everyone involved, especially his most quiet and reserved peers. He also dedicated himself to his studies. His father, Ron Martinez, remembers his son studying early in the morning while listening to Bach and Beethoven.

Sports and school activities were also a major part of his life. In high school he took part in the State Marching Band, earning the Louis Armstrong Jazz Award. During his junior year he helped lead his football team to the semi-finals. Over the 4 years that he competed on the wrestling team, he held a record of 111 wins and 29 losses. He realized these accomplishments while earning an academic honorable mention. When preparing for college, Sergeant Martinez was offered scholarships for football, wrestling and baseball.

Sergeant Martinez accepted a scholarship to play baseball while earning a degree in surveying from Westwood College and later a master's degree in hydro engineering at the University of Colorado. His advanced degrees would have exempted him from having to go through basic training. Out of respect for his fellow marines, Sergeant Martinez chose to attend basic training even though he was not required to. He refused to ask people to do what he had not done himself.

When asked why he would give up his lifestyle to join the Marines he responded, "I am tired of people cutting down my country." Of 700 recruits, Sergeant Martinez was one of seven honored upon graduation. "His drill ser-

geant singled him out as one of the best he'd ever had," said his father.

On Friday, May 2, 2008 at 11:10 p.m., while on his second tour in Iraq, Sergeant Martinez gave his life in service to our Nation. He was 31 years old when a roadside bomb took his life along with that of three fellow marines.

I send my deepest condolences to the family of Sergeant Martinez. My thoughts go out to them in this difficult time. I hope they may find comfort in the knowledge that Sergeant Martinez gave his life to defend an ideal he believed in. Sergeant Martinez joins 57 other heroes from Colorado who have given their lives while serving their country.

DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE
REGIONAL STRATEGY IN CHAD
AND DARFUR

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 2008

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H. Res. 1011, which calls on the United States and the international community to develop, fund, and implement a regional strategy which addresses the security and humanitarian crisis in Chad, the Darfur region of the Sudan, and the northern region of the Central African Republic.

This timely and important legislation, of which I am proud to be a cosponsor, not only calls on the Governments of Chad and the Central African Republic to fulfill their obligations under international law to protect civilians, but also calls upon the President of the United States to continue humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons in the region.

Chad has been plagued by intermittent conflict, both internally and with its neighbors, since it gained independence in 1960. The current President of Chad, Idriss Déby, took power after launching a coup across the border in neighboring Darfur, Sudan. He has since faced at least five coup attempts including one just this past February. Violence spurred by the Sudanese Government has also continued to destabilize Chad and the State Department's most recent Country Report on Human Rights Practices that, "the [Chadian] government's poor human rights record deteriorated further" this past year.

The refugee situation in Chad and the surrounding region continues to worsen. In the past three years, as fighting between the Government and rebels increased and 180,000 Chadians have been displaced, adding to the inflow of 290,000 refugees from the Central African Republic, CAR, and Sudan's Darfur region. The United Nations estimates that Chad is now home to 240,000 refugees from Darfur, 52,000 refugees from the Central African Republic, and more than 180,000 internally displaced people. In February 2008 alone over 12,000 new refugees from Darfur entered the country. We must develop a comprehensive plan to address the refugee crisis as well as the security problems that plague the region.

I visited Darfur and have seen the situation on the ground. Now high-tech GPS satellites and mass media allow everyone to bear witness to the tragedies in Chad, Sudan, and the

surrounding areas: the burnt holes where villages used to be, the mass migrations of the internally displaced, starving children, and victims of rape.

With this knowledge comes a duty to act. As the wars in Chad, Sudan, and Central African Republic become increasingly intertwined, and as the massive displacements continue across the region, the United States and the international community must engage the crisis on a regional level.

This resolution recognizes that reality and calls for a comprehensive strategy to protect civilians, facilitate humanitarian operations, contain and reduce violence, and contribute to conditions for sustainable peace and good governance throughout the region with all nations.

I thank the sponsor of this resolution, Mr. WOLF, for introducing this important resolution, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

TRIBUTE TO D-DAY VETERANS

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a special group of veterans, those that served in Operation Overlord or D-day as it is commonly referred to.

On June 6, 1944, an allied force of over 150,000 American, British, Canadian, Free French, and Polish troops landed on a 50-mile stretch of French coastline heavily-fortified by German forces. President Franklin D. Roosevelt referred to the assault as a "mighty endeavor" as it included more than 13,000 aircraft, 137,000 jeeps, trucks, and half-tracks, 16 million tons of supplies, and the largest armada ever assembled in history with over 5,000 vessels.

Over 70,000 American servicemen participated in the D-day invasion and began what General Eisenhower referred to as the allied march to victory. The allied forces suffered about 9,760 casualties, of which 6,605 were Americans.

World War II shaped the 20th century and forever changed the course of world history. Recognizing the brave men and women of America's Armed Forces that participated in the war is a special privilege. As members of the greatest generation fade into the past, we should work diligently to thank them for their sacrifice as they marched on behalf of freedom and secured the world from tyranny.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill said it best in 1940 while addressing the British people during the Battle of Britain when he remarked, "Never in the field of human conflict has so much been owed by so many to so few." America owes a great debt to its men and women in uniform and by recognizing the contributions of previous generations, we ensure that their sacrifices are never forgotten.

It is with great pride and heartfelt gratitude that I recognize the D-day veterans residing in California's Second Congressional District and all of America's veterans for protecting the values and traditions of our great Nation.

May God Bless America, our veterans, and those currently serving in the Armed Forces.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, on May 14, 1948, the dream of the restoration of a sovereign and independent State of Israel was realized. On that day, a mere 11 minutes following the declaration by Israel's Government, the United States officially recognized the Israeli state—extending a hand of friendship and support which has not once been withdrawn. Today, 60 years following that historic occasion, I rise to commemorate Israel's independence and congratulate the Israeli people on their dedicated efforts toward establishing a flourishing and thriving state.

Israel is currently the only fully established democracy in the Middle East, having free elections, a free press, freedom of religion, and the separation of powers. In addition, Israel is home to several of the leading universities in the world—spurring on its advanced economy with an emphasis in the technology sector. Israel's political, cultural, and economic success has not been easy, however, being attained in the face of war, ongoing terrorist attacks, and unfair boycotts against Israeli businesses.

I first visited Israel with five other members of Congress in 2003 and was struck by the degree to which ordinary Israelis were under the constant threat of terrorist attacks. Homes had bulletproof windows, security guards and metal detectors were necessities in most public places, and the threat of suicide bombings was a daily reality.

I am confident that terrorist attacks and other roadblocks to Israel's security and prosperity will not serve to undermine the resolve of Israel's people. Instead, these attacks will only increase the vigor with which the Israeli people defend their commonly held values of justice, freedom, and democracy.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize the 60th anniversary of the State of Israel, and sincerely hope that Israel will in the coming years finally attain the lasting peace its people have long desired.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2419, FOOD AND ENERGY SECURITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, on May 6, 2008, my vote on the Kind Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2419, the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, rollcall vote 258, was recorded as a "no" vote when I intended to cast a "yes" vote. I wish to clarify on the record my support for the House-passed funding levels for the Grassland Reserve Program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, and Wetlands Reserve Program, as well as the Senate's sod saver provision.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1086, recognizing this week as National Nurses Week. I thank Congresswoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON for her leadership in sponsoring this Resolution so that Congress can honor the nearly 2.9 million hard working nurses across the country.

As we celebrate the fine women and men on the front lines of our health care system, we recognize that registered nurses are vital to quality health care for all Americans. Nurses care for patients at every level—from critical care, chronic disease, to preventative and wellness care. They work in hospitals, doctor's offices, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, schools and provide in-home care throughout the community. Nurses routinely perform some of the most important duties of a patient's treatment.

In this National Nurses Week, I also want to pay special tribute to nurses in my district and throughout South Florida. From our elder population, to working men and women, to our children, nurses help my constituents every day. To honor all that they do, on May 9th, nurses in South Florida will participate in a program entitled, "Nurses Making A Difference Every Day." I can tell you that nurses do make a difference every day and I thank them for their service.

I hope that this program, and the national attention we give to the good work of nurses will encourage more people to consider this noble profession. It is projected that the need for registered nurses will grow dramatically in the coming years, and we must do all we can to support this vital field.

Madam Speaker, nurses exemplify some of the best that this country has to offer. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to highlight their value to our communities and the important role nurses play in providing quality health care to all of our constituents.

HONORING MARCIENE MATTHELMAN OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, the Philadelphia Award is my hometown's most prestigious award for service to the community. Its winners, since 1921, have included scientists, educators, industrialists, religious leaders, orchestra conductors, mayors, authors, philanthropists, and more.

This past Sunday, May 4, 2008, the Philadelphia Award was presented, on its 87th anniversary, to Marciene S. Mattleman, the founder and developer of programs to advance literacy, promote mentoring and college scholarships for low income youth, develop after school programs in underserved neighborhoods, and generally improve the lives of children in Philadelphia. Her triumphs include the Mayor's Office for Literacy, Philadelphia

READS, Philadelphia Futures, and currently the After School Activities Partnerships. Remarkably, her pattern has been to launch such worthwhile projects, build them as self-sustaining and successful, then move on to her next initiative.

Marciene Mattleman's persistence is legendary in Philadelphia—and it was the subject of much merriment at the Philadelphia Award ceremonies held at Temple University. The keynote speaker, Ralph Smith of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, described the experience of having Ms. Mattleman doggedly seeking support and resources from a public official, foundation or opinion leader as being “Marciened.” Governor Ed Rendell and Mayor Michael Nutter said in such meetings it was best to say “yes” quickly, because no one was ever able to say no to her visionary requests.

As an elected official who has come to know and respect Marciene and her initiatives, I extend my congratulations to her and thanks to the Trustees of the Philadelphia Award for their wise and popular selection. For a full measure of Marciene S. Mattleman's accomplishments and unique style, I encourage my colleagues to consider the profile included in the Philadelphia Inquirer on May 4, 2008, which I have submitted into the RECORD.

ANYONE IN NEED CAN JOIN HER CLUB
(By Melissa Dribben)

Today's Philadelphia Award winner uses her pull to give kids—and others—a push. Marciene Mattleman is kind of a big deal.

You'd never know it if you came across her at 7 a.m. in Society Hill, walking her ritual two miles in 30 minutes as she has almost every day for 14 years.

Or chatting up Ken, the concierge at the front desk of the condominium where she and her husband, Herman, have lived for 12 years.

Or getting takeout at the deli next to her Center City office, where she spoons out a demure serving of chicken and broccoli from the buffet, but accidentally takes two Styrofoam containers, which the cashier notices and repacks without properly closing the lid. So by the time Mattleman sits down for a conference with her staff to organize an all-night chess marathon for city kids, brown sauce has pooled in the bottom of the plastic bag.

Watching Mattleman in these settings is like the paparazzi catching Meryl Streep yawning in one of those “see, celebrities are normal, just like us” photos.

Don't kid yourself.

That deceptively delicate-looking woman with her white hair brushing against her shoulders is no ordinary grandmother out for a power walk. She's a gifted educator, canny social entrepreneur, and tireless fundraiser who has operated for 30 years in a decidedly higher realm than the rest of us earthlings.

Today, in recognition of her contributions to Philadelphia's underprivileged youths, Mattleman will receive the Philadelphia Award, the city's highest civic honor.

“I've had a huge amount of support, both emotional and financial, that enabled me to follow my instincts and act with independence,” Mattleman says. “There is an enormous satisfaction to help other people get what they want from life.

“When you have a kid go to college who never thought they could, or learn to read, or win a chess tournament, and shake the winner's hand, it's wonderful to see.”

She was chosen, says Happy Fernandez, chairman of the award commission, to honor her work this past year organizing after-

school activities for the city's children, and recruiting thousands of volunteers to lead chess clubs and debate teams and teach hip-hop and yoga. But the prize is also an acknowledgment of her life's considerable accomplishments.

A partial accounting: Founder of Philadelphia Futures, the mentoring and scholarship program for underprivileged kids. Founder of Philadelphia READS, a literacy program for underprivileged kids. Founder of ASAP After School Activities Partnerships. Appointed to boards and commissions by President Bill Clinton, Gov. Rendell, and Mayors William J. Green and W. Wilson Goode. Longtime trustee at the Free Library and Community College of Philadelphia. Member of Mayor Nutter's transition team. Author of scholarly articles and books.

When the awards ceremony is held this afternoon at Temple University, where Mattleman, 78, earned three degrees and taught education for 18 years, you can just imagine the kind of clout that will be seated in the audience.

And, of course, standing for the ovations.

They will rave about her dedication. Her drive. Her knack for inventing small, efficient programs to help children make the most of their lives.

They will talk about her family—the three children and six grandchildren, who have all followed her lead by doing public service. And her 57-year marriage to Herman, a former president of the Philadelphia School Board, who won the Philadelphia Award 17 years ago.

All impressive.

But if you want to know what makes Marciene (pronounced mar-SEEN) Mattleman truly extraordinary, here's one man to ask.

Ken Leeman, that guy who works the front desk in her apartment building.

“She's pretty generous,” Leeman says. “She pretty much took my son under her wing.”

She got the 16-year-old boy involved in chess tournaments and arranged a full summer of activities at the Samuel S. Fels Community Center in South Philadelphia.

“She'd also take him to her office and take him on trips,” Leeman says. “She set him up pretty good.”

This is what Mattleman does for just about anyone in need who crosses her path.

“There is no kid or adult who possibly needs help that she's not willing to reach out to,” says her daughter Barbara, executive director of the humanitarian Operation Understanding. “For years, we'd lose our cleaning ladies. She'd either get them into school or find them better jobs. She always believed if you're smart and you want to do something, there should be no barrier.”

In the last 25 years, Mattleman has built a network of contacts so dense and influential that there is almost no one in city government or business she can't call to ask for a favor. Favors, invariably, that involve helping someone.

“It's hard to say no to her,” says Pedro Ramos, a partner at Blank Rome. “When she calls to ask you for something, I don't think the word ever gets out.”

Pushy?

That's one way to look at it, says Ramos. He prefers “persistent, perpetually energized and directed.”

“When she starts a conversation, she's already three or four steps ahead,” he says. “She's already thought through how you can be helpful.”

One of her closest friends, retired Superior Court Judge Phyllis Beck, recalls the genesis of Philadelphia Futures in 1989.

“She's amazing at getting an idea and then bringing that idea into reality,” Beck says.

“When she first thought about Philadelphia Futures, we talked about it as just an idea in her head, what the name should be, and before I turned around—there was the organization.”

Ten years later, Mattleman resigned.

Unlike others who start nonprofits, stay for decades, and try to expand them to the fullest extent, Mattleman believes in creating small and efficient operations, then setting them free to live an independent life.

“She needed an interim president, so she asked me,” Beck recalls. “I didn't have the time. I couldn't possibly have done it. But you don't say no to Marciene. You try, but it's practically impossible. When she calls you at 7 a.m. and you've said no three mornings in a row . . .”

Beck laughs. “You know why you can't say no to Marciene? Because if you needed her, or you needed Herman, you know they would do anything for you.”

Beck, who has known the couple for 30 years, says she thinks of the two as one entity. Their romance, which began at Tel Hai Camp in Bucks County when she was 16 and he was 20, appears to be perpetually sweet and symbiotic.

She cooks; he does the dishes. They talk six times a day on the phone. He listens faithfully to the weekly education reports she has been broadcasting on KYW radio for 10 years. She gently chides him for buying too many books but, honestly, wouldn't have him change a thing.

“June 25, we'll be married 58 years,” Mattleman says, showing off the picture of the two of them on a boat on the Delaware near their country house in Bucks County. “It seems just incredible to me. We really think of ourselves as kids. I know that sounds silly.”

Their children say the storybook love affair is genuine.

“They are an amazing team,” says Barbara, who remembers, as a child, watching them dancing in the living room and getting the whole family to sing together. “I did the same with my family.”

The feistiness, she says, was also part of their legacy. When she was in high school in Merion during the Vietnam War, she and her mother went to a protest outside the local draft office.

“I thought it was going to be a rally, but when we got there, it was just the two of us. We marched in circles singing antiwar songs.”

Years later, she reminded her mother of that day. “She had no idea what I was talking about. Or what an incredible impact that had on my life, learning that it didn't matter how many people were there, you did what you believed was right.”

Mattleman's other daughter, Ellen, vice president and policy director for the Committee of Seventy, says her parents set high standards for behavior.

“She's a tough act to follow. When the phone rings at midnight or at 6 a.m., I don't get alarmed. I know it's my mother calling to talk about something she's been thinking about. Someone with that kind of energy can be pretty daunting if you're her kid.”

However fiercely she may work for the public good, Ellen says, her mother's greatest devotion is to her family.

“When I heard that she got this Philadelphia Award, I welled up. I was so happy for her to get this honor.”

Then Ellen called her to congratulate her. “Did you cry when they told you?” Ellen asked.

“No,” Mattleman said. “I only cry when I burn the meat.”

“That's true,” Ellen explains. “Because if she burned the meat, it would mean she wasn't doing something wonderful for her

family. . . . She is very, very wonderful as a grandmother and mother, and sometimes that gets lost in all the stuff she does."

Last week, Mattleman met with her staff in the conference room to work out the final details of a marathon youth chess tournament that would begin Friday evening and last through all day Saturday.

On the wall hang photographs of children engrossed in chess games, a picture of a city councilwoman practicing yoga with two school kids, and a whiteboard scrawled in red, "Congratulations Marciene!"

The staff wanted to hold a party for her early last month as soon as they learned she was winning the Philadelphia Award. But the announcement had come within days of a family tragedy.

Mattleman's great-nephew had died of cancer, and as the matriarch of the family, she had been shuttling back and forth to New York during the last weeks of his illness and then for his funeral.

The youngest of three girls and the only surviving sibling, Mattleman says she was brought up believing in the importance of family and the personal imperative to help the less fortunate.

She grew up on Woodcrest Avenue in Wynnefield, where her father, a businessman, served as president of his synagogue. "They used to remind me that Anne Frank was my age. . . . There but for the grace of God . . ."

One of her sisters was a psychologist, the other "a wonderful, good-hearted woman." She is the only one who maintained a compulsion to keep working, well past retirement age, for the public good.

"I have my father's energy and drive," she says. "He lived to 95. I hope I do, too."

For the chess marathon, Mattleman planned to take the Friday night shift, "from 7 until whenever." She wanted to make sure there would be enough children—and sponsors—to keep the event vibrant even in the odd hours.

"The leaky chicken and broccoli has left a puddle on the table. I'll clean it up," she says, and disappears for a minute.

In her absence, her staff, who are mostly in their 20s and 30s, say working with Mattleman is like earning a master's degree in nonprofits. An experience both inspiring and humbling.

"When we're at a fund-raiser and someone is talking slow, she'll kick me and say, 'We've got to get going. I have things to do!'" says Justin Ennis, a 23-year-old graduate of the University of Pennsylvania who is working for AmeriCorps. She can't stand having to wait for an inefficient speaker to get to the point.

"We call it the ninth circle of hell for her," says Ennis.

Any signs that she's slowing down?

None, says Ennis, shaking his head. "It's terrifying."

Mattleman returns with a napkin. Wipes the table clean. "There!" she says, then leaves to get on with business.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOANNE
MCKENNA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of JoAnne McKenna, who dedicated her life to serving as a community organizer on behalf of peace and inter-cultural understanding.

JoAnne McKenna was born and raised in Cleveland, where she would stay and dedicate

her life to advocating for peace and inter-cultural understanding. Her family had deep roots in the city and owned the Hanna grocery stores in downtown Cleveland. She studied English Literature at Flora Stone Mather College and always had great interest in the Middle East. Mrs. McKenna, of Slovak and Lebanese heritage, served as a leader and social justice organizer in the Greater Cleveland community for decades. The region's history, politics and culture fascinated her, but the Arab-Israeli War and its aftermath propelled her to assert her Arab-American identity and emerge as a leader within the Arab-American community.

Following the political unrest of the Arab-Israeli War, Mrs. McKenna began giving presentations at libraries, schools and churches around the Greater Cleveland Community in a quest to cultivate peace and inter-cultural dialogue. Through her work and continued dedication, she emerged as a leader in the Arab-American community and helped found numerous local and national organizations, focusing on Arab-American political activism and peace. She helped found the Greater Cleveland Association of Arab-Americans, where she served on the board for twelve years and six terms as President, the National Association of Arab-Americans, the Ohio chapter of the Association of Arab-American University Graduates, and the Northeast Ohio Committee on Middle East Understanding.

Mrs. McKenna wrote a book titled "Great Women of the Middle East" and traveled throughout the United States and the Arab region meeting with various community and state leaders. On two occasions, her activism took her to the White House, where she met with President Ford and President Carter.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering and honoring the life of JoAnne McKenna, for her outstanding leadership and advocacy for Arab-American causes, as well as for her extensive and diverse service to many individuals and communities who call the Cleveland area home.

EDUCATOR DOROTHY INGRAM

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to pay tribute to the late Dorothy Ingram.

Ms. Ingram, a graduate of Lincoln High School in Port Arthur, Texas, started working in schools during summers, even before she earned her undergraduate degree. After obtaining a bachelor's degree from Bishop College in 1936, she went to Prairie View A&M University, earned a Master of Arts Degree, and went on to become a woman of many firsts, including the first African-American fellow of George Peabody University.

Ms. Ingram participated in and made notable contributions to organizations in the Golden Triangle and in the State of Texas, receiving honors too numerous to list in their entirety. She taught at Lamar Elementary School, and in 1952, she was the first African-American woman in Port Arthur to become Principal of George Washington Carver Elementary School. Many of her former teachers

remember her as a strong disciplinarian who ran a tough shift at school. She insisted on the highest standards for staff and students. She believed that children should learn and that it was the responsibility of teachers to make it happen. She encouraged students and teachers to keep climbing and to make a difference.

Helping organize the Port Arthur Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Ms. Ingram became its first President. In 1965, one year after Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. was organized in Tyler, Texas, Lady Ingram, with four other ladies, became charter members of the new Golden Triangle Chapter, and Ingram was again the first President. She was inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame; was Zeta Phi Beta Sorority's Woman of the Year; the Martin Luther King Support Group's Woman of the Year; and in Dallas, she was inducted into the Museum of African Life and Culture in 1968.

Ms. Ingram served as Principal of Pease and Wheatley Elementary Schools from 1972 to 1975, and was the first woman to become President of the Black Principals and Supervisors of Texas, and the Southeast Texas District Teachers Association.

In 1998, Ms. Ingram became Port Arthur's first and only Centennial Queen, celebrating the town's charter; and in 2000, she was Woman of the Year by Quota International of Southeast Texas. Her memberships included the Jefferson County Historical Commission; Democratic Women of Jefferson County; American Red Cross; Texas Senior Citizens' Association; and AAU President.

She was choir director and organist for the Imperial Radio Choir, which was broadcast over KTRM 990, and Ms. Ingram served as a musician for fifty years at Sixth Street (now Mt. Sinai) Baptist Church. The Boy Scouts of America honored her with the Silver Fawn Medal; and the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs honored her with the Sojourner Truth National Meritorious award.

Ms. Dorothy Ingram was a very dynamic person with a beautiful personality. She was a hard worker and believed everyone else should work hard. She insisted that everyone do the best at whatever they endeavored. She loved music, and she loved people, which is why she remained so active in the community well into her 90's.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Dorothy Ingram was a pioneer in education, and an incredible role model. She served and enhanced her community of Port Arthur, TX for more than sixty years, and I am proud to celebrate her accomplishments, and the legacy that she leaves behind.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMERICAN
RELIGIOUS HISTORY WEEK

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join with many of my colleagues in recognizing American Religious History Week, which began yesterday and goes through this Friday.

I rise not as a sectarian Christian but as an elected Representative of a religiously diverse people. In my beautiful region of Idaho, there

are persons of every faith and some who hold to no faith. Some attend very traditional, liturgical Christian churches and some attend services of Eastern faiths. Some are members of Latter-Day Saint congregations and others are Pentecostal Evangelicals. Idaho has a vibrant Jewish community—Idaho was the first state in the Nation to have a Jewish governor—and our state's Catholics were among millions of fellow worshippers who recently welcomed the Pope to our country.

I could keep going, but you get the point: Like most congressional districts, every major religion and denomination is represented in Idaho's First. Their adherents are full citizens of our great Republic and persons I am honored to represent here in our Nation's capital.

At the same time, it is indisputable that the Judeo-Christian moral tradition was fundamental to our Nation's founding. And this week, we in Congress are joining with Americans of every religious tradition in noting the importance of that tradition to the institutions we cherish and the way of life we enjoy.

Our country's Founding Fathers were imbued from an early age with a profound sense of the Judeo-Christian worldview. In a recent interview, Dr. James Hutson, chief of the Library of Congress's manuscript division, said, "Jefferson and others were tutored by ministers. They were an extremely biblically literate generation. This certainly shaped their view of Providence. The extent to which they believed in Providence would be unimaginable today. Adams and folks like that continually quoted [Jesus'] statement that a swallow cannot fall without God's knowledge. Washington talks about the invisible hand of Providence. Their biblical knowledge convinced these people that there was an invisible hand of God, and that there was a moral government of the universe."

Dr. Hutson's view is supported by historians of all persuasions. But perhaps the best way to draw attention to our country's religious history is by using the words of the Founders themselves.

Consider the words of John Witherspoon, president of what became Princeton University and a signer of the Declaration of Independence: "It is in the man of piety and inward principle, that we may expect to find the uncorrupted patriot, the useful citizen, and the invincible soldier. God grant that in America true religion and civil liberty may be inseparable and that the unjust attempts to destroy the one, may in the issue tend to the support and establishment of both."

John Jay was a co-author of the Federalist Papers. He served as governor of New York and later was the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. He has also been called the "American Wilberforce" for his efforts to work with his British friend William Wilberforce to end the slave-trade. What is not often known is that this great statesman was the second president of the American Bible Society and argued throughout his life for the importance of biblical principles to the future of the United States.

Jay had a strong grasp on God's guidance of the formation of our Nation. In 1809, he wrote to a friend, "A proper history of the United States would have much to recommend it: in some respects it would be . . . unlike all others; it would develop the great plan of Providence."

God's provision to America was clear to Jay's Federalist Papers' co-author John

Adams, as well. He knew that it was found in more than our abundant natural resources, but also in the very conscience of the people. Adams put it this way: "We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

In a statement made in 1778 to the Virginia General Assembly, James Madison, the future father of the Constitution and President, said, "We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We've staked the future of all our political institutions upon our capacity . . . to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."

George Washington echoed these same views in his Farewell Address to the Nation at the end of his presidency: "Of all the dispositions and habits, which lead to political prosperity, Religion and Morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of Patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of Men and Citizens . . . Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect, that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

America's Judeo-Christian religious heritage is rich and profound. It has shaped our institutions and nurtured our national soul. It is also the fount of the religious freedom we cherish: Those of us who believe in the God of the Bible believe He gave men and women the freedom to serve Him or not to serve Him. If that's true, we should allow that same freedom to our fellow citizens.

Our Declaration of Independence refers to "Divine Providence," our "Creator" and "the Supreme Judge of the World." Our Founders recognized their need to rely on, and submit to, His will in all things. May we, in our day and in this Chamber, continue to learn from their example.

IN HONOR OF THE DOVER AIR FORCE BASE WINNER OF THE 2008 COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S AWARD FOR INSTALLATION EXCELLENCE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the Dover Air Force Base upon receiving the prestigious 2008 Commander-in-Chief's Award for Installation Excellence. This is the first time in the 23-year history of the award that an Air Mobility Command installation has been recognized as the best in the Air Force.

The Commander-in-Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence honors the efforts of those who operate and maintain U.S. military bases. The Dover Air Force Base was one of only five recipients of this award, given for their outstanding support of Department of De-

fense missions through exceptional practices, which enhance the quality of life for members of our military and allow for better mission performance. The Dover Air Force Base competed against 117 wings throughout the entire Air Force to win the award and \$1 million to be used to further enhance the quality of life for base residents. Team Dover was distinguished for its many efforts to increase efficiency, including the opening of a technologically advanced Air Freight Terminal and its use of Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century. In addition, the base was named the Air Force's Outstanding Housing Installation Team for a Privatized Location.

The award money will be used to continue to keep Dover Air Force Base top among the nation's air bases in terms of quality of life for its residents. Selected projects include making needed upgrades to the base's movie theater, repairing the running track and football field, constructing a jogging and walking path, and putting in a new wireless audio system in the Fitness Center. Part of the funds will also go toward installing flush-mounted lights along three crosswalks to better alert drivers to pedestrians on the street. The goal of these projects is to keep the fitness and safety of our soldiers and their families at the top of Team Dover's list of priorities.

I congratulate the military and civilian employees at the Dover Air Force Base for the momentous achievement of receiving the Commander-in-Chief's Award for Installation Excellence. It is a compelling testament to the excellence with which each and every duty is performed by the men and women of Team Dover. The superiority of their work is vital to the critical task of maintaining our military's prominence in the world.

TRIBUTE TO SANDRA J. HAMLIN

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the induction of Sandra J. Hamlin into the West Virginia Affordable Housing Hall of Fame.

Born and raised in West Virginia and a graduate of Marshall University, Hamlin has demonstrated a commitment to affordable housing. As the executive director of the Religious Coalition for Community Renewal (RCCR), Hamlin oversees housing assistance for low income families, people with disabilities, seniors and the homeless.

In addition to her work with RCCR, Hamlin is the chair of the West Virginia Affordable Housing Trust and was instrumental in the development of EcoDwell, a partnership that utilizes an environmentally friendly home in Charleston's East End.

Madam Speaker, the West Virginia Affordable Housing Hall of Fame was created for the purpose of honoring those who are true leaders in affordable housing and have shown dedication and worked diligently to address the affordable housing in the State. Without question, Sandra Hamlin's lifetime of service merits this honor.

Congratulations, to Sandra on her accomplishments to provide West Virginians with affordable housing. The Mountain State is proud to call her one of our own.

CELEBRATING THE DEDICATION
OF THE TOM HARPOOL WATER
TREATMENT PLANT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the dedication of the Tom Harpool Water Treatment Plant. The dedication ceremony for this new water plant in North East Denton County, Texas, is scheduled for May 13, 2008. The facility is named after the past president of the Upper Trinity Regional Water District President, Tom Harpool, a water pioneer for the Denton County area.

The water treatment plant incorporates technology that is at the forefront of the industry and will improve the reliability of the water system for the entire region. It is the first facility in the area that will incorporate advanced membrane technology. This new technology is the latest advancement in the treatment of potable water that will provide a barrier against pollutants as well as helping to assure the health and security of all water that leaves this facility.

With the naming of this facility, the Upper Trinity Regional Water District is bestowing a well-deserved honor on a local civil leader. Tom Harpool is credited with securing the large water supply the people of his community will require in the future. Mr. Harpool began his service in 1954 by serving on the Denton Independent School District Board of Trustees. Since then he has committed his life to serving his community, and Denton County is a better place because of it.

Madam Speaker, I hope you will join me in rising to celebrate the dedication of the Tom Harpool Water Treatment Plant in the 26th District of Texas. I am proud to represent this area and I am glad to know that the people of my district have this remarkable facility to provide them the highest quality water possible. I am comforted knowing the Denton County vicinity will have a healthy and secure water supply for many years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE “BIOMETRIC
ENHANCEMENT FOR AIR-
PORT-RISK REDUCTION ACT OF
2008”

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing the Biometric Enhancement for Airport-Risk Reduction Act of 2008, also cited as the BEAR Act of 2008.

Nearly a year ago, I stood here before you to discuss H.R. 1, legislation implementing the unfinished business of the 9/11 Commission recommendations to secure America against terrorism. Since its enactment, the Committee has continued aggressive oversight of the Transportation Security Administration's efforts to comply with security mandates set forth in one of the most important laws enacted by this Congress, the Implementing the Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-53).

I must recognize Assistant Secretary Kip Hawley, the head of the Transportation Security Administration, TSA, who has always shown a willingness to engage in open dialogue with me and Committee Members when we have raised particular questions or concerns having to do with TSA. One area of concern that has been raised on numerous occasions is how to best strengthen security for airport workers with unescorted access to sterile and secure areas of the airport. I strongly believe that biometric technologies can be an invaluable homeland security tool—especially with regard to this security challenge.

I am introducing the BEAR Act to promote progress on this issue and legislate a smart security approach that promotes collaboration between TSA, industry, and other key stakeholders to provide airports with a blueprint on how to make biometrics work for them. Specifically, the bill requires TSA to study how airports can transition to uniform, standards-based and interoperable biometric identifier systems for airport workers with unescorted access. TSA, together with a working group comprised of key stakeholders, will examine existing programs and identify approaches that can enhance protections for secure and sterile areas of the airport.

Additionally this bill requires TSA to provide Congress and airport operators with a breakdown on best practices for utilizing biometrics to better protect airports. Today, workers with unescorted access to this critical infrastructure go through background screening to get issued badges that includes terror watch list checks. While this is a necessary and important check, a job applicant's biometrics are not being captured to check against biographic information provided and establish identity. This is a problem, as revealed when Federal law enforcement raided Chicago's O'Hare International Airport in November 2007 and arrested 23 people for fraudulently securing badges to gain access to sensitive airport locations. According to the charging affidavit, more than 100 temporary workers were found to be in possession of the fraudulent badges and the staffing agency that sponsored told them that they needed identification, but such identification did not have to be legitimate. Studying approaches to bring biometrics into airports is all the more important since the struggling Transportation Worker Identification Credential, TWIC, program is not likely to be introduced into the airport environment any time soon.

Additionally, this bill requests TSA to consider existing parallel biometric security systems such as FIPS 201-compliant cards, TWIC, and the GSA Smart Card. This bill is not about re-inventing the wheel or putting a stop to any good work at TSA on this issue. It is about encouraging public-private partnerships and promoting an open dialogue between TSA, industry, and Congress on how best to secure our airports.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you support the BEAR Act, for it frames a series of important biometric and security credentialing issues that need to be addressed in a study and that will build on what this Congress has supported in the past. More importantly, it will provide Congress with the necessary information to continue building on smart, efficient and effective airport security measures needed to secure Americans and protect this critical sector in our economy.

RECOGNIZING RABBI HOWARD
SHAPIRO ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a leader in our community. A man of faith and a deep generosity of spirit, Rabbi Howard Shapiro has served his congregation at Temple Israel in Palm Beach County, Florida, with distinction for the last 27 years. His retirement in June will be bitter-sweet for all those who have come to know the rabbi.

Rabbi Howard Shapiro has served our community for nearly 30 years and has also served our country as an Army chaplain in Vietnam. The rabbi is a family man, and often speaks proudly of his wife, Eileen, his son, David, and daughter, Rachel, and her husband Bobby Green. The Shapiros have five grandchildren—Tali, Jacob, Maya, Samantha and Cory.

Since coming to South Florida, Rabbi Shapiro has been a steadfast leader, serving as president of the Palm Beach County Board of Rabbis and Urban Interfaith Council. He leads his congregation in regular good works, mitzvot, that include helping the elderly and the needy.

Rabbi Shapiro is not only a leader in our Jewish community. He frequently organizes joint programming with Christian congregations and interfaith groups. The rabbi is a community builder in the Palm Beaches, bridging different institutions and forging links between people, traditions and congregations. He cares deeply for Jewish education and loves to teach and to learn.

Rabbi Shapiro has been a blessing to the thousands of congregants he has served over the years. He will be sorely missed.

HONORING THOMAS S. CONELY,
SR., OF DADE CITY, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an American soldier who was wounded in service to our Nation during the conflict in Vietnam. Mr. Thomas S. Conely, Sr., is a Marine who served with honor and distinction on the battlefield. It is truly an honor to present this brave patriot with his long overdue Purple Heart medal.

Born in Wheeling, West Virginia, Mr. Conely's family moved to Pittsburgh when he was in ninth grade. Enlisting in the Marine Corps at the age of eighteen, Mr. Conely was one of about 78 enlistees dubbed the “Pittsburgh Pirate Platoon” when, all gathered around home plate for the ceremony, they were sworn into the Marines in the 7th inning of a baseball game at Forbes Field.

After completing his basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina, Mr. Conely went on to attend radio operator school in California and then served as the 2531 Field Radio Operator

with the 9th Marines in Vietnam. Near the end of his tour of duty, his unit was near the Rock Pile in the Northern Eye Core of Vietnam when a mortar round landed between Mr. Conely and another soldier. The other man was thrown 23 feet and killed, while Mr. Conely ended up with shrapnel throughout his body.

A third generation soldier whose grandfather served in World War I and his father in World War II, Mr. Conely's wounds sadly forced him to leave the military. He had planned to make a career in the Marines, but after the blast injured him in Vietnam he returned to Bethesda Naval Hospital where he remained for 13 months prior to being discharged. Continuing the tradition of military service, Mr. Conely's three sons have all served in the Marine Corps, and one has had four tours of duty in Iraq.

Madam Speaker, it is soldiers like Thomas S. Conely, Sr., who joined the military to protect the freedoms that all Americans hold dear. While brave men like Mr. Conely were wounded fighting for freedom and liberty, his family, friends and loved ones know that this Congress will always remember his bravery and commitment in battle.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TAX RELIEF FOR TRANSPORTATION WORKERS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act. This legislation helps those who work in the port industry cope with the costs of complying with Congress's mandate that all those working on a port obtain a Transportation Worker Identity Card (TWIC). The Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act provides a tax credit to workers who pay the costs of obtaining TWICs. The credit is refundable against both income and payroll tax liabilities. This legislation also provides a tax deduction for businesses that pay for their employees to obtain a TWIC.

When Congress created the TWIC requirement, it placed the burden of paying the cost of obtaining the card on individual workers. Imposing the costs of obtaining TWICs on port workers has several negative economic impacts that Congress should help mitigate by making the cost associated with obtaining a TWIC tax deductible. According to the Department of Homeland Security, a port worker will have to pay between \$100 and \$132 dollars to obtain a card. The worker will also have to pay a \$60 fee for every card that is lost or damaged. Even those employers whose employees pay the substantial costs of obtaining TWICs for their workforce are adversely affected by the TWIC requirement, as the money employers pay for TWICs is money that cannot go into increasing their workers' salaries. The costs of the TWIC requirement may also cause some employers to refrain from hiring new employees.

Ironically, many of the employees whose employers are unable to pay the TWIC are part-time or temporary workers at the lower end of the income scale. Obviously, the TWIC

requirement hits these workers the hardest. According to Recana, an employer of port workers in my district, the fee will have a "significant impact" on port workers.

Unless Congress acts to relieve some of the economic burden the TWIC requirement places on those who work in the port industry, the damage done could reach beyond the port employers and employees to harm businesses that depend on a strong American port industry. This could be very harmful to both interstate and international trade.

Regardless of what one thinks of the merits of the TWIC card, it is simply not right for Congress to make the port industry bear all the costs of TWIC. I therefore urge my colleagues to stand up for those who perform vital tasks at America's ports by cosponsoring the Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act.

SUPPORT FOR THE COPPER-BASE CASTING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I wish to express my strong support for the Copper-Base Casting Technology Program, C-BCT, a program of great importance to the people of South Carolina, as well as the men and women serving in the United States military at home and overseas. The C-BCT program is a cooperative relationship between the copper industry and the Department of Defense, working to apply high-performance copper alloys in military applications.

Since its inception in 2004, the C-BCT program has provided multiple, breakthrough technologies for defense and industrial systems that have benefits for all branches of the military. Advances include the design and creation of prototype high-efficiency induction motors using copper rotors. Copper rotors increase motor energy efficiency, lower manufacturing costs due to reductions in overall materials used, increase motor life, and reduce motor weight and size. C-BCT provides the military a technology that has produced crucial advances for the American war-fighter in land base, shipboard, and aerospace applications and has done so in a cost-effective manner.

I would like to recognize Daniel Gearing with the Defense Logistics Agency, DLA, for his support and oversight of the launching of C-BCT. In addition, Victor Champagne with the Army Research Lab, ARL, has begun advanced work to apply C-BCT in applications that advance the defense community requirements. The applications are driven by the need for higher efficiency, lighter weight, lower cost, environmentally friendly, and more reliable materials. Reduced weight, in particular, is a common goal for all weapon systems and logistics support items. With DLA and ARL's commitment to continue the success of C-BCT, advances to date may soon be brought to our service men and women serving overseas. Together with the Copper Development Association and the Advanced Technology Institute, these organizations are working to demonstrate and evaluate copper's ultimate potential for our military.

I recognize the crucial benefits that C-BCT offers both the domestic copper industry and

the U.S. armed services as well as the successes of the current program and the critical nature of copper in most military applications.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HOMELAND SECURITY NETWORK DEFENSE AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2008

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, today we are introducing the Homeland Security Network Defense and Accountability Act of 2008, a bill designed to improve the cybersecurity posture of the Department of Homeland Security.

The security of our federal and critical infrastructure networks is an issue of national security. The United States and its allies face a significant and growing threat to our information technology, IT, systems and assets, and to the integrity of our information. The acquisition of our government's information by outsiders undermines our strength as a nation and over time could cost the United States our advantage over our adversaries. This is a critical issue that we can no longer ignore.

One of the first things that Chairman THOMPSON tasked me with when I was named Chairman of the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity and Science and Technology was to lead a bipartisan inquiry into the cybersecurity posture of our federal networks and our critical infrastructure. Viewing the potential for cyber attacks on federal networks as an emerging threat that warrants attention, Chairman THOMPSON challenged me to address the four areas that the 9/11 Commission determined our systems failed: in imagination, policy, capabilities, and management. The same can be said of the federal government's approach to cybersecurity—and as a result, our critical information and technology systems are vulnerable to cyber terrorists.

So far in the 110th Congress, we have held seven hearings on cybersecurity, heard from hundreds of experts on how best to tackle this issue, reviewed information security best practices in the public and private sectors, investigated cyber incidents across the spectrum, from the State and Commerce Departments to our Nation's electric grid, and uncovered and assisted law enforcement in investigating breaches at the Department of Homeland Security. It has become clear that an organization is only as strong as the integrity and reliability of the information that it keeps. Therefore we must make cybersecurity a national priority.

This legislation represents a small but critical step toward improving the cybersecurity posture at the Department of Homeland Security by addressing two key issues: ensuring a robust defense-in-depth of our information systems, and holding individuals at all levels accountable for mitigating vulnerabilities. Early in our investigative process, I announced that the Committee's oversight goals were to increase public awareness of the problems associated with federal network security; fix those vulnerabilities that are, or could be, successfully exploited; and hold individuals, agencies, and private sector entities responsible for their

actions. Though much work remains to be done, I believe that we are moving in the right direction. The Department has already begun acting to improve its information security as a result of several Committee hearings. By fully implementing and carefully considering the intent of this bill, I believe the Department of Homeland Security will continue to make great strides in improving its information security posture. I hope that one day DHS will be considered a global leader in cybersecurity.

This measure is comprised of several important pieces. First, this bill would establish authorities and qualifications for the Chief Information Officer, CIO, position at the Department of Homeland Security. In March 2007, Secretary Chertoff issued a management directive giving the Chief Information Officer hiring authority for CIOs and approval authority over agency CIO budgets and IT investments. This bill statutorily authorizes that directive, but includes additional requirements for information security qualifications. In a number of hearings, we expressed concern that the lack of an information security background can hamper the CIO's understanding and efforts to secure the Department's networks. We cannot allow future Presidents to repeat the mistakes made by this Administration in appointing unqualified individuals to this important office.

This bill would also establish specific operational security practices for the CIO, including a continuous, real-time cyber incident response capability, a network architecture emphasizing the positioning of security controls, and vulnerability assessments for each external-facing information infrastructure. As we learned through our investigations of cyber incidents on DHS networks, the absence of a 24 hour/7 day a week real-time response capability can lead to devastating consequences, and we simply cannot afford significant time lapses in our response to cyber incidents.

This legislation also includes testing protocols to reduce the number of vulnerability exploitations throughout the Department's networks. Through our investigations and oversight hearings, we identified a significant gap between requirements under the Federal Information Security Management Act, FISMA, and the current threat environment. As we have learned, agencies that receive high FISMA scores are not necessarily secure from the latest attacks. This provision will require the CIO to consult with other federal agencies and establish attack-based testing protocols to secure Department networks. Today, one of the biggest problems with FISMA is that while we continue to identify vulnerabilities in our systems, we fail to provide adequate funding to mitigate those vulnerabilities. This bill will hold both the CIO and the agency head responsible for developing and implementing a vulnerability mitigation plan that includes budget and personnel marks.

The ubiquitous nature of the Internet can lead to significant problems if one party is infected with a virus or rootkit that can penetrate another person's network undetected. That is why our bill requires the Secretary to determine if the internal security policy of a contractor who provides network services to the Department matches the requirements of the Department. Network service providers for the Department are also required to implement and regularly update their internal information security policies, and deliver timely notice of any computer incidents that could affect the

Department's computers. This section is similar to provisions contained in the security controls developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST, special condition "SA-9."

Finally, we seek a formal report from the Secretary on several critical issues. I was disturbed to learn that the Department still has not conducted a risk assessment on its unclassified network, despite a series of breaches, and we seek a detailed counter-intelligence plan from the Secretary to investigate all breaches, as well as an outline of a program to increase threat information sharing with cleared contractors. DHS must also examine a similar undertaking, and consider offering training to contractors using the attack-based protocols established in consultation with the defense and intelligence communities. We also ask the Secretary to update us on how effective the Department has been in meeting the deadlines established by the Office of Management and Budget, OMB, for Trusted Internet Connections, TIC, encryption and authentication mandates.

Regrettably, poor information security practices plague the entire federal government, not just DHS. NIST continues to serve as an excellent guide for robust cybersecurity practices; unfortunately, federal agencies are often quick to cut cybersecurity budgets in favor of tangible products. If we care about information security, then we must not allow agencies to bleed money out of these programs.

Of course, legislation alone will not accomplish our goals. The Homeland Security Committee continues to conduct robust oversight over this Administration's Cyber Initiative. While I support the aim of the Cyber Initiative, I continue to have significant questions about the scope, budget, and secrecy of these efforts. Furthermore, there are several critical issues that each federal agency must immediately address to improve its security posture. We must start conducting robust damage assessments that can measure exposure to current attacks, and continue to fix those vulnerabilities. We must enhance and educate the federal workforce to limit successful exploits. We must support focused R&D efforts to solve the big challenges that face us in the world of cybersecurity. We must support and enhance initiatives like the Federal Desktop Core Configuration, the OMB-mandated security configuration for all Microsoft Windows Vista and XP operating system software. We must continue to monitor the efforts of the Administration to collapse federal connections to the Internet, known as the TIC Initiative. And finally, we must hold accountable those responsible for these efforts—whether they are our CIOs or Chief Information Security Officers, OMB, DHS, the Defense Department, the Intelligence community or contractors charged with securing our networks. Information security must become a prime concern for each of us if we are to ever be successful in defending ourselves from attack.

Madam Speaker, the Homeland Security Network Defense and Accountability Act of 2008 is a robust and carefully crafted bill, and is the result of a bipartisan effort to treat information security and cybersecurity with the same attention and effort that our adversaries would use to exploit us. I thank Chairman THOMPSON for co-sponsoring this bill with me, and I send the bill to the desk and ask that it be properly referred to the Homeland Security Committee.

RICHARD WIDMARK AND THE
SPIRIT OF TEXAS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, the Spirit of Texas has been a popular genre in the classic Westerns of Hollywood. Recently, Hollywood and Texas lost Richard Widmark, who starred as Jim Bowie in the 1960 John Wayne version of *The Alamo*. Widmark's portrayal of Bowie is a classic representation of the fire that drove the defenders of the Alamo and soldiers of Texas to secure their independence.

John Wayne's version of *The Alamo* does more than just tell a story. Characters attach themselves to the audience. Richard Widmark did just that in his role as Jim Bowie. The contrast between the liberal minded Widmark and the conservative John Wayne is one of the highlights of the movie, and illustrates that the defenders of the Alamo came from all different backgrounds and mindsets. More importantly, however, is that Widmark and his fellow cast members captivated audiences with the Spirit of Texas and the devotion the defenders had in sacrificing their lives for their country. Widmark himself captures this spirit near the end of the movie, when he fights to the death with his famous Bowie Knife as he is lamed up in bed.

Richard Widmark recently passed away at his home in Roxbury, Connecticut on March 24. While not a Texan by birth, his contribution to the movies and the story of the defenders of the Alamo is one that should be remembered. His portrayal of Jim Bowie is a testament to the Spirit of Texas and her citizens. As we "Remember The Alamo," we should also "Remember Richard Widmark."

IN HONOR OF THE AZERBAIJANI
CULTURAL GARDEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, and colleagues, I rise today in recognition of the grand opening of the Azerbaijani Cultural Garden on May 12, 2008.

The Azerbaijani Garden is part of the Cleveland Cultural Gardens along Doan Brook in Cleveland's Rockefeller Park. I strongly support the addition of the Azerbaijani Garden as part of the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation and all the international communities represented through its gardens.

The Cleveland Cultural Gardens date back to 1916 when the Shakespeare Garden was built. By 1926, the concept of a series of gardens, recognizing various nationalities, was established. The formal group was completed in 1939 with funding to a large degree provided by the federal government. At that time, a series of 18 gardens was dedicated to the City of Cleveland, symbolizing the fusion of distinct nationalities into one American culture.

More importantly, these gardens stood for the brotherhood among all the people of all nations and to this day remain a unique embodiment of that purpose. On July 30, 1939,

soil from 28 nations was deposited by ambassadors of those nations into a marble crypt into the Garden of Nations. Soil from historic shrines of the United States was also deposited into the adjacent Garden of the United States. In both ceremonies, the intermingling of the soils symbolized a united effort by people of all nationalities toward mutual understanding, harmony, peace, and brotherhood throughout the world.

The Gardens are an important part of the city's history and reflects the diverse ethnicities and cultures that have been instrumental in the city's development. The symbolic meaning of the gardens is that people of diverse backgrounds, traditions, and religions can exist side by side in peace and harmony with the freedom to exercise their beliefs and cultures.

With the addition of the Azerbaijani Garden, the Cleveland Cultural Gardens now consists of 27 individual gardens, with new gardens having been recently designated and even more under proposal. Recently, I proudly noted the dedication of the Indian and Latvian gardens. In addition to these and the Azerbaijani Garden, various stages of planning are underway for African-American, Native American, Serbian, Hispanic, Syrian, Croatian, Scottish, Nordic, Philippine, and Vietnamese gardens.

I welcome not only the symbolism of so many great nations represented in these gardens, but the actual joining of the people of these nations in Cleveland. The Cleveland Cultural Gardens is frequently visited diplomatic, educational, or trade delegations when they are visiting Cleveland. I am proud that the people of Azerbaijan now have a place in Cleveland to celebrate their culture.

Madam Speaker and distinguished colleagues, it is my hope that Azerbaijan's participation will help to fulfill our vision of the Cleveland Cultural Gardens as an international park for the people of all nations to come together in cooperation and peace. Please join me in celebrating the dedication of the Azerbaijani Cultural Garden and to welcome the Azerbaijani people to the family of nations represented at the Cleveland Cultural Gardens.

RECOGNIZING THE 2008 RECIPIENTS OF THE MCGOWAN COURAGE AWARD

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I enjoy sharing positive stories about young people from our district who overcome adversity. Today, I am pleased to introduce you to eight such individuals.

Michael ("Mick") Benson, Clear Fork High School—Though autistic, this young man maintains a positive attitude as he volunteers in the community and participates in athletics, including many Special Olympics events.

Kati Jo Walters, Crestview High School—This athlete became wheelchair-bound due to an auto-immune medical condition, but through fierce determination and persistence, she remains both a great student and an inspiration to all.

Corey Sayer, Lexington High School—Growing up in a family torn apart by drug

abuse, he was taken in by the parents of a friend and now excels academically, hoping to attend Ohio State University—Mansfield upon graduation.

Jill Leiendecker, Lucas High School—A leader in and outside the classroom, she serves as student council president, crediting the love and support of her father after losing her mother in an auto accident.

Curtis Alan Remy, Madison Comprehensive High School—Impaired with nerve deafness, he earned the starting point guard position and was named captain of his high school basketball team—all in addition to his academic achievements.

Daniel Porter, Mansfield Christian High School—Through self-motivation, he overcame dyslexia to become proficient in computers, power equipment, and small engines, and has secured a job with a landscaping company after graduation.

Jessica White, Mansfield Senior High School—This courageous young lady overcame obstacles associated with hearing impairment to perform at the highest levels in both school and extracurricular activities, including basketball and track.

Penelope Mitman, Ontario High School—Despite her hearing problems, she remains an active and inspirational student, participating in student council, band, and basketball, and volunteering in the guidance office.

I am pleased to join the Rotary Club of Mansfield, Ohio, in honoring the achievements of these recipients of the McGowan Courage Award, which will be presented on May 13.

HONORING ERIE CANALWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSIONER ERIC MOWER

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to my friend, a dedicated public servant in his own right, Eric Mower. Eric has an outstanding record of dedicated service and contributions to the betterment of communities across upstate New York.

A highly successful civic and business leader, Eric is the chairman and CEO of Eric Mower and Associates, one of our Nation's largest public relations firms. He is also a member of numerous community boards and organizations, including United Way of Central New York, the Boy Scouts of America, and the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce.

Eric was the initial chair of the highly successful Syracuse Neighborhood Initiative, a private-public non-profit collaboration that I launched in 1999 to revitalize neighborhoods and increase home ownership in the city of Syracuse. He capably led efforts to develop partnerships and garner support from the private sector to leverage federal resources.

Eric currently serves as chair of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission, a position he will be vacating in June. His leadership on the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission has been integral. The Corridor, founded in 2000, encompasses 80 percent of upstate New York's population, including 234 communities. Since 2002 when Eric was named chair of the com-

mission, he has led the fledgling National Heritage Corridor through much growth and success. Under his direction the Corridor Commission has leveraged millions of dollars in support and has helped multiple canal communities fund projects to enhance and showcase the canal. The successful Trails and Rails program continues to grow, and last year the Commission hosted an historic 1,000-mile Grand Canal Journey of a replica schooner visiting 28 cities and towns along the Erie Canal.

On behalf of the people of the entire 25th Congressional District of New York, I thank him for his distinguished service. I am very proud to have worked with Eric over the years. He is an extraordinary individual and brings his considerable talents to every endeavor he undertakes. While he will no longer be chair of the Commission, I'm confident that his presence as a member will continue be a great benefit to the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission.

HONORING DR. BRENDA DEEN SCHILDGEN OF DAVIS, CALIFORNIA, RECIPIENT OF THE 2008 UC DAVIS PRIZE FOR UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING AND SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Brenda Deen Schildgen, the 2008 recipient of the University of California, Davis Prize for Undergraduate Teaching and Scholarly Achievement. The prize is awarded to recognize scholars who are successful not only in their research, but convey their excitement and love of scholarship to students they teach. Dr. Schildgen is an eminent scholar of medieval European literature and biblical studies, but her hallmark at UC Davis is imparting her knowledge and passion for these subjects to students.

Born in London to a Russian mother and Indian father, Dr. Schildgen was the first in her family to go to college. Her Jewish mother and Muslim father sent her to a French convent in England through high school. Crossing the Atlantic for college, she earned a bachelor's degree in English and French at the University of Wisconsin—Madison, a master's and Ph.D. in comparative literature at Indiana University and a second master's, in religious studies, at the University of San Francisco.

Her path to an academic career was also unconventional. Dr. Schildgen served for 8 years as a lecturer at UC Davis before she was hired in 2002 as a full professor of comparative literature—an almost unheard-of jump in academia, where faculty typically climb, rung by rung, from assistant professor to associate professor to professor. In addition to her research and teaching, Dr. Schildgen has been instrumental in building UC Davis' highly praised University Writing Program and has been a staunch advocate for the development of writing skills not just in English courses but across all disciplines.

A scholar who works with literature in English, Italian, French, Spanish, Greek and Latin—she describes herself as "dabbling" in

Sanskrit as well—Dr. Schildgen has written five critically acclaimed books and edited four others, as well as authoring some three dozen scholarly articles and more than a dozen invited book or article reviews. An internationally respected authority on Dante, Chaucer and the gospel of Mark, especially in the context of Islam and Judaism, she has lectured throughout the United States, in India, the Middle East and Europe, and received numerous fellowships, grants and awards from the National Endowment for the Humanities and other prestigious organizations.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate at this time for us to acknowledge and thank Dr. Schildgen for her years of exemplary work as a scholar and educator, and congratulate her on receiving this well deserved award. Her commitment to inspiring and educating students has been unwavering, and she deserves our collective recognition and thanks.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH E. STREET

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Committeeman Kenneth E. Street. On May 13, 2008, Mr. Street will be celebrated for his contributions as a member of the Hainesport Township Committee as he retires after more than forty years of faithful service to the citizens of South Jersey.

Kenneth has dedicated his life to serving the residents of Hainesport Township. First elected to the township committee in 1950, Kenneth was then appointed mayor in 1953. He served in that position for an impressive twenty-one years. During his time as an elected official, his contributions helped to shape the township into what it is today. Most notably, he worked on developing the township's zoning and property maintenance, as well as the master plan.

In addition to his responsibilities within Hainesport, Kenneth became involved in the League of Municipalities, a statewide organization dedicated to the cooperation of neighboring communities. He served as the league's president, along with various other positions, and remains active in the group today.

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for his leadership, commitment, and service as Kenneth celebrates his retirement.

ONE YEAR AFTER PASSAGE OF
H. RES. 376

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today on the anniversary of the passage of H. Res. 376, a resolution recognizing the work of our Nation's classified school employees and their continuing contributions to education and to the students of our Nation.

By passing H. Res. 376, the House recognized the National Classified School Employee

of the Year and urged the Department of Education, all States, State education agencies, local education agencies, community colleges, and members of the public to join in this observance. H. Res. 376 congratulated all classified school employees across the Nation for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring student achievement, student safety, and well-being.

I look forward to working with the National Association of Classified School Employees and other education groups to continue to honor the important work of school classified employees.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, on May 1, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and missed roll No. 234, H.R. 493, The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

CONGRATULATING CHARTER SCHOOLS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN J. HALL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 2008

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, I have no doubt that the faculty and staff employed in America's charter schools are working hard to educate their students and give them the tools needed to succeed, I respect their efforts, as well as the overall goal of charter schools to pursue innovative approaches to education that will allow children throughout our Nation to reach their potential. However, in an era when the funding shortfalls under No Child Left Behind have created a burdensome unfunded mandate on public schools and property taxpayers, I am extremely concerned about any diversion of funds, to charter schools or otherwise, from public schools across the country that are already struggling to maintain a diverse curriculum and serve their students. I voted present on H. Res. 1168 in order to make sure that this concern was acknowledged.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I was not present on May 5, 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on the following rollcall votes: rollcall No. 240; rollcall No. 241; rollcall No. 242; rollcall No. 243; rollcall No. 244.

WORLD AIDS ORPHANS DAY

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, I want to join my colleagues in Congress as well as the entire international community in recognizing World AIDS Orphans Day. This is a critically important day because we are reminded of our collective responsibility to address the needs of the world's most vulnerable population—millions of orphans and vulnerable children who need desperately need our support, care, attention and resources.

According to the U.S. Agency for International Development, highly vulnerable children include those who receive inadequate adult support because of abandonment, economic distress, or chronic illness; have HIV/AIDS or are suspected of having HIV; are directly affected by armed conflict; live outside of family care; or in some other way have suffered from a collapse of traditional social safety nets in their communities. Disease, conflict, violence, natural disaster, and severe economic strife leave millions of the world's youngest people orphaned or otherwise vulnerable. Globally, an estimated 132 million children in the developing world have lost one or both parents, while an additional, larger number of children are highly vulnerable, facing serious risks to their survival and wellbeing. According to UNAIDS, by 2010, 20–25 million children could be orphaned by HIV/AIDS alone.

These children face a number of challenges, including finding money for school fees, food, clothing, and access to basic healthcare. Their desperate plight makes them more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, ultimately making them more susceptible to contracting HIV. To that end, Congress along with the international community and non-governmental organizations must be prepared to assist those communities where these orphans live and receive most of their assistance. Today less than 10 percent of orphaned and vulnerable children (OVC) receive any kind of international support—the majority of the support they receive comes from their own communities. I support the sentiments of such organizations as Global Action for Children and other leading NGO's who believe that an effective response to the challenges facing these children must be to strengthen the capacity of families and communities to continue to provide care, protection, and assistance to them in, at a minimum, meeting their basic needs.

According to UNAIDS, an \$800 million U.S. investment in 2009 is needed to provide universal HIV treatment, care, support and prevention services by 2015 to 19 million orphans and vulnerable children. Under the United States leadership against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003, 10 percent of all resources devoted to HIV/AIDS have been designated for programs to meet the needs of orphans and vulnerable children. While the U.S. contribution over the past several years has been significant, it will only be successful if we continue to provide the necessary assistance and renew our commitment to pass the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) reauthorization bill.

It is clear that Congress must do its part to meet America's international commitment to

assist orphans and vulnerable children. In that vein, I urge all of my colleagues to recognize World AIDS Orphans Day and join me in supporting swift passage of PEPFAR so that we can continue to meet the needs of millions of children around the world who desperately need our help.

COMMEMORATING PRESIDENT
HEYDAR ALIYEV

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, on May 10, we commemorate the 85th Jubilee of the late President Heydar Aliyev. President Aliyev's significant contributions to the country of Azerbaijan provided a fertile ground for the seeds of democracy to flourish after Soviet rule and have paved the road for Azerbaijan's regional and international success.

Azerbaijan is the gateway to Central Asia. It is on the modern Silk Road which transports goods and services from China through Central Asian countries, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. Remarkably, with only 19 years of independence, Azerbaijan has become a key player in this region. After brief independence from 1918–1920, Azerbaijan fell under Russian domination for 70 years. When Soviet troops invaded Baku on January 20, 1990, many died, including innocent civilians, thereby giving birth to the independence movement in the country.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 and the emergence of a democratic Azerbaijan Republic, the first few years were not easy. While Azerbaijan became the first former Soviet Republic outside the Baltic States with no foreign troops on its soil, it was a small country with powerful neighbors. Mindful of its geography, Azerbaijan developed close ties with the United States, Western Europe, Turkey, and Israel.

In 1993, Heydar Aliyev became President of the Republic, first by appointment under the constitution, then through direct election. A cease-fire in the war with Armenia over the Nagorno Karabakh region of Azerbaijan was negotiated and implemented in 1994. During this time, the country's economy was wrecked by war and burdened by the effects of communism. Parliament began enacting laws to make the country friendlier to foreign investment and a member of the international market economy.

In 1994, the "Contract of the Century" was signed between American and western companies and Azerbaijan. The Contract was designed to allow Azerbaijan to develop its energy resources in order to diversify western energy supplies. The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline (supported by both the Clinton and Bush Administrations) is now fully operational, and helps to bolster the political and commercial independence of the countries in the region, while diversifying Europe's energy supplies.

President Aliyev was clear regarding Azerbaijan's western orientation. Azerbaijan joined NATO's Partnership for Peace Program in 1994, and has consistently integrated into the Euro-Atlantic security architecture; further

deepening U.S.-Azerbaijani military to military cooperation.

Azerbaijan works with the U.S., both bilaterally and multilaterally, through the GUAM framework (Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and Moldova) to prevent illegal trafficking and to secure borders. A strong friend of the United States, President Heydar Aliyev offered support for the fight against terrorism immediately after 9/11. Today Azerbaijani troops are in Iraq and Afghanistan with the coalition.

Azerbaijan has excellent relations with Israel and a 2,000 year old Jewish community with representation in Parliament. As a secular country with a predominantly Shiia population, the participation of its troops in Iraq and Afghanistan sends the right message regarding international cooperation.

Because of the late President Aliyev's efforts, today Azerbaijan is a developing democracy with a growing and vibrant economy. There are no longer any doubts regarding the viability of this Republic. The future of U.S.-Azerbaijani relations is bright, as our two countries share values and interests in the region.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SYLACAUGA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition the members of First Baptist Church of Sylacauga, Alabama, who on May 25 will celebrate their congregation's 175th anniversary.

On May 25, 1833, George Hill sought the approval of the Tallasahatchie Church to establish a new branch in what would become Sylacauga, Alabama. The small wooden cabin that first served as a meeting place for the church's eight charter members became an independent church in 1835 with 33 members.

Since that time, the church has grown steadily becoming one of the many fixtures of the Sylacauga community. The celebration on May 25 will help pay tribute to the work of First Baptist Church on behalf of its members and community.

I am pleased to recognize the First Baptist Church of Sylacauga today for reaching this important milestone in the history of their congregation, and wish its members all the best in its next 175 years of faith and witnessing in the community.

HONORING DEAN TIPPS

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, today I rise along with my fellow Members of Congress ANNA ESHOO, SAM FARR, MIKE HONDA, BARBARA LEE, DORIS MATSUI, JIM MCNERNEY, GEORGE MILLER, JACKIE SPEIER, PETE STARK, ELLEN TAUSCHER, MIKE

THOMPSON, and LYNN WOOLSEY to congratulate Dean Tipps on his retirement and to honor a man whose career of over 40 years has been dedicated to empowering and bettering the lives of working men and women.

For the last 22 years, Dean Tipps has been executive director of the California State Council of the Service Employees International Union. In this capacity, he has directed the council's statewide legislative and political activities on behalf of the 650,000 California members of the Service Employees International Union. As the director of the largest union in California, Dean Tipps' impact has reached beyond SEIU membership as the growth, innovation, and persistent advocacy of the SEIU has served as an example to other unions in a variety of industries.

Mr. Tipps' vision, leadership, and strategic thinking have had a substantial impact on California's people and politics over the last few decades. Dean's ability to build coalitions and bring together the necessary resources has meant that working people have had a powerful voice in electoral and legislative arenas. Dean Tipps has been a leader in many of the labor movement's victories in California, including the defeat of State Proposition 226, the election of Gray Davis, and labor's special election victories in 2005.

He began his political work in 1976 as the first legislative advocate for the California Tax Reform Association and was deeply involved in the politics of California's property tax revolt. In 1979, he moved to Washington, D.C., to become the founding executive director of Citizens for Tax Justice. At CTJ, Mr. Tipps developed the successful campaign strategy that defeated Howard Jarvis' Proposition 9 in 1980 and was involved in initiative campaigns in Massachusetts, Ohio, and other States. He subsequently went to work for the Service Employees International Union where he became the Public Sector Division Director. In 1986, he returned to California to assume direction of SEIU's California State Council and has continuously led the council except for taking leave in 1988 to navigate the Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee.

In his many capacities and positions with various groups, Dean Tipps has remained constant in his dedication to helping our country fulfill its responsibility to the men and women who labor in service jobs that make our lives more comfortable. He leaves grateful colleagues and a grateful membership. We are proud to add our thanks for his many years of advocacy and our congratulations for all his achievements.

THE DAILY 45: PROMISING LOYOLA
STUDENT SHOT TO DEATH

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, everyday, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. The recent news of the death of an aspiring journalism student at Loyola University who was killed, May 4, when someone fired shots into her car on Chicago's South Side is tragic and sad. Twenty-year-old Ishma Stewart, a 2005 graduate of Oak Park-River Forest High School, was an intelligent

young lady who completed her studies in only three years. She was expected to graduate from Loyola in December.

Another promising life cut short. Another life ended by gun violence. Another family forced to ask why their loved one, who was not involved in guns, drugs or gangs, had to leave tragically and so soon.

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45."

When will Americans say "enough is enough, stop the killings!"

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1086, a resolution recognizing the designation of May 6 through May 12, 2008 as the National Nurses Week. I commend my colleague Representative EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON for introducing this resolution and am honored to be a cosponsor of the legislation. This is an overdue resolution that recognizes the vital service that nurses provide to health of our citizens.

I need to acknowledge that it is because of the efforts of the nurses that are helping the health care system to survive in its fragile state. It is only fitting that the end of National Nurses Week is the birthday of Florence Nightingale who is the founder of modern nursing that has initiated the blossoming of about 2,500,000 registered nurses in the United States.

I would like to specifically recognize the 190,000 registered nurses in Texas for their unprecedented service tending to the needs of my State. This legislation is a testament to our Nation's ability to honor those that dedicate their lives to humanitarian causes.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution allows everyone to realize the foundational contributions that they have and continue to contribute to everyone. I would like to point out that everyone has interacted with a nurse in their lives and nurses should never be taken for granted.

Not only does this recognition honor the servants of humanity, but also paves the way for inspiration and education for those that aspire to serve in humanitarian needs. Our Nation is facing hardship through the shortage of nurses and medical care is essential to the viability of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, it is imperative for the government to recognize the importance of nurses in our country. I urge my colleagues to wholeheartedly support this resolution and other initiatives to properly recognize National Nurses Week.

COMBUSTIBLE DUST EXPLOSION AND FIRE PREVENTION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5522) to require the Secretary of Labor to issue interim and final occupational safety and health standards regarding worker exposure to combustible dust, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Chairman, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5522, the Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Prevention Act. This legislation would require the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to issue rules regulating combustible industrial dusts, like sugar dust, that can build up to hazardous levels and explode.

Working families are the backbone of Minnesota and our Nation, and it is critical that all Americans to have a safe and healthy workplace. Unfortunately, due to the Bush Administration's failure in leaving worker safety in the hands of industry, OSHA has issued only one major safety standard, the fewest in its history, and killed and delayed dozens of existing and proposed regulations since President Bush took office. In 2005, over 5,700 workers were killed on the job and another 4.2 million workers were injured. It is clear that there is still a need for greater workplace protections.

A tragic example of this need occurred in early February when the Imperial Sugar refinery in Savannah, Georgia, exploded, killing thirteen people and injuring many others. When dust builds up to dangerous levels in industrial worksites, it can become fuel for fires and explosions. Combustible dust can come from many sources, such as sugar, wood, furniture, textiles, and metals, and therefore poses a risk across a number of different industries throughout the United States. There have been 281 combustible dust incidents between 1980 and 2005 that killed 119 workers and injured several others. Despite this, OSHA has failed to act to provide the necessary safety regulations.

The Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Prevention Act (H.R. 5522) recognizes the serious hazard presented by combustible dust in American industry, and requires OSHA to issue rules regulating combustible industrial dusts. This bill sets a timeline for OSHA to respond, and requires workers to receive information and training about the hazards of combustible dusts. OSHA has known about these dangers for years, but has failed to act. Since 2001, in case after case and industry after industry, OSHA has chosen to emphasize voluntary compliance over setting strong rules and enforcing them.

Workers cannot be asked to wait any longer for these basic worker protections. The tragedy at Imperial Sugar shows that the threat of dust explosions is very real at industrial worksites across America and needs to be addressed immediately. Methods to control combustible dust hazards are well known. However, as we have tragically seen, voluntary standards are not enough. Without an OSHA

standard, many employers are unaware of the hazards of combustible dusts, while others have chosen not to adopt voluntary standards.

It is time for Congress to take action to protect American workers, because OSHA did not. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Prevention Act to save American workers from harm.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE DEDICATION OF TOLEDO BLESSED SACRAMENT NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker. I rise today, pleased to recognize a milestone for Toledo Blessed Sacrament Catholic Parish. They celebrate the dedication of a neighborhood center and middle school.

Blessed Sacrament became the Mother Church of West Toledo, established December 31, 1924, by Father Otto C. Kappus, in the forested epicenter of western Toledo. Struggling middle-class families of the densely populated, majority Catholic residential area settled and thrived through the Great Depression and World War II. September 6, 1925, marked the laying of the cornerstone for the first church and school by Monsignor J. T. O'Connell. However, the church and school were completed in February 1926.

The Sisters of Blessed Sacrament who served the Parish in 1925 belonged to the Dominican Order. The sisters found residence originally in the school building. In 1925, there were 112 pupils enrolled, with Sister Mary Leonilla as principal and 3 assistant nuns. The 1952 enrollment was 778 pupils with 14 nuns, 2 lay teachers and Sister Helen Patrick as principal. For much of the parish's history, Dominican Sisters shepherded generations of the youth through the school. They remain much loved, greatly respected and well remembered. Their teacher successors have upheld the grand tradition.

Between 1938 and 1952, school registration increased to the point where the entire floor space, occupied as residence by the nuns, was converted to classrooms. Then, the Sisters resided at 4110 Bellevue Road until the spring of 1948, when they moved to the convent on Castlewood Drive in Toledo, OH.

Blessed Sacrament Parish experienced rapid growth in its early years. To help serve the growing congregation, a new church was constructed. It was completed in 1954 and is still in use today. The charter members chose a Southern California Spanish architectural theme that has been faithfully reflected in the new constructions. This style was remarkably suited to accommodate the liturgical reforms of the Vatican Council, but also made the addition of narthex, in the 1970s, possible. Finally, the 2008 opening of the new middle school, neighborhood center and gymnasium facility marked the newest stage in Blessed Sacrament's development.

Today, Blessed Sacrament's parish community continues to be a hallmark of hospitality and ministry to its neighbors. The parish is lively with young families and a thriving

school, currently enjoying an increase in enrollment. Thus, the parish recognized the necessity for a hub to carry on the progress and traditions of the Blessed Sacrament community. The establishment of a neighborhood center invites parish members and neighborhood residents to enter a partnership to ensure and enhance the neighborhood's vitality. In lieu of the new landmark, the neighborhood formed an organization named "The Greater Close Park Neighborhood Organization." Their mission is to maintain and improve the quality of life in the neighborhood. They strive to beautify the area with trees and flowers, develop programs for seniors and children, enhance lighting in the Block Watch Program for safety, and establish community projects like Spring Clean Up, Welcome Wagon and a neighborhood garage sale. These programs will create recreational and social opportunities for all ages. I stand here to applaud the efforts of Blessed Sacrament to bolster a strong tradition of community in this West Toledo neighborhood.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL W. HODES

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. HODES. Madam Speaker, due to unavoidable circumstances, I missed one vote in a series of votes on Tuesday, May 6, 2008. I would have voted "yes" for the following vote: (1) Rollcall vote 248—To Table Motion To Reconsider.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as a registered nurse with a Master's in Public Administration, it is a privilege and a delight to offer a resolution recognizing National Nurses Week, which is May 6th through the 12th.

My colleagues, Congresswoman LOIS CAPPS and Congresswoman CAROLYN MCCARTHY, are also nurses and champions of this resolution, and of the profession.

I thank them for their efforts to encourage more than 110 Congressional colleagues to cosponsor this bill honoring nurses.

The Congressional Nursing Caucus was also helpful in promoting the legislation, and I appreciate Members' efforts to rally support for H. Res. 1086.

National Nurses Week is celebrated annually from May 6, also known as National Nurses Day, through May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing.

Nurses are a key component of our Nation's health care system.

Whether on the battlefield or at sea, in a skilled nursing facility, in a hospital or even in a patient's own home, the care that a nurse provides is so very valuable.

Nurses are intelligent individuals who must often make quick decisions in an effort to save the life of a patient.

Nurses are recognized as the patient's primary advocate.

Nurses are tasked with closely monitoring even small changes in patients' health.

Nurses are tough. They often do their work under duress, and in difficult conditions.

For 15 years, I provided hands-on patient care as a psychiatric nurse.

The work was challenging and fulfilling.

Although more than 2.5 million nurses work in the United States, our Nation has suffered from a nursing shortage.

Those currently in the profession are beginning to retire. There are fewer individuals entering the profession.

The nursing shortage is unprecedented in its depth and duration, with a projection of over 1 million new and replacement nurses needed by 2016.

Nursing schools need help attracting well-prepared faculty to recruit the best and brightest into their educational programs.

Loan forgiveness and educational incentive programs can help, but Congress must do more to encourage bright young minds toward nursing.

Nursing is a career that has been valued for a long time, and it is fitting to recognize the Navy Nurse Corps on its 100th Anniversary this year.

For nearly 100 years before Congress formally established the Navy Nurse Corps in 1908, women worked as nurses aboard Navy ships and in Navy hospitals.

As early as the War of 1812, volunteers performed nursing duty in places that were often dangerous and required courage in the face of adversity.

Members of the esteemed Navy Nurse Corps care for those brave men and women who fight for our freedoms.

They contribute to relief efforts in all corners of the globe.

They serve in lead roles as part of a unified health-care team.

The Navy Nurse Corps practices progressive patient care.

It enjoys a rich heritage accompanied by high-tech training.

A registered nurse in the Navy is also a respected Officer, serving in modern facilities at home, at sea, around the country and across the globe.

I am proud to especially recognize the Navy Nurse Corps for its centuries of outstanding service for our military men and women.

Today's resolution honors the good work that all nurses do.

H. Res. 1086:

(1) recognizes the significant contributions of nurses to the health care system of the United States;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Nurses Week, as founded by the American Nurses Association; and

(3) encourages the people of this Nation to observe National Nurses Week with appropriate recognition, ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate the importance of nurses to the everyday lives of patients.

Along with my many supportive colleagues, I want to thank the House leadership for bringing this important resolution to the Floor.

TRIBUTE TO KENTWAN BALMER

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, on October 15, 1986, Christa and Charles Balmer, Sr., were blessed by the birth of their youngest child, Kentwan.

Kentwan grew up in Weldon, a very small town in my congressional district with a population of about 1,375 people. Kentwan attended O.R. Pope Elementary, Weldon Middle and Weldon High School. As a high school junior and senior, he earned All-Area and All-Conference honors. Kentwan was also an impressive bowler and dedicated a good deal of his time as a member of the North Carolina Shrine Bowl Team.

Kentwan earned a full scholarship to play football at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He saw limited action in nine games as right defensive end as a freshman, coming up with one assisted tackle. As a sophomore, he appeared in 11 games, and started in the final 3 games of the season.

As a junior, Kentwan appeared in 10 games, starting the final 8 games as left defensive tackle. The highlight of his season came against rival Duke when he blocked two extra point kicks in a one-point victory.

As a senior, he shifted to right defensive tackle. He earned second-team All-Atlantic Coast Conference honors and received the team's James Southerland Award. He ranked second on the team with 59 tackles, including 3.5 sacks.

In 42 games at the University of North Carolina, Kentwan started 23 times. He collected 93 tackles with 7 sacks. He also deflected three passes and blocked a pair of kicks.

On April 26, 2008, the San Francisco 49ers selected Kentwan with the 29th overall pick in the first round of the National Football League draft. He's expected to play either nose tackle or left defensive end. Kentwan is UNC's 17th first-round draft pick in school history.

Kentwan is known for his strength, athleticism, and versatility, and the 49ers expect him to anchor their defense for many years to come.

Madam Speaker, this is a great day for the town of Weldon—the place of Kentwan's roots and a very significant part of the First Congressional District of North Carolina. As friends, family and fans come together to celebrate at Clem's Grand Ballroom in Weldon on May 9, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives and folks all across North Carolina to join me in wishing Kentwan many successful years with the San Francisco 49ers. We applaud Kentwan's commitment, determination and dedication in achieving such a major accomplishment.

MAY 10TH IS A SPECIAL DAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF AZERBAIJAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, on May 10, 2008 the people of Azerbaijan

commemorate the 85th Jubilee of the birth of their late President Heydar Aliyev. A larger than life personality and a man of enormous political skill and stature, Heydar Aliyev worked tirelessly for more than 30 years—first as part of the Soviet Union, and later as President of a free and independent Azerbaijan—to build a strong, vibrant, healthy and prosperous nation.

When Azerbaijan regained its independence in 1991, the political and economic vacuum caused by the collapse of the Soviet Union, domestic tensions fueled by competing forces at home and the disastrous war in Nagorno-Karabakh—which resulted in the military occupation of 20 percent of Azerbaijan, and nearly one million refugees and internally displaced people—threatened to rip the country apart. Many Azerbaijanis were fearful that their first experience as the short-lived first Republic in the Muslim world (1918–1920), would be repeated; and that a free and independent Azerbaijan would be nothing but a footnote in history.

Heydar Aliyev, however, had a vision for Azerbaijan. He knew that Azerbaijan's future would be assured if countries around the world had a stake in its independence and he knew that the key to attracting international investment in Azerbaijan's rich resources was stability. In 1993, when Heydar Aliyev became President of the Republic, first by appointment under the constitution, then through direct popular election he moved quickly to implement his vision. First, he negotiated a ceasefire in the war with Armenia—which was implemented in 1994—and next he pushed Parliament to begin enacting a series of laws to make the country friendlier to foreign investment and a member of the international market economy. President Aliyev opened up the country to investment from the United States, Western Europe, Russia, and Turkey and Azerbaijan soon became a pioneer in opening the Caspian Sea to international cooperation and oil and gas exploration. In fact, since the so-called "Contract of the Century" was signed in 1994, Azerbaijan has extensively developed its energy resources to help diversify western energy supplies. The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) oil pipeline, for example, which became fully operational in July 2006 and will soon provide one-third of the new oil flowing into the international market. In addition to the BTC pipeline, the Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum gas pipeline is now functioning.

President Aliyev was also aggressive in asserting Azerbaijan's place on the international political stage. He became a great friend to the United States and one of the first international leaders to offer unconditional assistance to the U.S.-led fight against global terrorism after 9–11—and was also one of the few Muslim leaders to agree to send troops to Iraq and Afghanistan. The strong relations between our two nations are a monument to his determination and will not be forgotten.

Madam Speaker, despite foreign and domestic critics of President Aliyev's pro-western policies, most people acknowledge that President Heydar Aliyev represented security during those very dark early years of Azerbaijan's second independence; and most Azerbaijanis felt at the time that as long as Heydar Aliyev was at the helm, the ship of state would not sink. Today it's up to the youth of Azerbaijan to steer that ship and to carry on Heydar Aliyev's vision of a strong, vibrant, healthy and

prosperous, and independent Azerbaijan. If they build upon the legacy President Aliyev left, I have no doubt they will succeed.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF MOTHER'S DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker. I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1113, "Celebrating the Role of Mothers in the United States." I would like to thank my colleague, Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY of Nebraska, for introducing this heartfelt legislation.

Mr. Speaker, as a Mother myself, I am extremely proud to stand before you on a day recognizing mothers. Mothers are the strongest link in the family chain. She holds the family together, nurturing both child and husband.

I want to thank my own mother and grandmother for their support over the years. I also want to thank all of the mothers who take care of not only their natural children but also the children in the community, the children in foster care, and children overseas.

The annual number of Texas children in foster care has risen steadily in recent years. In November 2003, there were about 16,000 children in foster care and an additional 5,000 in other care, such as kinship care; 2,146 children were served in emergency shelters and homes; 671 children were served in placements outside the foster care system, such as nursing homes, mental health/mental retardation facilities, hospitals and juvenile justice facilities.

In a study by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, which oversees the Department of Family and Protective Services, they stated that Black children stay in foster care significantly longer, are less likely to be reunited with their families, and wait longer for adoption than white or Hispanic children.

They are everybody's children, and nobody's children. They are the forgotten children in the Texas foster care system. Black, White, Hispanic, Asian—they all need the love of a mother, the nurturing of a family, and the support of their community. Some of them find homes with caring foster parents, or in treatment centers with experienced and caring providers. And some do not.

Some foster children have been moved among 30, 40, or even more all-too-temporary "homes." Some have been sexually, physically, and emotionally abused while in the system; some have run away and joined the ranks of the missing. A few have even died at the hands of those entrusted with their care.

The mission of the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services, DPRS, now called the Department of Family and Protective Services, is to protect the unprotected—children, the elderly and people with disabilities—from abuse, neglect and exploitation. The system responsible for protecting our foster children sometimes is little better than the homes from which they were taken.

Many of these children are not safe, and their futures are uncertain. They didn't ask to be put in foster care, and many endured great suffering before entering the system.

These children need mothers too. They need families. At a time when we are celebrating all that mothers bring, all that grandmothers bring, and all that a real family brings to the upbringing of healthy and successful children; we must remember the children who do not have mothers and we must reach out.

As we near Mother's Day, let me say thank you to all the mothers near and far, in Congress, in my district, and even working in my office. I celebrate you and your children celebrate you. Thank you for all that you do for your children and for the community.

I urge my colleagues to remember not only their mothers but the other women they called mother in their schools, and in their communities. Let's celebrate mothers and H. Res. 1113.

GENETIC INFORMATION
NONDISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, H.R. 493.

I am a cosponsor of this important legislation, which bans genetic discrimination in the workplace and in health insurance on the basis of predictive genetic information. It prohibits insurance companies from denying coverage or increasing premiums because of genetic factors. Also, under this bill, employers cannot consider genetic factors in the process of hiring, firing, or promoting workers.

H.R. 493 is similar to Minnesota law, which I voted for when I was a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives. Minnesota law sets basic privacy protections for the collection of genetic information by Government agencies and private entities. Unfortunately, not all States offer protection against genetic discrimination. This leaves most Americans unsure of how their private information will be protected. National legislation needs to be implemented now, before genetic discrimination becomes more widespread as genetic testing comes into greater use.

Discrimination based on a person's genetic information, just like that based on race or disability, should not be tolerated. Genetic discrimination has the potential to affect every person in the United States. Despite advances in modern medical technology, it is impossible to predict with certainty whether a given individual will actually develop a disease. Patients recognize that few laws exist to prevent health insurers or employers from using their predictive genetic information to deny them coverage or jobs. As a result, fear of such discrimination could cause individuals to refuse potentially life-saving testing or participate in genetic research.

Federal employees are already protected from genetic discrimination by an executive order signed by President Clinton. It is time to extend this protection to the rest of our country.

H.R. 493 will give Americans the security they need to take care of their health needs without worrying that they will face discrimination. This bill has been pending for over 13

years now. Under Republican control there were no hearings on this important topic. Within one year of Democrats taking control of the House this bill was passed, and is now on its way to the President's desk.

This bill is the right thing to do to protect access to health care and against genetic discrimination in the workplace. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

HONORING LOUIS M. THOMSON

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Louis M. Thomson, Jr. of Toledo, Ohio.

Louis M. Thomson, Jr., blessed Toledo, OH with his many talents, always giving an enthusiastic word about his native city. Louis passed from this life April 18, 2008, but will always be remembered by his family and friends for his warm smile, quick wit and uncompromising passion to better his community. Louis served as a longtime labor arbitrator, fact-finder, and mediator. Mr. Thomson, a Toledo native, graduated from Scott High School in 1945. Afterwards he served in the U.S. Army from 1945 to 1947, later graduating from the University of Toledo in 1950. Louis started his career with the city of Toledo in 1960 as director of public information and industrial relations, a position he held until 1968.

Following his position with the city of Toledo, he served as the director of the Toledo Labor-Management-Citizens Committee from 1968 until 1991. He worked as an independent arbitrator, fact-finder, and mediator. During his years on the job, he was known for working behind the scenes to improve the local labor climate. His family and colleagues remembered how he enjoyed helping to resolve labor disputes. His wife, Rose Thomson, recalled that the career called on him to be neutral and exercise good judgment. She said, "He liked listening to all the different things and trying to decide if people had been treated properly".

He retired from the job two weeks before his death and only because of his failing health. In addition to his work, Mr. Thomson was involved with a number of local community groups, including the University of Toledo Alumni Association, which he had served as president; the Scott Alumni Association; the City of Toledo Credit Union, of which he was also a past president; the Toledo Museum of Art; the Maumee Valley Historical Society; the Committee on Relations with Toledo, Spain, and numerous other organizations.

Louis simply desired to help people and do things for other, and in the meantime improve the city of Toledo as well. However, the organization closest to his heart was the Toledo Zoo, family members recalled. They estimated he had been involved with the Toledo Zoo for nearly 50 years because it was a landmark for the people of Toledo and surrounding areas. His love for the Toledo Zoo mimicked his love for the Toledo community. Louis always promoted the city of Toledo from an industrial, business and cultural perspective, never ceasing in the opinion that Toledo was a great place to live.

Toledo will miss one of its dearest sons. May his positive spirit and love of community be remembered in word and deed by all Toledo residents.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MOSES WEINSTEIN

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the passing of a man who I deeply admired and knew for many years; Mr. Moses Weinstein. Mr. Weinstein, or Moe as his friends called him, passed away at the age of 95. He was loved and respected, and served New York and our country honorably throughout his long life.

Mr. Weinstein was a true patriot. He was a World War II veteran, and served our country in Europe. After graduating from Brooklyn Law School and he began working his way up the political ladder. In 1959, he started what would be an 11 year career in the New York State Assembly. During his tenure in the Assembly, he served as Chairman of the Queens Democratic Party; held the prestigious title of majority leader for the 1967 convention, where the New York State Constitution was redrafted; and was elected to the post of Majority Leader from 1965 through 1968 and Speaker of the Assembly in 1968. Much of his work as a legislator focused on the importance of promoting minorities and women to hold judicial positions.

After leaving the Assembly, Moe became a Justice of the Supreme Court of New York in 1970, and held the post for 14 years.

Moe was so accomplished. Yet, he always claimed that he was not anyone's boss, especially in his own home. He claimed that Muriel Marshall, his wife, was the true boss of the household.

I want to extend my deepest sympathies to Moe's family. Jonathan, Peter and Jeremy, your father was an extraordinary man and I feel blessed to have known him.

CONGRATULATING COASTAL BEND COLLEGE ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coastal Bend College, in Beeville, Texas on its 40th Anniversary. Bee County Junior College District was created by election on November 2, 1965. The election resulted from several years of work to establish a community college for Bee County. Support was shown by residents in an overwhelming five-to-one majority for the creation of the district. The desire for a community college was again demonstrated on December 7, 1965, when district citizens approved a tax to support BCC, and bond issues to build the college. Bee County College opened in September 1967 with 790 students, 24 full-time instructors and 11 part-time teachers. Its first class graduated in May of 1968.

In 1998 Bee County College changed its name to Coastal Bend College to reflect its expanding role in the region. Today, the Coastal Bend College service area includes Karnes, McMullen, Live Oak, Bee, Duval, Jim Wells and Brooks Counties, and parts of Atascosa and Kleberg Counties with campuses in Alice, Beeville, Kingsville and Pleasanton. Enrollment in academic, workforce education and continuing education classes during the spring of 2006 was 3,534. More than 100,000 students have passed through at least one of the four campuses over the past 40 years.

Coastal Bend College's current president, Dr. Thomas B. Baynum, came to the college in 2007. Under his leadership, the Texas Coordinating Board recently approved the opening of a full nursing program at Coastal Bend College. This new nursing program will help the school provide training that will not only offer graduates good paying jobs, but will also help alleviate the severe nursing shortage which this rural region faces as well as our State of Texas.

As a Hispanic Serving Institution, Coastal Bend College plays a critical role in graduating Hispanic students who will make up a large portion of our future workforce. The Higher Education Reauthorization Act, which is currently being negotiated in Congress, will help colleges like Coastal Bend increase their recruitment of minority students.

This weekend, Coastal Bend College will be celebrating this important 40th anniversary with a variety of events, including musical performances, art exhibits and most importantly, the graduation of students in its 40th graduating class. I want to again congratulate Coastal Bend College for reaching this important milestone and wish every graduating student success in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE SCOTTSBLUFF DECA

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, since 1946, DECA has been the premier student organization preparing high school and college students for careers in marketing, management and entrepreneurship. Students are able to develop academic, leadership, communication, and civic responsibility skills.

Through the efforts of this organization, thousands of students have become leaders and have improved their communities in countless ways.

Today, I want to congratulate the thirty-nine students from the Scottsbluff DECA Chapter who qualified for and attended the International DECA Career Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. I also want to congratulate their advisor, Mr. Derek Deaver.

Over 14,000 DECA members from all fifty states as well as Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico and Mexico attended the conference, held late last month.

In this international competition, the Scottsbluff DECA Chapter made Nebraska proud. Many members received awards of excellence with one project—whose members include Brittany Shaneman, Jordyn Gray and

Breanna Elley—placed in the top twenty, and Seth Wallace finishing in the top ten, placing third in the nation.

The continued success of Mr. Deaver and his DECA students is a testament to the fact young Nebraskans represent a truly valuable resource. I applaud their achievements and wish them the best next year.

PROVIDING FOR COMPENSATION
TO STATES INCARCERATING UN-
DOCUMENTED ALIENS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1512, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for compensation to States incarcerating undocumented aliens charged with a felony or two or more misdemeanors, introduced by my distinguished colleague from California, Representative LINDA SÁNCHEZ, of which I am a proud cosponsor.

Mr. Speaker, for over a decade, the States have gone through difficult budgetary times and sometimes the federal government has not done enough to pay its fair share when the States have partnered with it. I am glad H.R. 1512 is a step in the right direction.

The State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) was created in 1994 to reimburse States and localities for the arrest, incarceration, and transportation costs associated with criminal aliens. Currently States and localities are only able to be reimbursed for incarcerating criminal aliens who are “convicted of a felony or two or more misdemeanors” and be incarcerated for at least four consecutive days.

In 2003, the Department of Justice (DOJ) reinterpreted the SCAAP statute in a way that caused a drastic drop in every State’s reimbursement. Now States no longer receive reimbursement unless (1) the criminal alien is convicted of a felony or two misdemeanors; and (2) the arrest and conviction occurred in the same fiscal year.

I commend Congresswoman SÁNCHEZ for introducing H.R. 1512, a bipartisan bill which exemplifies the spirit in which we should approach many challenges in the immigration field. H.R. 1512 would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act so that States and localities can be reimbursed for the cost of incarcerating aliens who are either “charged with or convicted” of a felony or two misdemeanors regardless of the fiscal year of the incarceration and conviction.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that H.R. 1512 has been endorsed by the National Sheriffs’ Association and the U.S./Mexico Coalition of Border Counties.

The SCAAP program is administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), which is part of DOJ’s Office of Justice Programs (OJP). The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) aids BJA in administering the program.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1512 is an important step toward fulfilling our federal government’s obli-

gations to States, many experiencing budgetary pressures, including when partnering with the Federal Government in the immigration field. I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

COMMEMORATING THE RENOVATION
OF THE MONCLOVA, OHIO
POST OFFICE BUILDING

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, this month marks a celebration in the community of Monclova, Ohio. After four years, hundreds of volunteer hours given by dozens of volunteers, and many donations and financial contributions from generous sponsors, the citizens of Monclova will dedicate a reconstructed and renovated historical Post Office. Bill Strayer and Mary Kay and Connie Nuhfer of the Monclova Historical Society prepared a wonderfully descriptive history of the building and the effort to restore it, which I am pleased to submit for the RECORD.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MONCLOVA OLD POST
OFFICE

By the late 1800s and early 1900s, Monclova Township boasted a variety store, a mercantile, a drugstore and a barbershop, as well as wagon makers, blacksmiths, and a lyceum. Home mail delivery was also provided to area residents following the Rural Free Delivery legislation enacted by Congress. Ira Hinkle became the first mail carrier in the Township, using a horse and covered wagon on good weather days and riding the horse in snowy weather. Claire Metzger became the first Postmistress of Monclova Township on March 19, 1915; she served for 41 years before retiring on October 31, 1956. Prior to Miss Metzger becoming Postmistress, the Trapp Mercantile Store housed the Monclova Post Office. Claire, however, had a cement block building erected on property owned by her father, John Metzger, creating the first stand-alone post office in the Township. This one room building was unique in that it was the only post office in the country to have a piano; Claire would often entertain her customers by playing songs on it. The post office continued to operate until December of 1961, when the current Monclova Post Office opened on the corner of Monclova and Waterville-Monclova Roads.

Within a few years after its creation, the Monclova Historical Foundation was approached by the Kerscher family to see if its members would like to have the old Post Office building that now sat empty. The Kerschers, who owned the land where the old post office was located, requested that the building be moved from its current site and relocated on the Community Center property. At that time, the Foundation did not have the resources to take on the property and so the project was put on hold.

In 2004, however, the Foundation was approached by retired Master Carpenter and builder Ray Parker. He and friend Peggy Brown were willing to take on the project of saving and restoring the old building. In June 2004, a letter was signed granting the Foundation ownership of the old Monclova Post Office with the condition that it be removed from the Kerscher property. In early fall 2004, a meeting with Ray Parker, Peggy

Brown, Bill Strayer, then president of the Foundation, and Tom Meyer, architect and friend of Bill’s, met to discuss what had to be done to move the building. Ray made detailed drawings of the building including noting where each block was located. There were four different style blocks used in the Post Office and Ray wanted to be sure it would be reconstructed exactly as it was before it was taken down.

A few weeks later a group of volunteers took apart the building block by block. The blocks themselves were the only part of the building that were salvageable, but small pieces of trim were saved to be used as a pattern for creating new trim work. The blocks were stored behind the Community Center until plans, prints, permits and funds were ready. In late summer 2005, reconstruction of the old Post Office began and the building was under roof by winter. In early 2006, Ray Parker died of cancer. Peggy, along with Bill and many other volunteers, have worked to complete the building the way Ray would have wanted. Over seventy volunteers have put in hundred of hours of work on the project and contributors have given both large and small donations in order to make this restoration possible. On May 24, 2008, the building will be officially dedicated; it will then be used as a museum for area schoolchildren and visitors to explore and to learn about the history of this great community.

CONGRATULATING FORT A.P. HILL

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Fort A.P. Hill as the winner of the 2008 Commander in Chief’s Annual Award for Installation Excellence and am honored to represent the men and women of Fort A.P. Hill. The Commander in Chief’s Annual Award for Installation Excellence recognizes outstanding and innovative efforts of those who operate and maintain U.S. military installations, and A.P. Hill was selected based on their exemplary support of Department of Defense missions.

Excellent military installations enable better mission performance and enhance the quality of life for military men, women and families. Each winning installation succeeded in providing excellent working, housing and recreational conditions.

To compete for the award, installations completed detailed organizational self-assessment packages answering questions posed in the Army Performance Improvement Criteria. Top installations received a week-long site visit by a team of evaluators, and a final, detailed scoring assessment by a senior panel of judges determined the top three installations.

The assessment was a thorough study of how business processes are designed and deployed, and how the installation fares in its business results across a variety of performance areas. I am honored to recognize the accomplishments of Fort A.P. Hill as the installation continues to sharpen the combat edge of America’s Defense Forces, and I am proud A.P. Hill calls the First Congressional District home.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF PFC ADAM LEE MARION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of sacrifice and service of PFC Adam Lee Marion of Dobson, North Carolina. Private First Class Marion, who served in the Army National Guard's 171st Engineer Company, made the ultimate sacrifice for his country last week when he fell in combat near Baghdad, Iraq.

Private First Class Marion's life exemplified the citizen-soldier ethic of the Army National Guard. He was known for his kindness and his heart for children. He loved to serve at home and in Iraq to protect the lives of these most vulnerable members of society. Taken at the age of 26, Private First Class Marion leaves a legacy of compassion, bravery and sacrifice.

His patriotism and selfless service to country is captured in his decision to deploy to Iraq with the 171st when he learned his original unit would not deploy. This is a remarkable sacrifice and a true sign of Private First Class Marion's readiness to serve his country even at the risk of his own safety.

His fellow soldiers testified to Private First Class Marion's professional skill as a soldier, his bravery in the face of danger and his sacrifice for his country. As the operator of a "Husky," a vehicle that detects improvised explosive devices for convoys, he was on the front lines in Iraq. In fact, his team helped clear IEDs from more than 100 convoy routes during his service in Iraq.

Private First Class Marion is survived by his parents Pam and Don Marion and his sister, Adrian. His sacrifice for our freedom will never be forgotten. He was a man who was acquainted with the dangers of combat and yet gave his life to a cause much greater than himself. In this and much more he is a hero and he hands down to future generations a legacy of valor, honor and the love of freedom.

Madam Speaker, my prayer is that he will long be remembered as a man who faithfully answered the call of duty to country. My thoughts and my prayers are with Private First Class Marion's family. May they know comfort of God's presence at this very difficult time. The people of North Carolina and our nation are blessed to remember him as an honored son and we mourn his passing and celebrate his life.

HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE BIRTHDAY OF
JAMES MONROE

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the 250th anniversary of the birthday of James Monroe, a First District of Virginia native. James Monroe was born in Westmoreland County on April 28, 1758, and was raised and educated in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

James Monroe attended the College of William and Mary, fought as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Continental Army, and practiced law in Fredericksburg, Virginia. As a politician, Monroe served in the Virginia Assembly, The Continental Congress, as Governor to the Commonwealth of Virginia, as a US Senator, Secretary of State and Secretary of War to President James Madison. Ultimately, James Monroe became our fifth President of the United States.

As Minister to France, Monroe helped negotiate the Louisiana Purchase. During his early years in the White House his administration was known as the "Era of Good Feelings", a time period in American political history in which partisan bitterness abated. Yet, Monroe may be best remembered for his belief that the Americas should be free from future European colonization and interference in sovereign countries' affairs. His strong opinions and principles on foreign policy came to be known as the Monroe Doctrine.

The citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia and especially America's First District express their gratitude to James Monroe, in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of his birthday. James Monroe was a loyal public servant and an exceptional statesman. His ideals and leadership qualities are such that all citizens, not only of Virginia, but the United States can admire and learn from.

As President Monroe once stated, "In this great nation there is but one order, that of the people, whose power, by a peculiarly happy improvement of the representative principle, is transferred from them, without impairing in the slightest degree their sovereignty, to bodies of their own creation, and to persons elected by themselves, in the full extent necessary for the purposes of free, enlightened, and efficient government".

INTRODUCTION OF THE JOINT
GUAM PROJECTS OVERSIGHT ACT

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I have introduced H.R. 5931, the Joint Guam Projects Oversight Act, to ensure appropriate implementation and oversight of the realignment of military installations and the relocation of military personnel on Guam. I am joined by my colleague from Hawaii, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, in introducing this legislation.

The rebasing of military forces from Okinawa, Japan to Guam is a component of the United States-Japan Alliance Transformation and Realignment Agreement signed in May 2006. Additionally, planned for Guam is the reassignment of a significant number of airmen from Korea, the standing-up of a U.S. Army air defense battalion and improvements to Naval Base Guam. These major realignments present significant challenges and opportunities for the community on Guam.

Over the next 6 years the Department of Defense and the Government of Japan plan to spend over \$10 billion to support the realignment of units of the III Marine Expeditionary Force from Okinawa to Guam and an additional \$3 billion on upgrades and improvements at Andersen Air Force Base. The Gov-

ernment of Japan has pledged to contribute over \$6 billion to support the rebasing of units from Okinawa to Guam through direct contributions to the United States Treasury and through Special Purpose Entities (SPEs). Funding of some projects by a foreign government poses significant challenges to Congress's right and responsibility to oversee this realignment. H.R. 5931 creates a new account for the realignment to Guam. The account entitled the "Guam Defense Policy Review Initiative Account" would help the Department of Defense manage its expenditures on projects associated with the realignment of military forces on Guam.

This legislation also addresses the unique nature of the SPEs. Department of Defense officials indicate that SPEs are intended to operate in a manner similar to other public-private ventures that currently exist with respect to other projects in the United States. Our legislation expresses a Sense of Congress that the SPEs should operate as public-private ventures. It also encourages the Department of Defense to ensure that all construction projects on Guam, operated and maintained by SPEs, should meet U.S. standards. It also encourages the Department of Defense along with the Government of Japan to consider utilizing the SPEs for projects other than military housing and utility infrastructure improvements. Moreover, if the SPEs are utilized to improve utilities on Guam the improvements must be made to the overall grid operated by the Government of Guam and not solely for the benefit of military installations. Improvements to the overall utility infrastructure on Guam will be more cost-effective.

The \$13 billion investment by the Department of Defense and the Government of Japan is intended primarily for military infrastructure. However, the Government of Guam estimates that additional funds will be needed to improve civilian infrastructure, including schools, public safety, water, wastewater, utility, and road improvements to accommodate the additional population on the island. As we near the end of the Bush Administration's term it is important that the Federal Government work closely with the Government of Guam to develop Memoranda of Understanding, MOU, to ensure Federal commitments that Guam can rely on. The MOUs can be facilitated by utilizing the Interagency Group on the Insular Areas, IGIA, established by executive order of the President. The legislation includes a Sense of Congress that these MOUs must be developed to ensure that the build-up is a success. In reference to planning, the legislation also authorizes the Office of Economic Adjustment, OEA, within the Department of Defense to provide planning funds to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, CNMI. This will support appropriate planning by the Government of the CNMI for increases in population and military activity resultant from the establishment and utilization of training ranges in the CNMI. Currently, the OEA lacks the authority in law to provide planning funds to the CNMI and this provision would correct this omission in law.

It is important that military construction projects on Guam be energy friendly and meet strong environmental design standards. The legislation requires the Department of Defense to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, LEED, silver rating standards. LEED standards have been developed and

are approved by the U.S. Green Building Council. The legislation also requires the Secretary of Defense to report back to Congress on establishing a goal for energy renewability on Guam. The major construction effort supporting the build-up should be conducted in the most environmentally friendly and energy efficient manner as possible.

The legislation also prioritizes the small business community in this military build-up. The bill contains a provision that would limit the Historically Underutilized Business Zone, HUB Zone, preference for work performed in excess of 150 miles from the primary office location of a HUBZone firm. This provision would ensure that construction projects benefit the local businesses and economy. Moreover, the legislation would authorize the establishment of a Procurement Technical Assistance Center, PTAC, on Guam to help local small businesses navigate the complexities and bureaucracy of Department of Defense contracting.

Finally, the legislation will require all contractors to certify their compliance with local tax and licensing requirements. The provision grants the contracting agent within the Department of Defense the ability to withhold final payments on contracts if the contractor is found to be delinquent in paying their local tax obligations. This provision is important to ensuring the Government of Guam will be able to collect revenue from this build-up and apply such revenue to make needed improvements to civilian infrastructure.

The military build-up on Guam presents many opportunities and many challenges. I firmly believe that the legislation I have introduced today with Mr. ABERCROMBIE will help facilitate congressional oversight and accountability of build-up activities as well as provide additional tools for the local government and businesses to make this build-up a success. This legislation addresses issues important to the people of Guam and would help to ensure the success of the military build-up both for

the Department of Defense and for the people of Guam.

PRIORITIZING RESOURCES AND
ORGANIZATION FOR INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this important legislation to strengthen our nation's laws against counterfeiting and intellectual property violations which passed the House yesterday.

Article I Section 8 of our Constitution lays the framework for our nation's copyright and patent laws. It grants Congress the power to award inventors and creators, for limited periods of time, exclusive rights to their inventions and works. The founding fathers realized that this type of incentive was crucial to ensure that America would become the world's leader in innovation and creativity. As we continue our journey into the digital age, we must be sure to continue to reward our innovators with the exclusive rights to their works for limited periods of time. This incentive is still necessary to maintain America's position as the world leader in innovation.

Because the United States has been the pioneer for intellectual property protections, it is no surprise that the copyright industries are so successful and play such an increasingly crucial role in our national economy. The U.S. copyright industries have created millions of high-skilled, high-paying U.S. jobs and have contributed billions to our economy. However, the proliferation of copyright piracy and counterfeiting in America is growing and is threatening to undermine the very copyright protections our founding fathers envisioned.

In 1999, I introduced legislation with my friend, Representative ZOE LOFGREN, to prohibit the alteration or removal of product identification codes on goods or packaging, prohibit the manufacture and distribution of devices primarily used to alter or remove product identification codes, and allow the seizure of decoded goods and decoding devices.

In addition, for the better part of the past six years I have been pleased to work with retailers and law enforcement agencies to attempt to solve the growing problem of organized retail crime, which has resulted in billions of dollars of loss to retailers, has often resulted in counterfeit, diverted products being placed back on store shelves, has threatened the safety of such products as baby formula and medicine, and has been linked to major organized crime rings.

I am equally pleased to be an original co-sponsor of H.R. 4279. This legislation builds on current laws in many ways, including increasing penalties for both civil violations of copyright laws and repeat offenders, allowing treble damages in certain counterfeiting cases, and increasing the maximum penalties for trafficking in counterfeit goods when those offenses endanger public health and safety. The bill also raises the profile of intellectual property within the Administrative Branch by creating an Office of U.S. IP Enforcement Representative within the Executive Office of the President to coordinate all the various agencies and departments that work on IP enforcement issues, and to serve as the President's principal advisor for IP matters. In addition, it increases the number of IP liaisons from the PTO in U.S. embassies around the world and enhances DOJ's computer crime units to make sure they are equipped and being used to prosecute IP violations.

I believe this legislation is a major step in the right direction, and I look forward to continuing to work on this bill as it progresses through the legislative process.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 8, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 13

10 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).
SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the impacts of climate change on the reliability, security, economics, and design of critical energy infrastructure in coastal regions.
SD-366

Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation on mercury.
SD-406

Finance
To hold hearings to examine cracking the code, focusing on tax reform for individuals.
SD-215

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the Bulletproof Vest Partnership program, focus-

ing on protecting our nation's law enforcement officers.
SD-226

2:30 p.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the successes and shortfalls of Title IV of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, focusing on twenty years of self-governance.
SD-562

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.
SH-219

MAY 14

9:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine responding to the global food crisis.
SD-419

10 a.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul A. Schneider, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security.
SD-342

10:30 a.m.
Aging
To hold hearings to examine the future of Alzheimer's disease, focusing on current breakthroughs and challenges.
SD-106

2:30 p.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Children and Families Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine addressing the challenge of children with food allergies.
SD-430

3 p.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the National Archives, focusing on protecting our nation's history for future generations.
SD-342

Appropriations
Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the Federal Trade Commission.
SD-192

MAY 15

10 a.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine nuclear terrorism, focusing on providing medical care and meeting basic needs in an aftermath.
SD-342

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine development of oil shale resources.
SD-366

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.
SH-219

MAY 20

10 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the Territorial Energy Assessment as updated pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-58).
SD-366

MAY 21

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine pending health care legislation.
SR-418

10 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the skyrocketing price of oil.
SD-226

JUNE 3

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the acquisition of major weapons systems by the Department of Defense.
SD-106

POSTPONEMENTS

MAY 15

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine access to contract health services in Indian country.
SD-562