

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF MARY GREEN AS
RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA INTER-
NATIONAL SOCIETY'S WOMAN OF
VISION

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, the recent Retinitis Pigmentosa International Society's presentation of its Woman of Vision Leadership Award to San Francisco-based activist and fashion designer Mary Green is an excellent occasion for this body to take note of the unique and innovative manner in which Mary has employed her burgeoning business success to improve the lives and work conditions of women in developing countries around the world.

Mary Green is a visionary of ethical and sustainable entrepreneurship, a creative and compassionate strategy that other American business leaders might find rewarding, encompassing both good humanism and good business. The Vision Award saluted, along with her design skills, her commitment to creating better lives for people living in the shadow of poverty and deprivation throughout the third world. Mary Green's signature is adapting and uniting the unique artistic skills of workers in various countries with their innate entrepreneurship. By doing so she has created stable business communities that have emerged to produce her exceptional fashion designs. It is her creative humanism that truly makes her a woman of vision.

A committed activist in many areas of social improvement through activities in the business world, nonprofit entities and humane governmental activities, from solar power cooperatives to stem cell advancement, Mary Green's most notable achievements have been in the area of developing business solutions that address society's most pressing problems. It is the human dimension of sustainable business, including the empowerment of women, which operates as a key factor in all of her work. Mary Green personifies what is great about sustainable entrepreneurship: the blend of human and natural capital creating a community of trust and happiness with the creation of a valuable product that transcends the focus on immediate monetary reward. We are all the beneficiaries of the vision of Mary Green.

IN RECOGNITION OF ST. PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Westlake, Ohio, as they celebrate their one hundred and fiftieth anniversary, and in rec-

ognition of the Church's contributions to the community of Westlake, Ohio.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, was founded on June 13, 1858 by twenty families living in Westlake, Ohio and has a rich history of public service to the community. The congregation grew from ninety-three members to over 2,500 parishioners and 250 students. The original infrastructure of the Church was replaced on December 14, 1974 with a new brick building, which continues to stand to this day. Expansions to the Church included school facilities and a sanctuary expansion.

St. Paul Lutheran Church offers preschool through eighth grade education and offers art, vocal and instrumental music, technology, and sports activities. The Church also has a variety of ministries, including youth and educational ministries. The Church has never shied from its responsibility to educate, serve, and walk in concert with their congregation as well as the community as a whole.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Westlake, Ohio as they celebrate their one hundred and fiftieth anniversary, and in recognition of the Church's contributions to the community. May St. Paul's devotion to service and faith continue to touch their congregation.

DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, people ask me all the time, "Do you miss being a judge?" Usually my answer is, "No, I enjoy representing the good folks of southeast Texas in Congress," but sometimes a case comes along that makes me wish I was back on the bench. Sunday, June 8th was one of those days. As I turned on the news and learned that some outlaw set fire to the Texas Governor's Mansion, my first thought was I hope they send him to my court. My close friend Alton said "Get a Rope".

Of course we all know that everything is bigger and better in Texas, but as the news made headlines across the country so did a little Texas history. Our governor's mansion is registered as a National Historic Landmark and is the oldest governor's mansion west of the Mississippi and the fourth oldest in the country. Because Texas has the unique distinction of being an independent country and a state, the history of our governor's residence really started with the first home of the President of the Republic, however that home was short lived.

Nine years after annexation in 1845, the Texas Legislature appropriated \$14,500 to build a governor's mansion. The mansion was completed June 14, 1856 and Texas's fifth Governor, Elisha Marshall Pease and his family were the first residents. The historic Austin

home beneath the oaks at the corner of 11th and Colorado has housed 43 Texas Governors, and two future Presidents, in its 151 years.

One of the unique aspects of the Texas Governor's Mansion is that its structure has remained virtually unchanged. Under Governor Oscar Colquitt, an addition to the rear of the home was completed in 1914 and renovations over the years have left that floor plan intact for nearly a century. The Greek Revival architecture of the home, with its vast porches and floor-to-ceiling windows are all original to the home's initial construction, making it the oldest executive residence in the United States to function in its original configuration. I told you everything is better in Texas.

After getting over the fact that I wasn't going to get to try this case and charge this villain with everything from arson to treason, I started thinking about my first visit to the mansion when I was 10 years old. One of my heroes, as you all know, was General, President, and Governor Sam Houston—and I couldn't wait to walk through the halls that he walked and imagine that I was him. I remember standing at the foot of his bed thinking it was huge, thinking that General Sam really was larger than life.

I was relieved to learn that Sam Houston's custom mahogany bed and most of the historical furnishings were previously removed for the renovations and spared from the fire. I support the efforts of Governor Perry, the Friends of the Governor's Mansion and all Texans that want to see the Governor's Mansion rebuilt and restored to its former glory. And, I envy the judge that tries the outlaw that recklessly destroyed part of our great state's history.

The last scoundrel to desecrate a Texas landmark got nine years in the penitentiary. Back in 1989, a man by the name of Paul Cullen poisoned the great "Treaty Oak." Of course, I promptly volunteered to try that case as well. The Treaty Oak is the famed site in Austin where Stephen F. Austin signed a treaty with the Lipan Apaches and is thought to be more than 500 years old.

In a deliberate effort to destroy the tree in some kooky scheme, Cullen poisoned it with enough pesticides to kill a hundred trees. And as most criminals do, he bragged about his crime which resulted in his swift arrest and incarceration. The nation was stunned that we sent him to prison for trying to kill a tree, but the Tree was a symbol of Texas.

Fortunately the Treaty Oak survived the attack and while she may not stand as mighty as before, she continues to hang in there as a symbol of strength and perseverance. We rebuilt the Capitol after it was destroyed by fire in 1991 and the Mansion will live to see another day as well. As for the traitorous arsonists, well that is yet to be seen. There's a reason for the saying—"Don't mess with Texas!"

And that's just the way it is.

• 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.

HONORING HOUSTON WHITE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Houston White on the 60th anniversary of his participation in the establishment of the Rotary Club of Rusk, Texas.

If you've ever wondered what made individuals from the "Greatest Generation" so exceptional, one must look no further than to Mr. White. Ninety-five years old, Mr. White recalls surviving the Great Depression by spending his days picking cotton in West Texas. During World War II, Mr. White volunteered for the Navy, but that was just the beginning of his volunteerism.

Mr. White, a graduate of Jacksonville High School and Jacksonville Baptist College, helped establish the Rotary Club in Rusk, Texas in 1948. Since then, Mr. White has been an active member and was selected to serve as District Governor for Rotary District 5910, one of the highest offices a Rotarian can achieve.

Mr. White's public service includes countless civic projects, volunteer efforts, and participation in Rusk city government. In addition, Mr. White has served as a deacon and Sunday school teacher at First Baptist Church.

Mr. White is a husband to Freddy Banks Dear, a father to George White, and grandfather to Christopher White.

Abraham Lincoln once said, "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." Well, Mr. White has certainly made the past ninety-five years count.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Houston White as a resident in the fifth district of Texas and would like to thank him for his tireless service to Cherokee County, Texas, and this great nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House due to the funeral of a close friend and therefore missed rollcall votes 430 through 433.

Had I been present for rollcall 430, H.Res. 1230, on a motion to suspend the rules and agree to a measure condemning the post-election violence in Zimbabwe and calling for a peaceful resolution to the current political crisis, and for other purposes, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 431, H.R. 2262, agreeing to Senate Amendment to House Amendment No. 1 on the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 432, H.R. 2262, agreeing to Senate Amendment to House Amendment No. 2 on the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 433, H.Res. 1029, on a motion to suspend the rules and

agree to a measure congratulating and recognizing Mr. Juan Antonio Chi-Chi Rodriguez for his continued success on and off the golf course, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING DOUGLAS A. FRASER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Douglas A. Fraser of Southfield, Michigan.

Douglas A. Fraser departed from this life Saturday, February 23, 2008 at a fulfilling 91 years old. Douglas will forever be remembered for his dedication to labor rights, as he constantly sought after fairness and justice in employment practices. Douglas led the United Auto Workers (UAW), though a period of transition in the 1970s and 1980s. As the chief of the United Auto Workers, he played an instrumental role in saving the former Chrysler Corporation from bankruptcy.

Mr. Fraser commenced his career with the auto industry by taking a job at a DeSoto plant owned by Chrysler that had been organized by the UAW. He rose rapidly in the ranks of the union, eventually being elected of Local 227, in 1944, at the age of 27. After three terms as president, in 1947 he was hired as a member of the union's international staff. In 1951, Mr. Fraser joined then UAW President Walter Reuther's staff. Because of skills at negotiation, he quickly became known for his shrewd bargaining ability.

Respected for being both an artful politician and an impassioned activist, Mr. Fraser was one of the first labor leaders to take on many of the thorny issues facing the auto industry today, from global competition to soaring health costs.

Without Mr. Fraser's aggressive lobbying on Capitol Hill and among UAW rank and file, Chrysler would not have been able to secure \$1.5 billion in federal loan guarantees in 1979, which saved the automaker from bankruptcy, according to labor historians and top UAW officials. Also, in the 1979, as president of the UAW, Mr. Fraser and his team achieved other breakthroughs: Incremental increases in pension benefits for current and future retirees, a substantial increase in reduced work time, improvements in the cost-of-living allowance formula, and Chrysler agreement to union representation on its board of directors.

In 1980, Mr. Fraser became the first American union official to sit on the board of a large corporation. He even donated his board salary to Wayne State University in Detroit.

Current UAW President Ron Gettelfinger, who has led the union through a period of labor challenges in the face of the financial downturn of the automotive "Big Three", said he often turned to Mr. Fraser for guidance and support.

Once Mr. Fraser retired as UAW president in 1983, he became a professor of labor studies at Wayne State and launched another career that spanned 25 years. In that capacity, he served as a guest faculty member at other campuses, including the University of Michigan, Harvard University and Columbia Business School, where he was labor leader in residence for 3 years.

It is with the deepest appreciation that I pay tribute to the long life of a hard-working, just and passionate man, Douglas Fraser. He lived his years in service to his family, friends and fellow United Auto Workers. May this ardent labor leader be showered with blessings into eternity and receive a loving peace.

CENTENNIAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, I have the pleasure of informing my colleagues that the International Boundary Commission (IBC), the entity responsible for making, maintaining and mapping the Canada-U.S. border, is celebrating its centennial this month.

Through the IBC, Canada and the United States have collaborated for over 100 years to peacefully maintain the longest shared border in the world, 5525 miles long, from the Atlantic to the Pacific to the Arctic Ocean. My state of Alaska shares more boundary with Canada than any other State, 1540 miles (Water and Land). Of those 1540 miles, 710 miles of land is defined by 90 mountain peaks and 97 intermediate monuments from the Portland Canal to Mt. St. Elias. This summer, the field parties for both the U.S. and Canadian sections of the IBC will be surveying the land boundary in Southeast Alaska (710 miles). The main goal of this project is to update the boundary positions to the currently used coordinate reference system, as well as identify and mark the boundary points the original surveys were unable to physically occupy.

The work of the IBC is fundamentally important to our national interest; to law enforcement—land administration, customs and immigration; and to the management of the transboundary resources. The last 100 years of work of the IBC exemplifies the close and enduring Canada-U.S. relationship.

Madam Speaker, and my fellow members, join me in celebrating the centennial of the International Boundary Commission.

RECOGNIZING THE COMMITMENT OF THE ALI FAMILY TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THEIR BUSINESS, BEN'S CHILI BOWL

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Ali Family for 50 years of contributing to the economic vitality and culture of Washington, DC's historic U Street corridor, the "Black Broadway."

In each decade in which the Chili Bowl has been in operation, Ben and Virginia have faced challenges that for others contributed to the closing of their business. The violent unrest following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1968, disinvestment in Washington commercial districts throughout the 1970s and 80s, the complete upturning of the

1200 block of U Street to make way for Metro's green line extension during the late 1990s. Many entrepreneurs have come and gone, but the Ali's and that familiar long white counter with red-vinyl stools have remained stalwart and true.

As we enter into a moment in time when the possibility for change is right at our finger tips, it is comforting to know that for which we hope to attain is possible, and can be seen in our not too distant past. Ben and Virginia opened a business to be part of a community, to contribute. Through hard work and commitment, they have been able to raise a family, guide young employees in the lessons of good business, and make and keep appreciative patrons. The neighborhood has changed around them, but their devotion to creating a place where everyone feels welcome, where what is expected is what is served, and where you can listen to the rhythms of what makes U Street so special. They created a place of character. It is in these things that for 50 years we have seen the best part of ourselves when looking through the plate glass window of Ben's Chili Bowl. It is with the next generation of Ali capable hands that the business moves forward.

CIVIL AIR PATROL HOMELAND
SECURITY SUPPORT ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1333, Civil Air Patrol Homeland Security Support Act of 2007.

The Civil Air Patrol is comprised completely of volunteers who provide air and ground support for disaster relief, conducts search and rescue missions, perform counter drug missions and aerial damage assessment.

Shortly after being established on December 1, 1941, our Nation was drawn into World War II with the attack at Pearl Harbor. And the Civil Air Patrol began its vital mission patrolling the skies over our great Nation.

Although originally intended to perform only reconnaissance missions, the Civil Air Patrol found themselves carrying depth charges and bombs as the deadly German U-boats attacked U.S. shipping in the Atlantic.

During the war the Civil Air Patrol found 173 German submarines, hitting 10, and sinking 2 of them.

A German commander later confirmed that coastal U-boat operations were withdrawn from the United States "because of those damned little red and yellow airplanes" of the Civil Air Patrol.

From this early beginning, the Civil Air Patrol established itself as a provider of critical support in times of crisis and emergency.

Whether the danger comes from hurricanes, downed or missing aircraft, wildfires or other disasters, the Civil Air Patrol can always be counted on to provide the support our Nation needs.

Even today, the Civil Air Patrol continues to serve as a vital source of aerial reconnaissance.

The Midwest continues to be ravaged by flooding and broken levees, and our Civil Air Patrol is working with local first responders, providing digital photographs of flooded areas. These images have been used to assess the extent of the floods and the damage they caused.

In my home State of Michigan, the Civil Air Patrol flies missions from the Selfridge Air National Guard Base where they supported the National Weather Service in the aftermath of tornados and heavy storms last fall.

Shortly after the attack on 9/11, the Civil Air Patrol was the first in the skies over Ground Zero, and assisted in the relief efforts.

So I believe that it is only fitting that we examine using the Civil Air Patrol for Homeland Security Missions as they have already demonstrated their capabilities to provide aerial support during emergencies around the Nation.

I look forward to viewing the final Government Accountability Office, GAO, report and examining the ways that the Civil Air Patrol can assist the Department of Homeland Security, whether that includes assisting in our border security efforts, or utilizing their search-and-rescue capabilities in the aftermath of an act of terrorism or natural disaster.

These brave men and women volunteer their time and deserve our gratitude for the vital work that furthers the security of this great Nation.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

TO HONOR A GREAT TEXAN—RUTH
KEMPNER

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of a great friend and Texan that passed away June 16, 2008. Ruth was an honorable woman who dedicated her life to charity and helping others.

Ruth Levy Kempner was born at John Sealy Hospital in Galveston, Texas, on November 26, 1917, to Marion J. and Alma L. Levy. She died on June 16, 2008, at her home in Galveston.

Mrs. Kempner graduated from Ball High School in 1933, and earned a BA degree from the University of Texas at Austin, graduating cum laude in 1937. She was a Galveston school teacher prior to her marriage to Harris L. Kempner on April 24, 1939. They had two sons, Harris L. "Shrub" Kempner, Jr., and Marion Lee "Sandy" Kempner. Sandy, a lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps, was killed in Vietnam in November 1966.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, son, and brother, Marion Levy of Princeton, New Jersey. She is survived by her son, Harris L. Kempner, Jr., and his wife Hetta T. Kempner of Galveston, her grandchildren, Harris L. Kempner III and wife Kim of Knoxville, Tennessee, and Randall T. Kempner of Washington, DC, sister-in-law, Joy Levy of Princeton, New Jersey, niece, Dore Levy-Trilling and husband Jim Trilling of Providence,

Rhode Island, nephews Noah Levy of New Jersey and Amos Levy and wife Carla of New York, and cousins, Adrian Levy of Galveston and Gloria Herman of Houston.

Her life was devoted to various charitable and civic endeavors. She was president of the Family Service Bureau and served on the boards of Galveston Public Health Nursing Service, Galveston Community Council, and the League of Women Voters among many others.

She was chairman of the Red Cross Disaster Relief Committee during the Texas City disaster in 1947, and worked tirelessly on the scene searching the wreckage for the dead and injured, bringing home temporarily orphaned children at night. It was her nature to see a need and immediately accept the challenge to meet it.

She was president of Friends of Rosenberg Library and volunteered in the library's cataloging department for 20 years. She also served on its board of trustees.

From 1959 to 1960 Mrs. Kempner served on the Galveston City Charter Commission and was instrumental in changing Galveston's form of government from a city commission to a council-city manager operation. When the new charter was adopted, Mrs. Kempner was elected to serve on the first Galveston City Council from 1961 to 1963. She thereby became the first woman in Galveston's history to serve on any governing body of the city of Galveston. In this, as in many things, she pioneered the way for women in the city.

Ruth Kempner was one of two lay persons appointed to the Texas Civil Judicial Council and served for 8 years, from 1965 to 1973. In later years, she was active on the development board of the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and was chairman of the Breast Imaging Committee. She was a generous benefactor to the UTMB mammography and osteoporosis screening van, "the Oleander", and enthusiastically participated in its dedication in 1999. In 2003, her grandsons established the Ruth Levy Kempner Professorship in Radiation Oncology at UTMB in honor of their grandmother's dedication to the medical branch and the Galveston community.

She was the recipient of many community awards over the years including the Galveston Historical Foundation Steel Oleander Award and the 1894 Grand Opera House Community Enrichment Award.

She was delighted to list her profession on her passport as "Housewife and Civic Busybody", but she will be remembered for her intelligence, her candor, and her dedication to every cause she believed in. Equality for all people, regardless of sex, race or religion was one of those causes, and she fought for it staunchly at a time when it took much courage. She was particularly a role model for many women who responded to her gracious toughness, and her willingness to express herself very directly.

Mrs. Kempner was a courtly hostess, a steadfast friend, and a formidable enemy to injustice of any kind. She took great pride in her family, and was passionate about Galveston and its citizens. Vice versa.

She occasionally admitted that she had poor math skills. We believe that she thought one and one equals three because she always knew that the whole was greater than the sum of its parts. We will miss her greatly.

INACTIION AND OVERREACTION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, depending on what day it is, the House Democrat energy policy can be described one of two ways—either inaction or overreaction. On the one hand, with gas prices over 4 dollars per gallon and a growing global demand for oil, House Democrats refuse to lift the moratoriums against exploring for new oil and natural gas reserves here in the United States. On the other hand, having now failed to lower gas prices by doing nothing, we hear Members of the majority saying we should nationalize the American oil industry. Since when did the United States start following the example of socialist regimes like that of unstable Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez?

House Republicans have a plan that will not surrender our freedom and innovative spirit to the limits of big government. We want to lift the unnecessary restrictions on energy exploration. We want to invest in alternative energy sources and use the power of the free market to drive innovation forward and energy prices down.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th. I am grateful that World War II veteran, Sergeant William E. Durkes, Sr., is visiting Washington today continuing to celebrate his 92nd birthday.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. LINDA DAVIS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of the outstanding residents of the community where I live and enjoy the friendship and fellowship of my neighbors and friends. Madam, I cannot pinpoint exactly when or where I first met Ms. Linda Davis; however, I do recall that we immediately connected and soon were communicating and working together on various issues and projects.

Linda Davis had an outstanding personality which was infectious. She could be warm and disarming but at the same time tough and intimidating. She was energetic and in addition to looking after her home and family, she was a regular attendee at community meetings and events. Mrs. Davis was involved with her block and immediate neighborhood; I was privileged to attend meetings and coffees in her home. She worked with the Community Bank of Lawndale, the Austin Bank of Chicago, the Chicago Board of Education and Loretto Hospital as well with the Austin Chamber of Commerce and many other entities.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to take note of some of the contributions of this noteworthy citizen, a great wife, wonderful mother and superb human being.

HONORING MARGARET "MAGGIE" TRUPP FOR HER 41 YEARS OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor Margaret "Maggie" Trupp upon the occasion of her retirement following 41 years of meritorious service for Continental Airlines.

Ms. Trupp's life experience truly represents the American Dream. After immigrating to the United States from Holland in 1961 at the age of 16, she attended Dan McCarty High School and Indian River Junior College before moving to my hometown of Houston, Texas, in 1967. Almost immediately, Texas International Airlines, an airline in its infancy, recognized her talents, work ethic and enthusiasm and hired her to help move the company forward. Ms. Trupp has participated in Texas International's growth into Continental Airlines, a major international carrier.

Ms. Trupp achieved great success during her tenure, once receiving the airline's annual customer service award and spearheading its unaccompanied minor system, which has facilitated successful travel for young people. On a personal note, she has helped me numerous times over the years in my travel experiences and has always shown me tremendous generosity and kindness.

Ms. Trupp will officially retire effective July 1, 2008, bringing her impressive and successful career to a close. I would like to congratulate her for her decades of excellent work and to wish her a happy and fulfilling retirement.

COMMENDING REEVE FIDLER OF GROTON

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Ms. TSONGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Reeve Fidler of Groton, Massachusetts, who will receive the Congressional Award bronze, silver and gold medals. It is my privilege to honor Reeve who has worked to better himself and his community.

The Congressional Award recognizes initiative, achievement, and service in young people. Reeve exemplifies all of these qualities. The award's recipients represent the best of America—they are committed to self-improvement, hard work, and community service.

Reeve performed over 400 hours of community service, managing the snack shack at his town's athletic fields. The profits he earned selling concessions went to fund the town's youth soccer program. Reeve also volunteered as a teacher's aide at the Groton Children's Center.

In addition to helping his community, Reeve set personal development goals. He received certification to become a soccer referee and subsequently worked as an official for youth games in his town. To complete the physical fitness goal, Reeve played for his high school's varsity tennis team, and for his expedition requirement, Reeve explored the coast of southern Maine.

It is also important to acknowledge that Reeve and the other extraordinary young people receiving the Congressional Award were not alone in their work to achieve their goals. Along the way, they were guided by the helping hands of parents, teachers, and mentors, who provided constant encouragement and support.

Today, I honor Reeve's hard work and dedication. His dedication to community service and personal development should be admired and emulated.

HONORING SAINT JAMES PARISH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Saint James Parish in Bay City as they dedicate the new parish center, Langley Hall. Bishop Robert J. Carlson will preside over the dedication ceremony on Sunday, June 22, in Bay City, Michigan.

Reverend Henry Schutjes founded Saint James Parish in 1868 in response to the needs of a growing Irish community. The parish quickly became the center of life for the Irish settlers in the Bay City area. In 1873 the new pastor, Reverend Thomas Rafter, welcomed four Sisters of Charity to teach in the parish school. On August 25th of that year, Saint James Parish opened the first 12-grade, coeducational parochial school in the United States. The Sisters of Charity had to send additional teachers as the enrollment grew to 400 students within a month.

Education has always been very important to the parishioners of Saint James. In preparing the next generation for the challenges of life the school has gone through several transformations. The high school is now part of All Saints Central High School and the middle school is part of Holy Family Middle School. Since 1873, the Sisters of Charity have continued to serve Saint James Parish, preparing students for an abundant temporal and spiritual life.

The first wooden church was destroyed by fire in 1884. The second church was struck by lightning and burned in 1978. After each tragedy the parishioners came together and continued a vibrant parish life. They found other places to celebrate Mass and worked to rebuild the sanctuary. The current church was completed in 1980 and the first Mass was celebrated on Christmas Eve. This sacred tradition continues under the leadership of the pastor, Reverend Robert J. DeLand, and associate pastor, Reverend Andrew D. Booms.

On June 22nd the parish will come together again to celebrate the dedication of the new parish center, Langley Hall. The parish center is made possible by the bequest of the late Norbert Langley and Elizabeth Langley. The Langley family exemplifies the best of Saint James Parish life. Their parents, John and Anna Langley, were married at Saint James Catholic Church in 1911. They had five children, all baptized at Saint James, and four children graduated from the parish high school. Elizabeth and Norbert stayed on the family farm and continued to attend Mass at Saint James. Elizabeth passed away in 1998 and Norbert died in 2004. The estate was bequeathed to Saint James, enabling the parish

to build a parish center to provide a gathering place for the parishioners to come together in fellowship.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me today and applaud the clergy, staff, and parishioners of Saint James Parish. For over 100 years Saint James Parish has been a center of worship and praise for the Bay City area and may it continue to bring the joy of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, to the community for many, many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO RUTGERS UNIVERSITY-NEWARK ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to recognize and honor a great institution of higher learning, Rutgers University-Newark as it celebrates its 100th anniversary. A gala being held on June 19, 2008 at the Paul Robeson Campus Center in honor of this important milestone will feature a variety of distinguished alumni, supporters, faculty, staff and students. The theme of the centennial, "A Century of Reaching Higher," celebrates the transformation of two law schools, a business college and two colleges of arts and science into one of the Nation's leading urban research universities.

Rutgers University-Newark has a rich and illustrious history. Founded in 1908 as a law school by New York attorney Richard Currier, the university has a rich tradition of diversity. The law school, the Seth Boyden School of Business and the Dana College merged in 1936 and became the University of Newark. In the 1940s, the University of Newark and Rutgers University joined together to form a geographically diverse public State university with programs in a broad variety of undergraduate and graduate disciplines. In the 1960s the university acquired a large parcel of land in what is now known as the University Heights District and construction began on the modern campus. Today, Rutgers University-Newark is a modern urban research university of 38 acres where 10,500 students pursue degrees in business, law, the arts and sciences, nursing, criminal justice, public administration, and global affairs. During its 100 years of existence, Rutgers University-Newark has been inclusive in its recruitment which has in turn created a mosaic of student diversity.

The gala will celebrate the university's legacy in the State's largest city, particularly in the areas of educational opportunity, urban engagement, diversity and research. Proceeds from the gala will support scholarship funds, including scholarships for students in the State's first undergraduate major in public service, to be offered by the Rutgers School of Public Affairs and Administration beginning in the fall of 2008.

Madam Speaker, I am sure my colleagues agree that Rutgers University-Newark deserves to be feted at the gala in honor of its 100th anniversary. I am proud to have this fine university in my Congressional district and wish everyone associated with Rutgers Uni-

versity-Newark continued success in the future.

GRANTING A FEDERAL CHARTER TO KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2008

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1692, a bill to grant a Federal charter to the Korean War Veterans Association.

Just a few short years after World War II, our government again called on hundreds of thousands of Americans to serve their country in a distant conflict. Over 1,700,000 American soldiers were sent halfway around the world to fight a Communist threat in Korea. Over 40,000 would never return—giving their lives on the battlefield or going missing to this day. Another 100,000 were wounded. Today, my state of Vermont alone is home to almost 10,000 Korean War veterans.

The Korean War Veterans Association exists to remember those lost, to honor the service of the thousands of living veterans, and to support Korean freedom. For over six years, the organization has fought for Federal recognition. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and the Vietnam Veterans of America have received a Federal charter, but up until this point veterans of the Korean War could not claim this honor. H.R. 1692 finally remedies this.

Under the charter provided in this bill, the Korean War Veterans Association will provide assistance to veterans of the Korean War and to all those who have subsequently served there, including helping those men and women receive the veterans benefits they have earned. The organization will also preserve the camaraderie forged between those who served, and honor the memory of those fallen. It is my great pleasure to support this well-deserved charter.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I want to state for the record that my vote today against Amendment No. 1 to H.R. 2642, the Supplemental Appropriations Act is a vote against further unconditional funding for the war in Iraq. However, I would also like to make clear that this is not a vote against funding our troops fighting in Afghanistan. In fact, I believe that my vote today against amendment No. 1 is indeed a vote that supports our mission in Afghanistan because I believe the failed war in Iraq has greatly hurt our ability to defeat our enemies who attacked our Nation on 9/11.

I cannot vote to continue funding for the war in Iraq because it has not been fought for the purpose that was stated to the American peo-

ple back in 2002 and it has not achieved the goals that were set out by this Administration. The war in Iraq has lasted far too long and has recklessly put the lives and livelihood of too many American troops in danger. With over 4,000 of our brave sons and daughters killed and more than 30,000 diagnosed with injuries, it is time they come home. After 5 years, this war has lasted longer than America's military involvement in World War I, World War II, the Korean war and the Civil War. I remain fully committed to the withdrawal of America's troops from the war in Iraq and am greatly disappointed that a timeline for withdrawal has not been included in this emergency funding measure. To be certain, a timeline is the only way that the current Iraqi Government will understand the dire need to unify and stand together to build their nation. Our brave men and women of the Armed Forces can not and should not have to hold Iraq together indefinitely. My vote today against this amendment is strictly a vote to bring our troops home from Iraq.

While I strongly oppose continued funding for our war in Iraq I am an even stronger supporter for greater funding and resources to win the battle against Al Qaeda and Taliban extremists in Afghanistan. I have stated unequivocally on multiple occasions that Afghanistan is the central front in the war on terror. In fact, just 2 months ago I joined my colleagues Representatives CAPUANO and LOBIONDO in a congressional assignment to Afghanistan and Pakistan. I had the honor to meet our troops stationed in Afghanistan and see the battle conditions they faced high up in the mountain ranges of the Afghan-Pakistan border. Despite the extreme conditions and dangerous assignments they were engaged in, I was encouraged by the troops' morale and unwavering commitment to their mission in Afghanistan. I told them I would continue to do everything in my power in Congress to provide them with the resources they need to be successful in Afghanistan and I believe I am doing so with this vote today.

It is my regret that I do not have the ability today to vote to reject continued funding for the war in Iraq and still vote to approve greater funding for our efforts in Afghanistan. It is clear to me that the central front in the War on Terror in Afghanistan has suffered due to the singular focus the administration has had on Iraq. It should be deeply disturbing to my colleagues and all Americans that because of this focus on Iraq we are seeing a resurgence of the Taliban as witnessed in the recent suicide bombing of a prison in Kandahar that freed over 400 Taliban inmates. The facts make clear my reasoning as to why I am voting today against Amendment No. 1 in support of our brave troops fighting in Afghanistan.

RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 2008

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Juneteenth holiday which was on June 19th. Yesterday, the House of Representatives

passed H. Res. 1237, recognizing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day. I voted in favor of this resolution and I commend my colleague, Representative DANNY DAVIS of Illinois for introducing this legislation. Juneteenth marks the anniversary of June 19, 1865, the day Union General Gordon Granger and 2,000 Federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to take control of the State and formally free the slaves.

News of the end of slavery did not reach frontier areas of the United States, for more than 2 years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, and months after the conclusion of the Civil War. When word finally reached the enslaved populations in these areas, African Americans celebrated their liberation in towns across Texas and the southwest. These celebrations became a tradition for African Americans in Texas and have since spread across the United States.

Juneteenth is not only a time to commemorate the historical significance of the emancipation of slaves, but also time to recognize and celebrate the vast achievements and progress of African Americans across the Nation. In my home State of Connecticut, Juneteenth is an officially recognized holiday. We make note of fearless Connecticut abolitionists James Mars and J.W.C. Pennington who fought tirelessly to end slavery and petitioned Connecticut's Legislature regarding voting and social rights for African Americans in the 1840s and 50s. We also recognize the significant milestone of the United States Supreme Court decision restoring freedom to the survivors of the *Amistad* Slave Ship, then living in Connecticut. Through museums and sites such as the Old State House, the Mark Twain House, the Harriet Beecher Stowe House, the Connecticut freedom trails, and the Amistad Center for Arts and Culture at the Old State House, we pay homage to the African American experience throughout the State.

And so Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate a day that represents not only an end to centuries of a great injustice, but the beginning of a new journey for all of Americans.

GREAT CARIBBEAN AMERICAN
CONTRIBUTIONS TO AMERICAN
CULTURE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Caribbean-American Heritage Month and the many contributions of persons of Caribbean descent into the American fabric.

Despite the lack of wealth and resources available to many in the Caribbean, the region continues to produce exceptional talent and is endowed with a capacity to overcome incredible odds. Our Nation has thrived as a country of immigrants, and we are more vibrant and hopeful because of the talent, faith, and resilience of Caribbean Americans. For centuries, Caribbean Americans have added to the strength of our country. They have been leaders, innovators, athletes, artists, entertainers, doctors, and lawyers.

The world has had the privilege of reading the words of internationally recognized Carib-

bean writers and poets like Jamaica Kincaid, Derek Walcott (who won the 1992 Nobel Prize in Literature), and Edwidge Danticat (a finalist for the National Book Award). We have listened to the creative sounds of Kompa that has its origins in Haiti, Zouk from Guadeloupe, Soca from Trinidad and Tobago, and Reggae from Jamaica. Steel Pans, the only musical instrument invented in the 21st century originated from Trinidad and Tobago. Jamaica's First Lady of Theatre and Film, Leoni Forbes, won the Gemini Award for best actress in a comedy.

During Caribbean-American Heritage Month, we celebrate the great contributions of Caribbean Americans to our Nation. We recognize that without them, our country would not be what it is today and we pay tribute to the common bonds that unite the United States and the Caribbean.

TRIBUTE TO PAT JOHNSON

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a community leader, Mrs. Patricia "Pat" Johnson, on her retirement after 27 years of service on the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees.

Pat's service to the Paso Robles public schools officially started when she was elected to the Paso Robles elementary school board, now the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees, but her contribution to the community of Paso Robles began long before that. With her daughter, Danielle, coming up through the Paso Robles school system, Pat served as both a classroom and library volunteer, often spending her entire day at Marie Bauer Elementary School and George H. Flamson Middle School. She served as president of the local Parent Teacher Association and the School Site Council prior to her election to the Board of Trustees.

During her time on the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees, the district experienced significant growth. Seven new schools and three administrative buildings were built during her tenure of service, a local middle school was modernized and property was purchased that would later make room for the teacher's center. Of the new schools built, she knew and worked with several of the teachers the buildings were named after.

In addition to playing a vital role in Paso Robles school district's growth, Pat also presided over several areas of conceptual transformation of the school district, including unification in 1996, of the Paso Robles elementary school board and the current board she serves on, as well as implementation of the Middle School Concept, an independent study program, and accreditation of the district high schools and high school graduation diplomas. Throughout her tenure with the Paso Robles public schools, she was also an active participant in various California School Boards Association events.

Over the past 27 years, the students and community served by the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District have benefited from Pat's dedication and energetic service. She

worked tirelessly to ensure the students of Paso Robles had a school system that provided them a world-class education to ensure they were prepared for the future and successful throughout their lives.

Her many contributions to Paso Robles are a shining example of the dedicated public service to which we should each aspire. I know Pat looks forward to spending time happily in her retirement with her husband Fred, daughter Danielle, and grandchildren Nicolas, Isabella, and Jose. I commend Pat for her service to the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District and the local community, and I wish her all the best as she enters this next stage of her life.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. KEVIN
WILLIAMS

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. ROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of Mr. Kevin Williams of Secaucus, New Jersey, for his extraordinary public service and congratulate him for being honored with the Congressional Award Gold Medal.

The Congressional Award is an esteemed recognition bestowed on exemplary young people who complete a minimum of 400 hours of voluntary public service, 200 hours of personal development activities, 200 hours of physical fitness, and four consecutive days and nights of an exploration or expedition. Kevin epitomizes everything that this award is seeking to extol; particularly his dedication to his community and commitment to public service.

At the young age of 18, Kevin Williams has already founded two nonprofit organizations, People to People International's Go International For Tomorrow Student Chapter and Wrap4ASmile Foundation, Inc. The first of these organizations, Go International For Tomorrow, focuses on developing youth leadership through educational, cultural and humanitarian activities. The second, Wrap4ASmile, raises funds, collects products, packs care packages, and distributes personal care items that cannot be purchased with food stamps. These two groups successfully encourage young adults to get involved in various public service activities.

Kevin has spent over one thousand hours performing valuable community service, both in my home State of New Jersey and abroad. He has earned numerous awards documenting and celebrating his achievements. Most recently, Kevin received the 2008 Comcast Leaders and Achievers Award, the People to People International Golden Award, and, for the past 4 years, the Presidential Volunteer Service Gold Award.

Kevin is a truly exceptional young leader in our community. In addition to founding two nonprofits, Kevin has participated in the International Student Leadership Conference of Operation Smile, the American Legion New Jersey Boys State Conference, and the National Youth Leadership Council Conference in Healthcare Medicine. He is an ambassador of public service, and his efforts help make the world a better place for all of us.

Today, I would like to congratulate Mr. Kevin Williams for receiving the Congressional

Award Gold Medal in recognition of his exemplary contributions to New Jersey and beyond. I extend to him my very best wishes.

HONORING THE BOY SCOUTS OF
IOWA

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, our thoughts and prayers go out to the families and friends, fellow Scouts of the four young men—Josh Fennen, 13, Sam Thomsen, 13, and Ben Petrzilka, 14, from Omaha, Nebraska, and Aaron Eilerts, 13, from Eagle Grove, Iowa—who were killed on June 11, 2008, when a tornado hit their campsite in western Iowa.

As an Eagle Scout myself, I am saddened, but also very proud of the young men in Iowa, and their poise and strength in the face of one of Mother Nature's most ferocious storms. These young men lived up to our pledge which says:

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.

The tornado destroyed the four cabins of the 1,800-acre camp and ripped up tents. However, in the critical moments caused by the disaster and through the rubble, these brave men exemplified our motto of being prepared when they immediately set up triage operations to assist and, most likely, save the lives of other young men who were in grave danger.

As a Member who represents an area of the country which, unfortunately, experiences more than its share of hurricanes and tornados, I know all too well the devastation severe weather causes. And, as a Scout, having participated in camping experiences similar to the Iowa Scouts' experience, I know and appreciate the challenges those young men faced.

So today, I ask that you join me in taking this opportunity to recognize the four heroes lost that day.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR CAPTAIN
JENNIFER HARRIS, USMC

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Marine Captain Jennifer Harris, who was killed in a CH-46 crash outside of Baghdad on February 7, 2007.

Captain Harris embodied many of the great traits our men and women are displaying both at home and abroad in three theaters of war. Captain Harris was dedicated to her Nation, her Corps, and to the Iraqi people.

Captain Harris was a member of the United States Naval Academy's class of 2000 and graduated with an honors degree in political science and a minor in Spanish. She was a

graduate of the Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Instructor course in Yuma, Arizona. Accordingly, she served as a primary tactics instructor for her squadron, HMM-364. As the pilot training officer and lead instructor pilot, she was responsible for training new copilots and evaluating seasoned pilots for advanced designations.

Captain Harris was one of only four Marine officers selected by the Office of the Secretary of Defense to represent the U.S. Marine Corps in the 2007 Senate Youth Program. She was to participate in the program after her return from her last deployment to Iraq.

At the time of her death, Captain Harris was serving with HMM-364 as a CH-46 helicopter pilot in the Al Anbar province of Iraq, performing assault support, casualty evacuation, and combat raid missions. She gave her life so that the Iraqi people might have an opportunity for a better life. This was her third combat deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, including the initial invasion operation from February to October 2003.

I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to Captain Jennifer Harris's family and hope that they are able to find comfort in the knowledge that Captain Harris's countless selfless acts, including her ultimate selfless act, helped to provide opportunity for the people of Iraq.

HONORING THE WEST GENESEE
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS LACROSSE
TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the West Genesee High School boys lacrosse team, 2008 Class A New York State Champions. With their 11-7 victory over Syosset High School on June 14, 2008 the West Genesee Wildcats won their 15th New York state title.

The road to the title was not an easy one for the West Genesee Wildcats. With an injury riddled line up the team had a bumpy start that included 3 losses and a drop to 17th in the state rankings. Many were skeptical that the Wildcats could reach the level of success that previous school teams had achieved, but the players and coaches set out to prove the skeptics wrong and ended the season on a 12 game win streak. West Genesee finished an outstanding season with an impressive record of 21-3 and their 15th state championship is the most titles won by a New York state high school team in anyone sport.

On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I congratulate Athletic Director Anthony Pascale, Head Coach Mike Messere, Assistant Coach Bob Deegan, and the players of the West Genesee High School boys lacrosse team: 2—Shane Martin, 3—Mike Fetterly, 4—Dylan Sabene, 5—Ryan McConnell, 6—Kevin Grome, 7—Jim Marks, 8—Tim Besio, 9—Matt McCabe, 10—Henry Luke Cometti, 11—Owen Alberts, 12—Mike Simiele, 13—Eric Mazzoni, 14—Garrett Ryan, 15—Joe Fazio, 16—Dylan Parker, 17—Jordan Rogers, 18—Eric Miccio, 19—Jaron Davie, 20—Ryan Barber, 21—John Glesener, 22—Ike Hopper, 23—Conor Regin, 24—PJ Hart, 25—Jack Conboy, 26—Ben Waldron, 27—Jack Ken-

nedy, 28—Joe Fletcher, 29—Dan Stapleton, 30—Evan Mazzoni, 31—Steve Mahle, 32—Chris Burns, 33—Matt Leboduska, 34—Andrew Luczka, 35—Alex Iannicello, and 36—Chris Schneider.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, due to external circumstances, I was unable to promptly return to House Chambers and I missed the following vote on Thursday, June 19, 2008. I would have voted as follows: H.R. 2764, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, rollcall vote 431, Agreeing to Senate Amendment to House Amendment No.1: "no."

I would have voted "no" on this amendment which provides \$165.4 billion in funding for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan because this amendment contained no benchmarks or timelines for redeploying our troops out of Iraq responsibly, safe, and soon.

MELANIE ROACH: INSPIRATIONAL
OLYMPIAN

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in order to congratulate my constituent, Melanie Roach, for her resiliency while earning a place on the United States weightlifting team for the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing. Her story is a wonderful example of the power of the human spirit and she will no doubt represent her family, community and country well throughout the entire 17-day competition.

Before qualifying for the games this summer, Melanie was on the verge of making her way to Sydney, Australia for the 2000 Olympic Games when an injury shattered her Olympic aspirations. Instead of wallowing in self-pity, Melanie threw herself into the role of mother to her three children, supportive spouse to her husband, a State legislator in Washington, and started a business. However, she could not shake the desire to compete athletically and worked tirelessly to get back to an Olympic level and compete with the best lifters in the world.

She is one of only four women to qualify for the team and at 33 years old, she is the oldest member of the U.S. weightlifting team, and yet the youngest at heart. She will travel to Beijing prior to the August 8, 2008, opening ceremonies and will bring the pride of her family and friends, her community and the State of Washington, and all the people of the United States of America. Melanie is an inspiration to all and I wish her the best in Beijing and safety in her travels.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, on June 19, 2008, I was unavoidably delayed and missed the vote on House amendment No. 1 to H.R. 2642, the Supplemental Appropriations Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 431.

CONGRATULATING DONNA SHALALA—RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today in honor of a great public servant, Dr. Donna Shalala. On June 19, 2008, Dr. Shalala received the Presidential Medal of Honor, the Nation's highest award given to civilians for exemplary accomplishments that have benefitted the American public.

Dr. Shalala currently serves as the president of the University of Miami, where she works tirelessly making UM a leading, world-class institution. South Florida and the Nation truly benefit from the cutting-edge research now being conducted at the University of Miami.

Prior to taking that position, she served as Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, where she was considered one of the most successful Government administrators of modern times. She managed programs, including Social Security, Medicare, the National Institute of Health, and the Food and Drug Administration.

In 2007, President George W. Bush appointed her along with Senator Bob Dole as a co-chair of the Commission on Care for the Returning Wounded Warriors. They evaluated and made recommendations on how wounded service members can transition from active duty to civilian society while receiving the healthcare they deserve.

In addition to her various roles in education and Government, Dr. Shalala was also one of the first Peace Corps volunteers, where she served in Iran from 1962 to 1964.

Her résumé of accolades and accomplishments is commendable. I wish her continued success and thank her for her many contributions to our great Nation. It is a great honor to call her my friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. ANGELA MARTIN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to recognize to the work of Dr. Angela Martin.

On August 9, the Martin Foundation will help open the doors to a new medical facility in Anniston, Alabama. The center will provide much-needed acute and chronic medical services for children of all ages and backgrounds, as well as new treatment opportunities for more citizens of Calhoun County.

I am pleased to recognize Dr. Martin today for achieving this noteworthy accomplishment, and for helping bring this important new healthcare facility to our community.

IN HONOR OF DAVE MORA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dave Mora, who is retiring after 35 years of exemplary public service to his community and his country. Dave's public life began with the Boy Scouts and culminates with 17 years as city manager of Salinas, California. Dave began his career in California local government in 1973 with the city of Santa Barbara as Director of Community Relations. He also served as the city manager of the city of Oxnard and Town Manager of Los Gatos, but Mora said the years in Salinas were some of the best in his life. This is where he and his wife Judy raised their two daughters, Gabi and Teresa.

In 1990, Dave Mora came to Salinas to serve as the city manager. Salinas is the largest city in my congressional district and the seat of Monterey County government, so I have had the pleasure of working closely with Dave Mora since I was elected to Congress in 1993. During his tenure as city manager, Dave has faced continuing challenges resulting from State budget crises, yet he was able to restore Salinas' budget from red ink to black ink by making tough decisions while ensuring that the most critical public safety and social services remained in place. Dave's financial acumen enabled city leadership to assure city residents that their shared sacrifice, however painful in the short-run, would result in a financially stronger Salinas.

Dave's city manager skills have been honed by his participation in the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) where he served as president and was involved in a number of international initiatives, including work in Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile. He currently serves on the ICMA Retirement Corporation Board of Directors. Mora is also a member of the National Academy of Public Administration and has worked on such issues as citizen engagement, social equity, environmental management, and economic development.

Mora's interest in these issues and his career in public service may have been shaped by his experience in the Peace Corps whose motto is, "The toughest job you'll ever love." Dave served in the Philippines from 1967 to 1970, after he graduated from California State University Los Angeles. Following his Peace Corps service, Dave earned a master's degree in public and international affairs at University of Pittsburgh.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in wishing Dave Mora happiness in his well-earned

retirement from "the toughest jobs he ever loved." His commitment to public service is a life well lived.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF COLONEL RAYMOND G. MIDKIFF

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of COL Raymond G. Midkiff, who has served as commander of the Louisville District, Corps of Engineers since July 2005. Colonel Midkiff will retire from active duty with the U.S. Army on September 1 of this year, with over 26 years of dedicated service to our Nation.

Born in Dayton, Ohio, and raised in Texas, Colonel Midkiff was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers upon graduation from Texas A&M University where he earned a degree in agricultural engineering. Colonel Midkiff completed his graduate studies at Murray State University receiving a masters of science degree in environmental management. During his military career, Colonel Midkiff's leadership, vision, and dedication to duty have contributed significantly to the national defense, economic prosperity, and quality of life for our citizens.

As commander of the Corps of Engineers' Louisville District, Colonel Midkiff oversaw Army, Air Force, and DOD military construction projects valued in excess of \$1.2 billion annually. Major military installations supported include, Fort Campbell and Fort Knox in Kentucky, Scott Air Force Base near St. Louis, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton as well as Army and Air Force Reserve facilities nationwide. Additionally, Colonel Midkiff has been responsible for comprehensive water resources and project operations in 76,000 square miles of the Ohio River watershed, providing flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, and commercial navigation.

Colonel Midkiff extended his leadership well beyond the assigned missions of the Corps of Engineers by personally participating in regional events and promoting a strong partnership between Army and civilian engineers. As current president of the Society of American Military Engineers Kentuckiana Post, Colonel Midkiff hosted the 2007 Louisville District Open House, attended by over 400 people, and the 2007 Kentuckiana Post Small Business Workshop attended by over 200 small businesses. Upon his arrival in the Louisville District Colonel Midkiff initiated the district's annual small business workshop which was instrumental in awarding \$344 million under the Small Business Program in FY07.

Prior assignments also reflect Colonel Midkiff's commitment to military readiness and willingness to share his considerable talents for the good of others. Colonel Midkiff has served in a variety of troop and facility assignments that had a tremendous impact on the support of the Army during peace and war. He began his military career overseas as an engineer platoon leader in an atomic demolitions munitions company. He also served as an assistant operations officer during his tour in Germany. He served as an engineer battalion logistics officer, company commander, and facility engineer with the 326th Engineer Battalion. During his time with the 326th Engineer

Battalion he deployed with the battalion to Saudi Arabia and was instrumental in preparing base camps necessary to support the heavy inflow of soldiers and equipment into the region prior to the commencement of Desert Storm. He was a project officer and the deputy commander for the Ft. Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He was assigned to the 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas, where he was the engineer group logistics officer, 1st Engineer Battalion operations officer, and executive officer. He also served as secretary to the general staff for the 1st Infantry Division commander as well as the installation's director of public works. Colonel Midkiff commanded the Albuquerque District, where he was instrumental in working with State and local sponsors in the management of critical water resources and endangered habitat along the Rio Grande River from Colorado through New Mexico and into Texas. He also provided outstanding support to our Air Force customers with design and construction services at the three Air Force bases located in New Mexico. He again served our Nation overseas as the chief of plans and operations for engineer activities in support of 8th Army in Korea.

His leadership has truly been visionary. His accomplishments will have lasting impacts on our Nation's water resources and construction support for military customers for years to come.

A good neighbor and valued steward of our defense assets and natural resources, I am proud to honor Colonel Midkiff for his spirit of service, patriotism, and dedication to our Nation. On the occasion of his retirement, I know my colleagues will want to join me in extending wishes of continued success and happiness to Colonel Midkiff, his wife Tammy, and their daughter Rae.

THE ENERGY MARKETS ANTI-MANIPULATION AND INTEGRITY RESTORATION ACT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, it is with a sense of urgency and purpose that I am introducing the Energy Markets Anti-Manipulation and Integrity Restoration Act today.

With high fuel prices squeezing our constituents and burdening our economy, we in Congress have a responsibility to act. While individual Members of Congress clearly disagree over whether we will ever really be able to drill our way out of this challenge—or whether next generation alternatives and improved energy efficiency offer the most promising way forward, there is one principle on which we should all agree: Our energy markets should serve the legitimate needs of energy consumers and producers—not enrich a narrow group of “hot money” speculators at the public's expense. With hedge fund and institutional interest in commodities exploding nearly twenty-fold over the past 5 years, and the price of oil recently spiking over \$11 in a single day, it is clear that today's energy prices reflect something more than the fundamental laws of supply and demand.

The Energy Markets Anti-Manipulation and Integrity Restoration Act would once and for

all close the so-called Enron loophole by adding energy to the list of commodities that cannot be traded on deregulated, exempt commercial markets. Additionally, this focused legislation would close the Foreign Board of Trade (FBOT) loophole currently enabling unregulated energy futures trading on American soil by forbidding an exchange from being deemed an unregulated foreign entity if its trading affiliate or trading infrastructure is in the U.S., and it trades a U.S.-delivered energy contract that significantly affects price discovery in the markets. If enacted into law, these two common-sense steps would go a long way towards eliminating market manipulation and excessive speculation currently distorting today's energy marketplace.

I am especially pleased to be offering this timely legislation today with my colleagues Representatives ROSA DELAURO, BETTY SUTTON, ROBERT WEXLER, ADAM SCHIFF, XAVIER BECERRA, PETER WELCH, BRIAN HIGGINS, BILL DELAHUNT and RAUL GRIJALVA—and I look forward to working with them and the rest of the House to address this important issue on behalf our constituents in very short order.

TRIBUTE TO REGINA CORRELL

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to inform the House of the passing of Regina Correll, a truly great lady, in my hometown of Somerset.

Regina and her husband of 56 years, Ward Correll, started their marriage with meager belongings, but through hard work during their life together, were able to become the largest philanthropic givers to the good and the needy in their home county's history.

Caring for others has been the hallmark of the Corrells. Regina's greatest love though, was for her seven children, 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, and she saw them continue the culture of helping others.

Her and Ward's other great love was for their church, the First Baptist Church of Somerset. They rarely missed attending Sunday services in their 50-plus years of membership. It is astonishing to note that during the last year of her life, in spite of a seriously disabling illness, she missed only two Sunday school classes of the group she taught. The church has been a major receiver of their sacrifice. The Corrells subscribe to what Mark Twain once wrote: “To get the full value of joy, you must have people to divide it with.”

No one will ever know just how many underprivileged people, young and old, have seen that joy with the Corrells and been helped over a rough patch, and mostly without publicity. And in addition to their church, there are the good institutions that promote hard work and caring for others they have helped in major ways—such as the Somerset Christian School and Victory Christian School, to which they gave millions of dollars. The Clear Creek Baptist Institute, a ministers school, the University of the Cumberlands, Somerset Community College, Bluegrass Council of Boy Scouts, Little League Baseball, and others too numerous to mention. They agreed with actor Leonard Nimoy who said: “the miracle is this—the more we share, the more we have.”

Regina's loving and devoted husband, Ward, continues the extremely successful business empire they built together. His heart is heavy with her loss but his spirit remains light and optimistic. His work is not over.

Madam Speaker, I have known the Corrells for all my adult life. I have witnessed innumerable acts of kindness and generosity by these humble, caring and loving people. Never, though, have I heard them complain about their difficult course, the hard work, the huge risks taken or their deep personal, family losses. Always forward looking, always faithful, always cheerful.

Regina Correll was a graceful, quiet, deeply faithful woman. She was a devoted wife, and mother; a God-fearing, God-loving Christian, who, no doubt, now basks in the glory of her Savior.

If ever anyone could be compared to the Bible's Timothy as he described his life at its conclusion, it is Regina Correll. He said: “I have fought the good fight. I have completed the race. I have kept the faith.” 2 Timothy 4:7
And Regina Correll did.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today we are voting yet again on legislation that will provide approximately \$165 billion in funding for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Unfortunately, the bill does not include the necessary language that I and many of my colleagues support to ensure that this war funding is not simply a blank check. I cannot vote for legislation to fund the administration's wrongheaded policies in Iraq without provisions that ensure that American troops will be coming home by a date certain.

However, I will support the amendment that will provide critical funding for domestic priorities. This amendment will expand veterans' education benefits and extend unemployment insurance by 13 weeks for all States. Additionally, this amendment will direct nearly \$3 billion to efforts to aid those who have been affected by the devastating floods in the Midwest.

It is time for the President to listen to the American people who want the war in Iraq to end.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PAID PARENTAL LEAVE ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5781, the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act of 2008. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this important legislation.

People should not be punished for taking the time to care for new additions to their families. You must take time to take care of your child, your family, and yourself. It makes you a better person, a better parent, and in the long-term—a better employee. Pressure to jump back into work does nothing to ease mind, body, spirit, or financial pressures.

Simply said, the current policy is detrimental to many, many American families. The Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act shows that the federal government actually cares about American families.

Women who require leave to care for a new child, new employees who have do not have saved days, and those who have used all their leave suffer under the existing policy. These hard-working Americans are forced to choose between spending more time with their children and maintaining an income to support their family. Providing four weeks for paid parental leave and allowing existing leave to be used to care for new babies eases the pressures on federal employees and their families.

H.R. 5781 is just good, common sense policy, and, Mr. Speaker, we must act now. I urge all of my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 5781.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PAID
PARENTAL LEAVE ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support of the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act, introduced by Congresswoman CAROLYN B. MALONEY.

The bill H.R. 5781 provides Federal employees with 4 weeks of paid parental leave for the birth or adoption of a child. The introduction of this important bill is crucial to Federal workforce and American families. Paid parental leave will create the opportunity for many employees to become new parents while keeping the balance between work and families. Many of those who oppose this critical bill deny not only the chance for happy family living, but also productivity and effectiveness of the Federal workforce system. Paid Parental Leave Act does not increase the deficit of the budget; it will be paid for through discretionary spending, without hurting the economy or taxpayers.

In many countries all over the world, the paid parental Leave is introduced and supported by the government. The U.S. Federal Government should be an example of the family-friendly workplace policies. Members of Congress must understand how crucial the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act is and must strongly support its enactment.

EMERGENCY EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in favor of H.R. 5749, the Emergency Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2008. Mr. Speaker as you know this bill provides up to 13 weeks of extended unemployment benefits to those individuals and families struggling to find work.

The relief this measure brings to the 3.9 million Americans and the 221,000 residents of my State of Illinois is monumental and much needed. When I look at my own congressional district, I am saddened. I am saddened that the plight of this economy is taking such a toll on those who are out of work or just plain down on their luck.

The statistics are staggering and upsetting. While the national unemployment rate stands at 5.1 percent, the State of Illinois is suffering a 6.1 percent unemployment rate, and the Chicagoland area is suffering a 5.8 percent rate of unemployment. Moreover, minorities are disproportionately suffering in this time of rising job loss. Nationally, African Americans account for 8.8 percent of the unemployed; while the rate in the State of Illinois is 10.3 percent, and specifically in Chicago a rate of 10.6 percent.

Hard working families and people struggling to make ends meet are calling on us to make them the priority. With the price of gas and food climbing exponentially, rising home foreclosures, and businesses reducing their employment rolls—we in Congress have a responsibility to ensure the well being of our citizens.

The families of the First Congressional District, the State of Illinois and indeed the Nation, cannot wait on the Bush administration for help any longer. Chicago is suffering, Mr. Speaker, Illinois is hurting, America is in need of drastic relief of the Bush economic policies and we cannot afford to let these continue on our watch.

We Democrats have worked tirelessly this Congress to push issues and effect positive change in the economic lives of not only my constituents but the entire country. We have continually been met with resistance by our friends from the other side of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I support the immediate extension of unemployment benefits and strongly urge my colleagues to support passage of H.R. 5749.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PAID
PARENTAL LEAVE ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5781, the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act.

The legislation gives Federal employees 4 weeks of paid leave for the birth or adoption

of a child. Strong parental involvement plays an important role in raising a happy, healthy, and successful child.

As the country's largest employer with over 1.8 million employees, the Federal Government should set the standard for family friendly workplace policies.

I am proud to support this common-sense legislation, which promotes the family values that are at the core of our society while also setting an example for all employers across America to follow. Studies consistently show that paid parental leave is a smart business practice. Not only does paid leave help to reduce turnover, but it can also lead to increased productivity and better morale.

Simply put, offering 4 weeks of paid parental leave is the right thing to do—especially now, when the Federal Government is struggling to recruit and retain qualified, young individuals. As the economic and industrial leaders of the world, the U.S. Government should be the standard bearer on issues relating to fairness and family.

I urge the President to reconsider his misguided veto threat, and work with Congress to give more American parents the tools they need to build healthier and stronger families.

Please vote in support of H.R. 5781.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAMES BARRETT, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE MICHIGAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of James Barrett, who is retiring after more than thirty years of service as the President and CEO of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, an organization which has had an influential role in many important social, economic and political issues in the state of Michigan.

Jim Barrett is well known and highly regarded in Michigan where he has been a leader in advancing Michigan business in a distinguished career that spanned four decades.

In addition to his work with the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Jim is also the President of Michigan Chamber Services, Inc. During his time there, Jim has worked diligently for the benefit of the Michigan business community by providing educational seminars, publications and many other services to help businesses grow and thrive.

Jim also has done extensive work for Michigan's youth as President of the Michigan Chamber Foundation, which is involved in improving the level of education our children receive as well as the leadership training so important to their future.

Jim's hard work and dedication was recognized many times over by his colleagues. Most notably in, 2002 he became an initial inductee into the Michigan Society of Association Executives Hall of Fame. Additionally, in 2003 the Michigan Political History Society selected Jim as the top Association Leader in Michigan over the last 50 years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring James Barrett for being a model for all citizens, and for his dedication

and commitment as a leader in his state. He is truly deserving of our respect and admiration.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL BRIAN W.
LAURITZEN

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize COL Brian W. Lauritzen, the Installation Commander at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. As a Member of Congress who represents Fort Belvoir, I know firsthand that Colonel Lauritzen has served with great competence, tireless determination and constant communication with the community during a time of great transition for his installation.

Colonel Lauritzen took command of Fort Belvoir, one of our Nation's largest and most diverse military installations, in July 2005 with major challenges awaiting him and even more on the horizon. Fort Belvoir was already engaged in master planning for redevelopment to expand the number of Department of Defense tenants and stretch the functions of the already busy installation. Then, just a few months into his tenure, the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission's final recommendations doubled the size of Fort Belvoir's incoming workforce by 2011.

The BRAC changes at Fort Belvoir, among the most substantial of BRAC 2005's mandates, will transform the installation into the major support center for the Nation's most senior military leadership. Ensuring a successful transition has brought with it the great challenges of working with both the Department of Defense and the local community. These challenges include timely and transparent planning, assessing the environmental and societal impacts of absorbing more than 19,000 new employees, managing the transportation infrastructure in an area already burdened by traffic, and ensuring that all of Fort Belvoir's defense tenants can still perform their vital national security missions.

Colonel Lauritzen has ably met these daunting challenges with the superb attitude that, in order to be successful, Fort Belvoir must continue to be receptive and responsive to the concerns of all of the surrounding communities. His early promise to the community that there would be "no daylight between us" has held true. Colonel Lauritzen established the BRAC Board of Advisors, a first-in-the-nation group bringing together members of the Army, incoming agencies, and the region's elected officials and local civic activists to identify development issues and keep open the lines of communication.

I have always found Colonel Lauritzen to be the consummate consensus builder. He personally has made more than 150 appearances and presentations before community groups to keep them apprised of the BRAC expansion, Fort Belvoir's other missions, and their impact on the community. Similarly, he built strong communication coalitions with and between the major commands headquartered at Fort Belvoir in support of their people and their global missions through the Installation Senior Leadership Council.

More than just communication, Colonel Lauritzen continues to facilitate progress, even when progress is difficult. He worked directly with Fairfax and Prince William Counties, the Virginia Department of Transportation, and the Army Corps of Engineers to address some of the many transportation challenges facing the region. Especially noteworthy is his personal involvement to secure an agreement to complete the extension of the Fairfax County Parkway, a vital connection across the Fort's Engineer Proving Ground, something that had festered unresolved for more than 10 years.

Inside the perimeter of his base, Colonel Lauritzen has steadfastly insisted that our Nation's Soldiers and their families deserve the highest quality of life. Fort Belvoir has one of the Army's most successful Residential Community Initiative programs that has revitalized the approach to military housing and neighborhood centers, creating first-class communities for those who serve our Nation in uniform.

On a more personal note, Colonel Lauritzen and his staff have eagerly addressed questions or constituent concerns that my office has brought to their attention. Regardless of how complicated or involved these requests may have been, I have always found his door to be open to discuss the issues and, more often than not, find compromise to difficult situations.

Madam Speaker, at Fort Belvoir's Change of Command Ceremony on Tuesday, July 2, Colonel Lauritzen—West Point graduate, Soldier, and extraordinary officer—will retire from the Army and enter a new chapter in his life. I have truly enjoyed working with him, and wish him all the best as he pursues new endeavors. He has truly served Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and our Nation with the highest standards of leadership expected from the very best of our military commanders.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth yesterday shocked Michigan when it released its unemployment figures. Michigan's unemployment rate has risen from 6.9 percent in April to 8.5 percent in May. This is the highest rate in our State since October of 1992. Regrettably, we are now one month away from recording our eighth straight year of payroll job losses.

It is in this context that my constituents are hearing the news that Congress is debating providing additional unemployment benefits which are desperately needed by too many working families in my State. Last week this House passed H.R. 5749, the Emergency Extended Unemployment Compensation Act, with nearly $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Members of the House voting in favor. This bill would provide an additional 13 weeks of unemployment benefits to unemployed workers in every State. Unemployed workers in States with exceptionally high unemployment rates, like Michigan, would receive an additional 13 weeks of benefits beyond that. Unfortunately, the provision granting

workers in States like Michigan an additional 13 weeks of benefits, which received very strong bipartisan support in the House just last week, is not included in this supplemental appropriations bill.

The unemployment benefits provision in this supplemental provides just 13 additional weeks for every State. It does not provide any extra help for States that need it the most. States like Michigan where the unemployed are having great difficulty finding work because there are so few jobs to be had. Workers have little opportunity to move to other areas to find work because they can't sell their homes, and they are having difficulty driving far distances to try and find a new job because of the high cost of gas. Michigan, with the worst unemployment rate in the Nation, needs extra help. This supplemental does not provide it.

I will be supporting both sections of the supplemental. It provides equipment and pay for our troops in harm's way and educational benefits for them when they return home. And the level of aid to the unemployed all across the country is a good start. However, I am disappointed we have not provided the much needed extra assistance to those who need it most. We must continue to work to help the chronically unemployed to get that additional safety net that will help support countless families in Michigan.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
ANDREW L. JEFFERSON, JR.

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize a distinguished academic, activist, and advocate, my friend, the Honorable Andrew L. Jefferson, Jr. The passage of H. Res. 31, which recognizes the Honorable Andrew L. Jefferson on the occasion of the establishment of The Andrew L. Jefferson Endowment for Trial Advocacy at Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of Law, is a fitting tribute to a man whose life exemplifies excellence and integrity.

The Honorable Andrew L. Jefferson, a native of Dallas, Texas, graduated from the University of Texas School of Law in 1959 after earning his Bachelor's degree from Texas Southern University, was president of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, and became a partner with the law firm of Washington and Jefferson in Houston, Texas.

He served as an assistant criminal district attorney for Bexar County, a chief assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas, and a trial counsel and labor relations counsel for Humble Oil and Refining Company. In 1970, Judge Jefferson was appointed to preside over the Court of Domestic Relations number 2 for Harris County. In 1974, he was elected to Judge of the 208th District Court.

In 1975, he decided to re-enter the active practice of law and was admitted to the United States Court of Appeals for Fifth, Sixth and Eleventh Circuits, and the Supreme Court of the United States of America. A long time active committee member of the State bar,

Judge Andrew L. Jefferson is a fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation, a member of American Bar Foundation, the Texas Trial Lawyer's Association, Texas Constitutional Revision Commission.

A former chairman of the board of the Houston Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank and of the Texas Southern University Foundation, he is a life member of the Houston Area Urban League and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. A learned legal scholar and committed public servant, Andrew L. Jefferson has devoted a life-time working to strengthen and uphold the laws of this great country.

I commend my colleague Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE for introducing this resolution which honors an outstanding Texan and American.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FOR MAJOR
MEGAN McCLUNG, USMC

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Marine MAJ Megan McClung who was killed in Ramadi, Iraq on December 6, 2006.

Major Megan Malia McClung graduated from the United States Naval Academy and was commissioned a second lieutenant in May 1995. She later completed her masters in Criminal Justice through Boston University. Throughout her career, she was stationed at various posts. While at Camp Pendleton, she served as the Public Affairs and Media Officer. She later served at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island as the Academics and Scheduling Officer, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point as the Public Affairs Officer, and finally at Camp Lejeune, where she served as the East Coast Regional Representative for the Marine For Life program.

Always dedicated to the mission in Iraq, Major McClung took a civilian position in public relations in Baghdad, Iraq in 2004. While there, she handled public relations preparation for Congressional hearings and escorted media throughout the theater. In 2006, she deployed with I Marine Expeditionary Force for one year in Al Anbar Province. While there, she worked as the Public Affairs Plans Officer at Camp Fallujah and later volunteered for duty with the Army's 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division, operating in Ramadi.

Major McClung, the first female Marine officer killed in the war, was a polished professional who received numerous accolades for her ability to communicate complex thoughts and issues to various and diverse audiences across the globe. She volunteered to serve and sought to be where she could make a difference. Of her service in Iraq, she told her friends, "Before we leave here we will make Al Anbar a safer place." She accomplished her mission.

In her passing, Major McClung has done what she did in life—bring people together to create a better understanding.

I wish to extend my condolences to Major Megan McClung's family and hope that they continue to find solace in Major McClung's lasting impact on both her country and her Corps.

HONORING THE WEST GENESEE
GIRLS LACROSSE TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the West Genesee High School Girls Lacrosse Team on their Class A New York State Championship victory. West Genesee defeated Farmingdale by a score of 13–12.

The Wildcats played an impressive game returning from a 10–12 deficit to take home another state title. This talented team has claimed victory in their last 48 straight games and was the only lacrosse team in all of New York State to post a perfect undefeated season.

On behalf of the people of New York's 25th Congressional District, I congratulate these young ladies on their outstanding athletic achievement and praise Athletic Director Anthony Pascale, Head Coach Bob Elmer and Assistant Coach Dan Hallinan on their team's success. I look forward to another exciting season of lacrosse and congratulate the Lady Wildcats: Davey Gallagher, Laura Lucchesi, Jeri Burke, Kellyn Savage, Lauren Corso, Kiersten Tupper, Maddie Farchione, Lindsay Vona, Amanda Cizenski, Bre Hudgins, Nicole Perkins, Amanda Corso, Maria DiFato, Emily Rozwood, Steph Dattellas, Ariel Kramer, Carley Motondo, Lauren Welch, Lauren Bianchi, Morgan Corso, Sarah Brown, Karlyn Tupper, Carly Graham, Nikki Greco, Jenny Perkins, and Kelly Fucillo.

EMERGENCY EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT
COMPENSATION ACT
OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of including the extension of unemployment benefits in the emergency supplemental bill that the House is considering today.

First, I would like to express my deep gratitude to Chairman McDERMOTT, Ranking Member WELLER, and the Income Security and Family Support Subcommittee for all their hard work on this important piece of legislation. I am proud to be a Member of the Subcommittee and to have cosponsored the legislation that provided the framework for this compromise. I also thank Chairman RANGEL and Ranking Member McCRERY for their leadership and support in negotiating a compromise.

It is essential that congressional leaders were finally able to come together and find a way to help hard-working Americans. The need for this legislation is critical. It is a first step of hopefully many to jumpstart our economy. Today there are 200,000 more long-term, jobless Americans than the last emergency unemployment assistance extension in 2002.

My constituents call and email and write the same question over and over again. They

want to know what Congress is doing to support them during the current recession. Almost every month, unemployment is on the rise while higher gas and food prices are making it even harder for Americans to make ends meet. Our duty is simple—we must show the American people that we hear them, that we understand them, and that we will act.

We are a great nation, but we cannot continue to be great unless we honor our commitment to everyone in need. In times like these, we must use every tool at our disposal to help those who want and need to work. Unemployed workers cannot wait. They rightfully expect Congress's full support in their fight to become gainfully reemployed.

I urge my colleagues to support extending unemployment benefits now. It's the right thing to do for Americans, and it's the right thing to do for our economy.

HONORING HARBORVIEW MEDICAL
CENTER

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Harborview Medical Center, a premiere hospital in the Pacific Northwest, for receiving the 2007 Foster G. McGaw Prize for Excellence in Community Service from the American Hospital Association (AHA). Every year, the AHA presents this prestigious award to a U.S. health care organization that displays a strong commitment to the health and well-being of its community.

Harborview was chosen as the recipient of this year's award because of its outstanding record of providing services to the surrounding community. The medical center has made great strides in handling major public health concerns including mental illness, homelessness, cultural and linguistic barriers to health care, childhood safety, and chronic illness. Harborview is our region's Level I trauma center, and continues to provide exceptional emergency care for people across the Northwest.

Harborview is a deserving recipient of recognition for its outstanding commitment to public health and quality care. I offer my sincere congratulations to Harborview Medical Center for receiving this honor and their continued dedication to Washington State.

HONORING ELIZABETH A. ZEPF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, Elizabeth A. Zepf, a Toledo treasure to her family, friends and community, departed this life on Friday June 6, 2008. Elizabeth was born July 6, 1903, in Cincinnati, Ohio, to Matthew and Elizabeth McCarty. Elizabeth, a consummate and indefatigable social activist throughout her life, was engaged in community and religious affairs. Her broad range of interests spanned the horizon—higher education, leadership development, the advancement of women, the

advancement of religious efforts, music, and health care. In fact, she championed the cause of mental health. With her husband, Arthur, she led the effort to create the Zepf Community Mental Health Center in Toledo to more effectively serve this population. She positively influenced the lives of all who met her. A committed Roman Catholic, she was devoted to her husband, Art, and her family but made the time to advance the broader human family through her many church-related organizations, locally and nationally. She held the office of president in the Blessed Sacrament Altar Society, the Toledo Diocesan Council Catholic Women, and then was elected nationally to serve as its president of the National Council Catholic Women 1960–1962. Her community involvement included: Serving 13 years on the board of trustees for the University of Toledo with 7 of those as Vice-Chairman of the Board. She remained a mem-

ber of St. Vincent Medical Center Advisory Board for 11 years, established the Women's Cancer Education Council and was a past president of the board of trustees of Toledo Mental Hygiene Clinic. Elizabeth was one of the founding members of the Toledo Opera Guild and chairman of the Sapphire Ball in 1965.

President John F. Kennedy recognized her gifts when he named her to the board of directors of the American Freedom from Hunger Foundation, serving as its vice president. More so, she served as vice chairman of the board of the Lucas County Mental Health from 1963 and is now an Honorary Life member. She has served on the board of the March of Dimes.

For her dedication improving the quality of life of her community, in 1960 she received the Distinguished Citizenship Award from the Toledo Blade "for outstanding service to her

community". Additionally, a clinic, in San Salvador, for homeless mothers and children, was named the Elizabeth Zepf Madonna Shelter. In 1974, the Elizabeth Zepf Community Mental Health Center was opened by the Lucas County Mental Health Board. In September 1988, the Satellites of the Medical College of Ohio honored her as one of the "Treasures of Toledo." She was an honorary member for 5 years of Family Child Abuse Prevention Center. She was a life long member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church as well as the Maumee River Yacht Club and the Toledo Club. She is the widow of Arthur L. Zepf and is survived by her son, Arthur Zepf Jr. and grandsons, Kurt, Reilly and Arthur. Our entire community celebrates her life, her ever present smile and all her good deeds that flowed from her productive and generous spirit.