

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE PRIVATE CALENDAR

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, we would like to take this opportunity to set forth some of the history behind, as well as describe the workings of the Private Calendar. We hope this might be of some value to the Members of this House, especially our newer colleagues. Of the four House Calendars, the Private Calendar is the one to which all Private Bills are referred. Private Bills deal with specific individuals, corporations, institutions, and so forth, as distinguished from public bills which deal with classes only.

Of the 108 laws approved by the First Congress, only 5 were Private Laws. But their number quickly grew as the wars of the new Republic produced veterans and veterans' widows seeking pensions and as more citizens came to have private claims and demands against the Federal Government. The 49th Congress, 1885 to 1887, the first Congress for which complete workload and output data is available, passed 1,031 Private Laws, as compared with 434 Public Laws. At the turn of the century the 56th Congress passed 1,498 Private Laws and 443 Public Laws—a better than three to one ratio.

Private bills were referred to the Committee of the Whole House as far back as 1820, and a calendar of private bills was established in 1839. These bills were initially brought before the House by special orders, but the 62nd Congress changed this procedure by its rule XXIV, clause six which provided for the consideration of the Private Calendar in lieu of special orders. This rule was amended in 1932, and then adopted in its present form on March 27, 1935. When the House recodified its rules in the 106th Congress, this provision was transferred from rule XXIV, clause 6 to rule XV, clause 5.

A determined effort to reduce the private bill workload of the Congress was made in the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946. Section 131 of that Act banned the introduction or the consideration of four types of private bills: first, those authorizing the payment of money for pensions; second, for personal or property damages for which suit may be brought under the Federal tort claims procedure; third, those authorizing the construction of a bridge across a navigable stream; or fourth, those authorizing the correction of a military or naval record. This ban afforded some temporary relief but was soon offset by the rising postwar and cold war flood for private immigration bills. The 82nd Congress passed 1,023 Private Laws, as compared with 594 Public Laws. The 88th Congress passed 360 Private Laws compared with 666 Public Laws.

Under rule XV, clause 5, the Private Calendar is called the first and third Tuesday of each month. The consideration of the Private Calendar bills on the first Tuesday is manda-

tory unless dispensed with by a two-thirds vote. On the third Tuesday, however, recognition for consideration of the Private Calendar is within the discretion of the Speaker and does not take precedence over other privileged business in the House.

On the first Tuesday of each month, after disposition of business on the Speaker's table for reference only, the Speaker directs the call of the Private Calendar. If a bill called is objected to by two or more Members, it is automatically recommitted to the Committee reporting it. No reservation of objection is entertained.

Bills un-objected to are considered in the House in the Committee of the Whole. On the third Tuesday of each month, the same procedure is followed with the exception that omnibus bills embodying bills previously rejected have preference and are in order regardless of objection. Such omnibus bills are read by paragraph and no amendments are entertained except to strike out or reduce amounts or provide limitations. Matters so stricken out shall not be again included in an omnibus bill during that session. Debate is limited to motions allowable under the rule and does not admit motions to strike out the last word or reservation of objections. The rules prohibit the Speaker from recognizing Members for statements or for requests for unanimous consent for debate. Omnibus bills so passed are thereupon resolved in their component bills, which are engrossed separately and disposed of as if passed separately.

Private Calendar bills unfinished on one Tuesday go over to the next Tuesday on which such bills are in order and are considered before the call of bills subsequently on the calendar. Omnibus bills follow the same procedure and go over to the next Tuesday on which that class of business is again in order. When the previous question is ordered on a Private Calendar bill, the bill comes up for disposition on the next legislative day.

Madam Speaker, we would also like to describe to the newer Members the Official Objectors Committee, the system the House has established to deal with the great volume of Private Bills. The Majority Leader and the Minority Leader each appoint three Members to serve as Private Calendar Objectors during a Congress. The Objectors are on the Floor ready to object to any Private Bill which they feel is objectionable for any reason. Seated near them to provide technical assistance are the majority and minority legislative clerks. Should any Member have a doubt or question about a particular Private Bill, he or she can get assistance from objectors, their clerks, or from the Member who introduced the bill.

The great volume of private bills and the desire to have an opportunity to study them carefully before they are called on the Private Calendar has caused the six Objectors to agree upon certain ground rules. The rules limit consideration of bills placed on the Private Calendar only shortly before the calendar is called. With this agreement, adopted on July 10, 2008, the Members of the Private

Calendar Objectors Committee have agreed that during the 110th Congress, they will consider only those bills which have been on the Private Calendar for a period of seven (7) days, excluding the day the bill is reported and the day the calendar is called. Reports must be available to the Objectors for three (3) calendar days.

It is agreed that the majority and minority clerks will not submit to the Objectors any bills which do not meet this requirement. This policy will be strictly enforced except during the closing days of a session when the House rules are suspended.

This agreement was entered into by: The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BOUCHER), the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF), the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA), the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH), the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING), and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. FORBES).

We feel confident that we speak for our colleagues when we request all Members to enable us to give the necessary advance consideration to private bills by not asking that we depart from the above agreement unless absolutely necessary.

RICK BOUCHER.
ADAM SCHIFF.
RAÚL GRIJALVA.
LAMAR SMITH.
STEVE KING.
RANDY FORBES.

RECOGNIZING MITRE'S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments achieved by the MITRE Corporation throughout its 50 years of service to our Nation. MITRE has always been one of the leading research corporations dedicated to tackling the difficult technological issues for the Department of Defense.

MITRE was born in the Lincoln Laboratories of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in July 1958 as a non-profit company designed to provide research for America's air defense systems. 50 years later, MITRE thrives as a defense-oriented Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) that provides cutting edge systems including enterprise-wide control, communications, computer, intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities to the Department.

By providing advanced information technology and engineering systems, MITRE contributes to various areas vital to our Nation's defense. MITRE is known for its leading role in many successful defense systems that secure our Nation from attack, including the SemiAutomatic Ground Environment (SAGE), the Cheyenne Mountain and the NORAD complex, Ballistic Missile Early Warning System

• 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.

(BMEWS), Joint STARS Aircraft and the Joint Tactical Information and Distribution System.

The women and men of MITRE provide their sophisticated skills through times of grave conflict. MITRE personnel have been deployed in the combat zones in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, and on September 11, 2001, MITRE teams rushed to Ground Zero in New York minutes after the attacks to offer crucial assistance. The 6,000 professionals employed at MITRE are the essence of this company, dedicating their services whenever and wherever at a moment's notice.

Madam Speaker, I commend MITRE Corporation on its 50 year milestone of services. It is an innovative corporation that channels all of its resources to the defense of our Nation. I wish them great success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MR. GERSON I.
COOPER

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Gerson I. Cooper for his 50 years of service as President and CEO of Botsford Health Care, located in Oakland County, Michigan.

Mr. Cooper has spent the majority of his life working for Botsford Health Care. After 26 years of strong commitment to patients in the community, Mr. Cooper became President and CEO of Botsford Health Care. Following his retirement, Mr. Cooper will take on a new challenge as a leader of a capital campaign in support of Botsford Hospital's new cancer center.

Throughout the years, Mr. Cooper has dedicated his time to improving the community through the Foundation of Youth and Families, a group he helped organize to assist families in need. On a statewide level, he has served on numerous councils and committees, including the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, which advocates for hospitals and patients.

I also want to commend Mr. Cooper on the many awards he has earned recognizing commitment to public service. Just to name a few, Mr. Cooper earned the "Award of Merit" from the American Osteopathic Hospital Association, the "Distinguished Service Award" from the College of Osteopathic Healthcare Executives, and the "Meritorious Key Award" from the Michigan Health and Hospital Association.

Madam Speaker, I want to recognize and thank Mr. Gerson I. Cooper for his many years of dedication to serving Oakland County residents and extend my best wishes.

TRIBUTE TO PETTY OFFICER
TYRONE LOGAN

HON. THELMA D. DRAKE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mrs. DRAKE. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding achievements of Exple-

sive Ordinance Disposal Technician 1st Class (EWS) Tyrone Logan, and commend him on his great devotion to the United States. Named a 2008 U.S. Fleet Forces Command Sea Sailor of the Year by the United States Navy, Petty Officer Logan's dedication and leadership proved him a strong candidate for this extremely competitive award.

Petty Officer Logan is one of six recipients of this prestigious award. Along with the U.S. Navy, the Fleet Reserve Association worked to establish this program in 1972. The esteemed program recognizes the Navy's top Sailors through presentations, awards, and meritorious advancement to the next pay grade.

Serving in both the United States Marine Corps and the United States Navy, Petty Officer Logan has taken a very active role in the defense of our Nation. He has been deployed to such places as Mosul and Baghdad in Iraq, as well as Pakistan and Africa. He has also been awarded various honors including two Navy Achievement Medals and a Purple Heart. Further, Petty Officer Logan's mentorship to colleagues has been noted. These accolades serve as a testament to Petty Officer Logan's strength of character and commitment to our national values.

With this award, Petty Officer Logan has joined an elite group of Sailors who have achieved this goal. I am certain that his incredible accomplishments, dedication to our country and evident leadership talents will continue to speak highly of him, as they do now.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, on Monday July 14, 2008 I missed rollcall votes 486, 487, and 488. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all three votes.

TRIBUTE TO GEN. T. MICHAEL
"BUZZ" MOSELEY

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to General T. Michael Moseley for his long and distinguished career in the U.S. Air Force and for his unwavering commitment to his country. After 37 years of honorable service including over 2,800 hours in flight, General Moseley will surely be missed, but his many accomplishments will always be remembered and surely outlast his service.

General Moseley's vast knowledge and understanding of national security policies can be credited to his tenure at Texas A&M acquiring his bachelors and masters degrees in Political Science. In 1971, during his college career, General Moseley enlisted in the Air

Force, thus beginning one of the most decorated and honorable careers in Air Force history.

After college, his military education continued. He attended Squadron Officer School, Fighter Weapons Instructor Course, Air Command and Staff College, U.S. Air Force Joint Senior Battle Commander's Course, National War College, and Combined Force Air Component Commander Course during his career.

With the knowledge acquired combined with genuine devotion, General Moseley was an obvious choice for demanding positions involving command. His influence had a positive effect with the F-15 Division of the Air Force Fighter Weapons School at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada and the 33rd Operations Group at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. His work with the F-15 was essential to the success the plane had during the wars of the Persian Gulf and Desert Storm. Under his direction as flight and weapons instructor, it was no surprise that the F-15 proved more than formidable with a perfect air to air combat record in the Persian Gulf and in Desert Storm.

His commitment is not constrained to just survival in battle, but for preparing the Air Force for the 21st century. On the day of his swearing in, General Moseley laid out his intentions as the Air Force's 18th Chief of Staff. He said, "We are all going to make it our life's work for you to be proud of us and it is our continued promise that we Airmen will be the best in the world at what we do—dominating air and space."

General Moseley sought to maintain the prestige the Air Force had inherited throughout the years of superior aeronautical innovations. With his many accomplishments and various recognitions both national and international, General Moseley did exactly what he sought out to do: developing and preparing the Air Force for the new century.

His services include Director Liaison for the Secretary of the Air Force; Deputy Director for Politico-Military Affairs for Asia/Pacific and the Middle East, the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and Chair and Professor of Joint and Combined Warfare at the National War College.

General Moseley was greatly admired by his peers, and received various awards for his efforts during his years in service. His awards include Distinguished Service medals with oak leaf clusters, medals for his efforts on Global War on Terrorism, and from foreign countries such as Korea, France, Brazil, and the Republic of Singapore. General Moseley has even been knighted receiving the title of Knight Commander from Queen Elizabeth II sharing this title with others like Presidents Reagan and Eisenhower.

In the 37 years General Moseley gave to the Air Force, the service has grown stronger, prouder, and more prepared for whatever the future holds. As an Air Force veteran and founder of the House Air Force Caucus, I know what a difficult job General Moseley undertook. And I also know what a great and honorable career he had. He deserves the respect and admiration of all Americans. Thank you General Moseley for your dedication, ideals, and service to our country. America is a better and safer place because of General Michael Moseley's service.

TRIBUTE TO TUSKEGEE AIRMAN
LEON "WOODIE" SPEARS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Leon "Woodie" Spears, a Tuskegee Airman whose death on May 12, 2008 saddened an entire community. Mr. Spears, a resident of Hayward, California, was a member of the legendary African American fighter group known as the Tuskegee Airmen, who flew for the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II. Later in life, he traveled all over the country to speak about his life and inspire people with his "Dare to Dream" theme.

Mr. Spears, affectionately known as "Woodie," was born in Colorado in January of 1924. He grew up near the Pueblo Municipal Airport, where he first heard the drone of a plane as a six-year-old and discovered his desire to fly. Overcoming great racial barriers, he gained entry to the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama and became a member of the first African American group of pilots in U.S. military history.

In 1943, he succeeded as a student at Tuskegee and received his flight wings. Mr. Spears flew 51 combat missions in World War II and 17 in the Korean War. He retired as an Army captain. During his career he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, a Purple Heart, several Air Medals and was among the Tuskegee Airmen who received the Congressional Gold Medal from President Bush in 2007. He later served as an ambassador for the Tuskegee Airmen, where he made the elite unit come alive again, even for those who knew nothing of its history.

After retirement from the Air Force, Mr. Spears worked for the U.S. Postal Service for 35 years, and later traveled throughout the country talking about his life and experiences. Last year alone he made 44 appearances.

Leon "Woodie" Spears will be long remembered for his patriotism, his enormous courage, his commitment to excellence and his dedicated tours of duty. We owe him a debt of gratitude for being a Tuskegee Airman and for leaving us with a rich history that we shall never forget.

I extend my heartfelt sympathy to Mr. Spears' family. He touched many individuals throughout the country who were fortunate to know him and to learn a vital part of history from his "Dare to Dream" lectures. Countless admirers were inspired by his courage and unwavering commitment to service. He will be missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALBIO SIRES

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, I would like to state for the record my position on the following votes I missed on July 14, 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on Rollcall 486 on H. Res. 1067; "yes" on Rollcall 487 on H. Res. 1080; and "yes" on Rollcall 488 on H. Con. Res. 297.

SUPPORTING THE ORGANIZED
RETAIL CRIME ACT OF 2008

HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce the Organized Retail Crime Act of 2008 today. I would like to thank my colleague Congressman JIM JORDAN of Ohio for joining me in this effort.

This important legislation seeks to address a growing problem in America: organized retail crime—known as ORC. ORC is a criminal enterprise where thieves obtain retail merchandise through fraud and theft and then sell the goods for profit, often to fund other criminal activities. The Federal Bureau of Investigation estimates that organized retail crime currently accounts for \$30 billion in retail losses annually. And the criminals who form and operate these organized crime rings are becoming more sophisticated in the ways they sell their stolen goods to an often unsuspecting public. ORC rings have expanded their base of operation from the streets, flea markets, and pawn shops to the online marketplace where they can break the law with anonymity.

Before I came to Congress, I spent a career fighting crime as a member of the Vanderburgh County Sheriff Department. I arrested two thieves who were running a sophisticated criminal enterprise from the trunk of their car. At a hardware retailer that had several Evansville locations, these two thieves would pay cash for one drill, make copies of the receipt using a copier that they had in the trunk of their car, and then boost the same drills in bulk. Using the fraudulent copied receipts, the thieves would then return the stolen merchandise and receive cash back multiple times over. Today, these thieves may be selling the stolen merchandise online.

This is important because not only does ORC result in substantial losses for retailers, it also has significant consequences for consumers. These criminals often boost products like baby formula, diabetic test strips, and over-the-counter drugs from retailers. Needless to say, they are not interested in the proper storage of these sensitive health products, and as a result, the health and safety of consumers, who unknowingly purchase these products, is often jeopardized. ORC rings also negatively impact the bottom line for consumers because leading American retailers are forced to spend millions of dollars each year conducting loss prevention efforts.

The Organized Retail Crime Act of 2008 is a sensible bill aimed at making ORC a federal crime while establishing common sense disclosure requirements for high-volume sellers on certain online marketplace sites. The online marketplace is a viable place of commerce, and this legislation establishes necessary guidelines on how to thwart illegal activity and protect online consumers.

It is important to note that this legislation contains a specific and narrow definition of the term "online marketplace." An online marketplace will be subject to the bill's requirements only if the site has a contractual right to supervise the activities of its sellers, or if the online site has a financial interest in the sale of goods on its site.

The Organized Retail Crime Act of 2008 requires online auction sites to maintain certain

information—name, telephone number, email address, legitimate physical address, and any user identification—of high-volume sellers for three years. The site must also keep records of all transactions conducted by each high-volume seller for this same three year period. A high-volume seller is defined as someone selling more than \$12,000 in merchandise annually or more than \$5,000 of a specific good. Finally, the high-volume seller is required to conspicuously post its name, telephone number, and legitimate address on the online auction site or instead, may provide this information upon the request of a business that has a reasonable suspicion that goods were acquired through organized retail crime.

These simple and non-intrusive disclosure and recordkeeping requirements make sense. In fact, they are far less intrusive than the information required at pawn shops throughout the country. With over 700,000 people listing online auction sales as their primary or secondary source of income, these basic requirements are critical to ensure that criminals can be brought to justice while preserving the online marketplace for law-abiding citizens.

I look forward to working with Chairman BOBBY SCOTT on this issue, and I commend the Chairman and his colleagues on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security for having the foresight to bring this growing problem to the public's attention through a committee hearing last October.

Madam Speaker, the Organized Retail Crime Act of 2008 is a non-intrusive, common sense bill that aims to dry up avenues for organized retail criminals to sell their stolen merchandise at the expense of retailers and consumers. I urge my colleagues to join Congressman JORDAN and me in supporting this important legislation as a first step toward cracking down on organized retail crime.

TRIBUTE OF LIEUTENANT ROBERT
LYNESS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Robert Lyness, a Police Officer of Pleasanton, California, who is retiring on August 8th, after thirty years of exemplary and dedicated public service in law enforcement.

Lt. Lyness began his career in 1977 as a Police Reserve and Cadet with the Fortuna, California, Police Department where he worked as a full time officer until 1980. He was hired by the City of Pleasanton in November 1980.

In August 1995, Lt. Lyness was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and then achieved the rank of Lieutenant in January of 2003. His assignments included Detective, Field Training Officer, Investigations Division Supervisor, Arson Response Team Member, Range Master and Canine Manager.

During the span of his career with the Pleasanton Police Department, Lt. Lyness always led by example. He exemplified superior ethical standards, professionalism, and an outstanding work ethic. His organizational skills contributed to the growth of the agency, which

expanded from a few dozen employees to over 150. He cared about the well-being of his co-workers and the image of the Pleasanton Police Department.

Lt. Lyness was tenacious in his work: he solved many crimes after other investigators would have closed the investigation. He would not give up until he was sure that he had exhausted every possible informational source and hunch. He passed these traits to younger generations of investigators and set the standard of excellence in service for which the Pleasanton Police Department is known.

Lt. Robert Lyness has left an indelible mark on the City of Pleasanton and beyond. He is leaving a legacy of community service, leadership, care and dedication. Those who follow in Lt. Lyness' footsteps will always have him to thank for his daily example of what defines a professional police officer. On August 9th there will be a farewell celebration to thank Lt. Lyness for his dedication to public service. I join in applauding him for a job well done.

HONORING ROBERT E. "ROY"
PARKE

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert E. "Roy" Parke, who was taken from us on June 5, 2008, at 87 years of age. The man many called Florida's strawberry king and founder of Parkesdale Farms in Dover, Florida, is remembered as a driving force in Florida's strawberry industry.

A native of Northern Ireland, Roy Parke and his family migrated to the United States when he was 5. He attended a one-room school in Pennsylvania, and then served his country in World War II as a sergeant in the 63rd Infantry Division. He founded R.E. Parke & Sons in 1957 with money from a G.I. Bill of Rights loan. Today, the operation has more than 500 acres of berries and vegetables. Roy pioneered the first successful overseas air shipment of strawberries to Europe in 1963, and he was the first to protect strawberries with overhead irrigation. In 1983, Roy was the first inductee into the Florida Strawberry Hall of Fame and was a vocal proponent of the state's strawberry industry.

Roy was someone who I have admired and respected for many years. He was not only a renowned success in his business endeavors, but he was also a prominent leader in his diverse volunteer efforts. The communities of Dover and Plant City will forever bear his imprint and the memory of the "Strawberry King" will surely be eternal.

Madam Speaker, my heart aches for Roy's family. He is survived by his wife, Helen; daughters Cheryl Meeks, Sandee Sytsma and Colleen Fulton; sons Bobby Parke and Gary Parke; and numerous nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. May God bless the Parke family. We shall never forget Roy.

IN RECOGNITION OF DON AND
LORRAINE PROVOST

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I along with Ms. LEE rise today to pay tribute to Don and Lorraine Provost, stalwarts of the Oakland community. On August 2, 2008, the 24 Hour Children Center's Annual Scholarship Luncheon will recognize Don and Lorraine's exemplary and legendary contributions and commitment to their community.

This husband and wife team has worked tirelessly to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Don and Lorraine are co-founders and actively involved as President/CEO and Vice President, respectively, of the College Awareness Program (CAP), a community based organization that encourages, recruits and places high school students in historically Black colleges and Universities and other colleges affiliated with the Presbyterian Church. CAP has been in existence since 1993. CAP's activities include College Awareness Night, where students meet with college representatives; Financial Aid Seminars; exposure for high school students to travel to the college and universities to experience the life of a college freshman; and continued support services, which provide an extended support system to students in need. The Don and Lorraine Kennix Provost Scholarship, administered by Stillman College, is an example of the Provost's commitment to insure deserving students are provided an opportunity to attend college.

Don is retired as a Transportation Planner for the State of California. Lorraine is currently the Executive Director of the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women, which focuses on issues of equity for women and girls. She was instrumental in launching the Junior Commission to allow young girls to fully participate in policy and activities of specific interest to their age group.

Lorraine's contributions include the Commission's Women's Hall of Fame and the Day of Remembrance which focuses on domestic violence, gender and racial equality. She is currently acting moderator of Black Presbyterian Women of Northern California.

Don and Lorraine are longtime political activists and come from a family tradition of activism and social responsibility. They have a myriad of accomplishments to which they can point related to their community advocacy in local, state and national organizations. We are the beneficiaries of Don and Lorraine's activism and are proud to recognize each of them as our longtime mentor and friend.

Their children, Chad and Shani, are following the tradition of their parents who have lead by example. We are proud to join the family, friends and admirers who will pay tribute to Don and Lorraine Provost and recognize and appreciate how much they have given of themselves to help others reach their goals.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
ED NUERNBERG

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend Ed Nuernberg on the occasion of his retirement from BASF after over 30 years of distinguished service. He is an honorable, decent, and hard working man and I am proud to call him my friend.

Mr. Nuernberg was born in Delevan, Wisconsin, but moved frequently throughout his life. He earned a bachelor degree in science and chemical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1972. It was there that he met his wonderful wife Patty. After he graduated he began his career at Rohm and Haas Corporation, where he worked as a process engineer for 2 years.

As his career progressed, Mr. Nuernberg continually exhibited his intelligence and drive as he contributed to the advancement of numerous aspects of the chemical industry. Mr. Nuernberg began his career at BASF in 1974 as an Operating Technical Supervisor in BASF's Geismar, Louisiana plant. During his second year, he became Superintendent of the Caustic Plant, and soon after he became Superintendent of the Propylene Oxide Plant in Wyandotte, Michigan. Following this post, he temporarily left Downriver to share his skills in a variety of capacities and locations. However, in 1998, Mr. Nuernberg finally returned to Wyandotte where he was named General Manager.

In addition to his fine work at BASF, Mr. Nuernberg joined many community organizations throughout his time in the Downriver area. He has provided great leadership as a board member of the Michigan Chemistry Council, Southern Wayne County Chamber of Commerce, International Wildlife Refuge Alliance, and Southeast Michigan Sustainable Business Forum and as president of the Wyandotte Community Advisory Panel and as a member of the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

I am happy to know that he will be able to continue his work with BASF, as well as his lifelong conservation efforts, as he enjoys managing the beautiful facilities and habitat on Fighting Island. Because of Mr. Nuernberg's efforts to restore the island's habitat, fish, migratory birds and people on both sides of the Detroit River have benefited tremendously.

As Mr. Nuernberg enters his retirement years, I would like to extend my best wishes for a relaxing and enjoyable future with Patty and the rest of his family and friends and thank him for all of his hard work and commitment to BASF Corporation and the Downriver community.

Madam Speaker, I would like to ask that my colleagues join me in commending Ed Nuernberg for leadership in both his corporation and in his community, as we celebrate his 34 years of dedication.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is an honor for me to help celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated. For the past 100 years, the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha have served as leaders in the United States and throughout the world. Since their founding in 1908, Alpha Kappa Alpha has been one of the most successful historically Black sororities and continues its strong community work today.

In particular, I would like to recognize the South Atlantic Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha, which includes undergraduate and graduate chapters from the states of Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina. This Region's monumental history includes one of the sorority's original founders, Mrs. Marie Woolfolk Taylor, two former International Presidents, Dr. Mary Shy Scott and Dr. Norma Solomon White and the first honorary member, Mrs. Coretta Scott King.

Today through the leadership of Ms. Ella Springs Jones, current regional director, the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha continue to leave their mark in the community. Through programs such as B.R.A.T.S (Brilliant, Responsible, Alert, and Talented Scholars) Program, high school students are provided academic, health and economic support to make their dreams viable and support the growth of the African American community.

Madam Speaker, I extend my deepest gratitude to the women of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority for their service to our communities, in the United States and across the world, on this historic day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I was absent on Monday, July 14th due to personal reasons.

If I were present I would have voted, "aye" on rollcall vote 486, "aye" on rollcall vote 487, and "aye" on rollcall vote 488.

HONORING THE BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE BOAT LIVERY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Blue Mountain Lake Boat Livery. I am proud to represent the Boat Livery and the people of Blue Mountain Lake,

which is located in the heart of New York State's majestic Adirondack Park. Likewise, I am pleased to associate myself with the remarks the gentlewoman from New York, Mrs. MALONEY, made to honor the Boat Livery.

Widely regarded as the cleanest lake east of the Mississippi River, Blue Mountain Lake has for over a century been a popular destination for tourists, including urban dwellers wishing to escape the city. In addition, thousands of visitors come through Blue Mountain Lake each year as they travel to other areas of the Adirondack Park.

The Boat Livery of Blue Mountain Lake began operating on August 2, 1908. It has since provided visitors with access to the breathtaking beauty of the Adirondack Mountains and Blue Mountain Lake through the use of an assortment of recreational watercraft. In fact, the Blue Mountain Lake Boat Livery offers visitors the opportunity to enjoy a scenic boat tour on one of three authentic 1916 wooden launches. Other activities guests can enjoy include canoeing, fishing, kayaking, paddle boating, tubing, wakeboarding, and water-skiing.

The Boat Livery's development on Blue Mountain Lake over the last 100 years has been integral to the area's culture and economy, which is largely based on tourism. Accordingly, I now extend my deepest congratulations to the Blue Mountain Lake Boat Livery upon its centennial anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF AVIATION SAFETY EXPERT EDWARD K. MILLER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career in aviation and aviation safety of Captain Edward K. Miller of Fairfax County in northern Virginia.

Captain Miller served for 6 years as a U.S. Air Force fighter interceptor pilot during the Korean War era and followed that service as a pilot for United Airlines, retiring in 1990. During his career with United, he became concerned with earthquake and volcanic ash hazards following the eruption of the Mt. St. Helens volcano in Washington State and served as a flight safety volunteer with the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA).

After his retirement with United, he continued his air safety consulting activities with ALPA, focusing on volcanic ash and aviation safety. He became a recognized worldwide leader in this specialized talent and served on the Natural Hazards Committee chaired by the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology, which works with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Weather Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Federal Aviation Administration and other related agencies. In cooperation with ALPA, United Airlines, NOAA, NWS, FAA and USGS, earlier this year he was involved in the effort to produce a free volcanic ash aircrew training video for the aviation community.

We salute Captain Miller, who in June retired "again" from the aviation community, for his devotion to flight safety in a career that spanned almost six decades, and wish him the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained from voting on July 14, 2008. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on the following rollcall votes: Nos. 486, 487 and 488.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING CHOICES FOR GAS PRICE RELIEF ACT"

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, the rapid rise in the price of oil is threatening American families, our economy, and our national security. Gas prices have more than tripled since 2001, taking an ever-larger bite out of the family budget. On average, transportation costs are now Americans' second largest expense after housing. Most economists as well as most American citizens believe that this is a long-term trend, rather than a temporary situation. We've seen the last of the cheap oil on which we've built our economy and our daily lives.

There is no single solution to the complex energy situation we are facing, but we can equip every member of the American family to live better with less oil. The Federal Government can help give families and communities more choices, level the playing field for people who want to be less auto-dependent, and encourage the Federal Government to become a better partner and to lead by example in these efforts.

This is why I am introducing the "Transportation and Housing Choices for Gas Price Relief Act," which will provide consumers with, and educate them about, choices in how they get around and where they live that will reduce their dependence on gasoline. The bill will increase commuter choices and support less oil-dependent forms of transportation, help transit agencies cope with rising fuel prices and improve service to deal with increased demand, assist communities in providing transportation options for their residents, increase the availability of affordable housing near public transportation, and ensure that the Federal Government leads by example on these issues.

At \$4.00 a gallon gasoline, most Americans are already changing their daily behaviors to decrease fuel costs: taking fewer trips, keeping their cars tuned, even trading in their gas guzzlers for more fuel-efficient models. More needs to be done to ensure that consumers have transportation and housing options that reduce their reliance on single-occupancy vehicle trips. These transportation options can include public transit, carpooling, biking, walking, and other alternatives. For example, at \$4 a gallon gasoline, American families can save \$5.6 billion each year on gasoline costs by using transit. Bicycle commuters annually save an average of \$1,825 in auto-related costs,

conserve 145 gallons of gasoline, and avoid 50 hours of gridlock traffic. Congress should be a better partner by supporting community efforts to provide these alternatives.

While our options to lower gas prices are limited, this bill recognizes that we can provide immediate relief from high gas prices by providing them choices.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, due to a travel complication beyond my control, I regretfully was unable to vote on three items of legislation before the House on July 14, 2008. My flight from San Diego, California was cancelled. I did not arrive to Washington, DC, until past the legislative hour.

I would have voted "yea" on each of the three bills before the House Monday. They are as follows:

(1) H. Res. 1067—Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the crossing of the North Pole by the USS *Nautilus* (SSN 571) and its significance in the history of both our Nation and the world.

(2) H. Res. 1080—Honoring the extraordinary service and exceptional sacrifice of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), known as the Screaming Eagles.

(3) H. Con. Res. 297—Recognizing the 60th anniversary of the integration of the United States Armed Forces.

A BILL TO ENHANCE THE SAFETY OF THE U.S. PASSENGER AIR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, the bill which Congressman MICA, Congressman COSTELLO, Congressman PETRI and I are introducing today is a first legislative step in reversing the complacency over safety regulation that has set in at the highest levels of the Federal Aviation Administration, FAA.

This legislation is not a silver bullet that will produce a comprehensive solution to problems that have been developing for years. Rather, the legislation deals with several issues that are ripe for action, following an investigation by the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Transportation, DOT IG, and a rejection of some of the DOT IG's recommendations by FAA.

I expect that we will have additional legislation after completion of the comprehensive investigations now underway by the DOT IG, FAA's own special committee, and Congress.

We must also bear in mind that legislation can only go so far in solving the problem. What is most needed is a change in attitude by FAA. Without that change, there will only be grudging, limited compliance with the best designed legislation reforms. If, on the other hand, there is a change in attitude, FAA can use its existing authority to make most of the improvements that are needed.

Madam Speaker, on April 3, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure held a hearing that detailed major shortcomings in the FAA's safety oversight of the aviation industry. Our investigation found that one air carrier, with FAA complicity, had allowed at least 117 of its aircraft to fly with passengers in violation of Federal Aviation Regulations, amounting to the most serious lapse in safety I have been aware of at the FAA in the past 23 years. Our investigations led to the discovery of other instances in which inspections were not properly conducted or repairs were not properly made. To ensure safety, it was necessary to ground several hundred airplanes for inspections, resulting in thousands of cancelled flights, and raising serious questions about whether high-ranking officials in the FAA are carrying out their safety responsibilities for the entire industry. Since that April 3 hearing, our investigative staff has been contacted by many other individuals alleging serious breakdowns in FAA's regulatory oversight.

As a result of our hearing, it was clear to me and many of my colleagues that FAA needed to rethink its relationship with the airlines and the other aviation entities that it regulates and be more active in enforcing regulations. There has been a pendulum swing at FAA, away from vigorous enforcement of safety regulations towards a carrier-favorable cozy relationship. That opinion is shared by the DOT IG, as well.

On June 30, 2008, the DOT IG issued a report, Review of FAA's Safety Oversight of Airlines and Use of Regulatory Partnership Programs, noting that it had made several recommendations to the FAA to strengthen its national oversight of air carrier safety. Importantly, the DOT IG recommended that the FAA periodically rotate its flight standards safety inspectors and establish an independent investigative organization to examine safety issues identified by FAA employees. In its response to the DOT IG recommendations, the FAA stated that it did not concur with the recommendation to rotate inspectors and only partially agreed to implement the recommendation to establish an independent organization to investigate FAA employee complaints.

On employee complaints, the FAA's response has been to implement a Safety Issues Report System, SIRS. This process largely duplicates existing hot-lines and does not provide for an independent review outside of FAA's Aviation Safety Organization, which has a long record of not responding adequately to complaints. I find the FAA's response to this very important recommendation to be wholly inadequate.

As the DOT IG aptly stated in its safety report:

FAA's response is unacceptable. Although FAA stated that it partially agreed with our recommendation, the actions taken do not demonstrate a commitment on FAA's part to address the root causes of the issues we identified. Our work at SWA and NWA identified serious weaknesses in FAA's process for conducting internal reviews, ensuring corrective actions, and protecting employees who report safety concerns. In our view, SIRS merely adds one more process to an already existing internal reporting process within the Aviation Safety Organization that is unequivocally ineffective and possibly even biased against resolving root causes of serious safety lapses.

The FAA's refusal to embrace the DOT IG's recommendation in this regard demonstrates a "business as usual" approach to safety. In addition, many FAA aviation safety inspectors have subsequently contacted our Committee and provided evidence of retaliation against them by their local FAA management when they attempt to elevate safety concerns to higher levels of management. FAA is reluctant to investigate whistleblower concerns. The FAA management responsible for safety appears to face an inherent conflict-of-interest when faced with charges of failure in regulatory oversight.

That is why this bill creates an independent Aviation Safety Whistleblower Investigation Office within the FAA, but independent of the Aviation Safety Organization. The Director of the new Office would be charged with receiving safety complaints and information submitted by both FAA employees and employees of certificated entities, investigating them, and then recommending appropriate corrective actions to the FAA. The FAA is directed to respond to the Director's recommendations in writing, including details of any corrective actions taken. Importantly, the bill ensures the Director's independence and protects the identities of employees providing safety information.

In addition, the bill addresses the DOT IG's recommendation to periodically rotate supervisory inspectors to ensure objective FAA air carrier oversight. FAA has not been willing to implement this recommendation. This bill would require that the FAA rotate principal maintenance inspectors between airline oversight offices every 5 years. This will serve as at least a partial countermeasure to ensure that a "cozy relationship" does not develop between the regulators and the regulated. In addition, the bill would establish a 2-year "post-service" cooling off period for FAA inspectors and supervisors before they are allowed to go to work for the airlines they have been overseeing.

During our April 3 hearing, I was shocked to learn that in its mission statement for aviation safety, FAA has a "vision" of "being responsive to our customers and accountable to the public." This suggests that FAA regards the airlines and other companies it regulates as its "customers." This approach is seriously misguided. The "customers" of FAA safety programs are the persons who fly on the airplanes FAA regulates. FAA's bedrock responsibility is to ensure that these "customers" travel safely. To ensure that passengers remain FAA's number one "customer," the bill directs the FAA to modify its customer service initiative, mission and vision statements to remove references to air carriers or other entities regulated by the Agency as "customers" and to clearly state that in regulating safety the only "customer" of the Agency is the American traveling public.

Madam Speaker, there is overwhelming evidence in the recommendations, findings and statements of the DOT IG, the Office of Special Counsel, and the very brave FAA whistleblowers that brought these critical safety lapses to our attention that change is sorely needed at the FAA to improve safety. This bill provides a critical first step. We must prod the FAA to again make safety the number one priority and to keep the American public safely flying.

Madam Speaker, this bill is just a start. It will not address all of the issues, because to

do so will require substantial leadership and cultural change within the FAA. However, it is meant to serve notice upon FAA that we will not continue to tolerate the lax environment that has been allowed to develop over the last few years. I urge my colleagues to join me in working to pass this important legislation.

HONORING THE SPECIAL
OLYMPICS

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the Special Olympics, an outstanding organization which provides 2.5 million children and adults with intellectual disabilities an opportunity to participate in year-round, Olympic-style, athletic competitions.

July 20, 2008, will mark the Special Olympics' 40th anniversary. Thanks to hard work from thousands of dedicated volunteers, families and athletes, the Special Olympics has grown from its humble beginnings in Eunice Kennedy Shriver's Maryland home to over 200 programs located throughout 180 countries. The Special Olympics provides its athletes with 30 Olympic-style games—varying from alpine skiing to bocce—and includes children as young as 8.

In my home State of New York, the Special Olympics has a great tradition as one of the leading charitable organizations for the intellectually disabled. For this, the New York Special Olympics plays an irreplaceable role in the National Special Olympics Program. Today, New York is home to an astounding 43,000 athletes who participate in over 400 Olympic-style competitions.

The benefits of the Special Olympics go far beyond gold medals. The skills and relationships built during the athletes' participation give them the courage, self-confidence and ability to excel on and off the field. Not only does the Special Olympics serve the athletes, but also families, volunteers and communities who gain respect, tolerance, and understanding for persons with disabilities.

I would like to thank the millions of volunteers, the organization of the Special Olympics and, most importantly, the athletes, for providing the world with an invaluable service.

IN HONOR OF SEAN D. TUCKER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sean D. Tucker, an aerobatic pilot from Salinas, California, who this month joins the Wright Brothers, Neil Armstrong, and Charles Lindbergh in the National Aviation Hall of Fame in Dayton, Ohio.

Tucker started out as a crop duster in the Salinas Valley before transitioning into air show routines, where—despite an early fear of flying—he has over 1,000 performances at more than 400 airshows under his belt. Performing his stunts in his Oracle, a one-seat bi-

plane designed for him by his team, he is regarded as one of the world's top civilian aerobatic pilots, as well as a highly respected ambassador for the sport. In the 20,000 hours of flight time he has logged, Sean has created maneuvers with his plane that have never been replicated by another aerobatic pilot. His innovation and technique have led to numerous titles, including the Championship Air Show Pilots Association Challenge 4 years in a row. Even with his accomplishments, though, his election to the Hall of Fame still took him completely by surprise. Said Tucker, "I was so stunned I didn't even tell anybody. I'm just this guy who likes flying upside down."

In addition to performing in front of millions of fans, Tucker founded the Tutima Academy of Aviation Safety, an institution committed to improving the standards of aviation safety in aerobatics as well as aviation in general by teaching seasoned and aspiring pilots the tricks behind completely controlling an aircraft. For his dedication to safety and unique flying style, Tucker has received all of the airshow industry's highest honors, including the privilege of being named one of the Living Legends in Aviation. He is also the only civilian performer ever to be allowed to fly in close formation with the Blue Angels and the Thunderbirds.

Sean wants to continue his craft and be a role model to the community and aviation industry for as long as his body and plane allow; the day after the ceremony he will perform at the Dayton Airshow. Said executive director of the Hall of Fame Ron Kaplan, "He's a real asset to the aviation community. Overall, he's just a fantastic role model and ambassador for aviation, having performed for years and years for millions of people." One of those he has inspired is his son, Eric, who works alongside him on Team Oracle.

Sean, who was selected out of 200 nominees, will be introduced by his close friend, Joe Kittinger, a Vietnam prisoner of war who set a world record for parachuting in 1960.

Madam Speaker, Sean Tucker is being honored by the aviation industry for an esteemed career and unwavering passion to test the boundaries of aerobatics. I wish to join the aviation community and the city of Salinas in honoring his dedication and accomplishments and wish him continued prosperity and safety in the future.

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE ACTIONS OF CHINESE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BROUGHT RELIEF TO VICTIMS OF THE SICHUAN EARTHQUAKE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution that recognizes the actions of Chinese individuals and non-governmental organizations that have brought relief to victims of the Sichuan earthquake. The resolution also recognizes and encourages a potential new era of openness by the Chinese Government.

Following the tragic earthquake in Sichuan Province on May 20, we have heard and read accounts describing the generous response of

thousands of individuals and hundreds of NGOs who have raised money, delivered food and tents, and provided direct hands-on assistance to the survivors. Foreign journalists and China's new generation of media have been granted unprecedented access into the earthquake stricken areas and reported on the quake with an intensity and professionalism once thought impossible.

Contrast what has happened in China today with what happened following the Great Tangshan earthquake of 1976. The Chinese Government blocked foreign access and even tried to hide from its own citizens the tragedy that took the loss of more than 250,000 lives.

There are many human rights concerns in China I share with my colleagues. Notwithstanding these concerns, we need to recognize and encourage actions that bring about positive change and plant the seeds of a better civil society. I encourage my colleagues to support this resolution.

MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES UNITE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD a July 8, 2008 New York Carib News editorial entitled: "The Path to Success in Education: University of the West Indies and Medgar Evers College Join Hands." The partnership came about as a result of the CARICOM Conference in New York that brought together Caribbean heads of government as well as the titans of the New York City financial community.

Medgar Evers and UWI have existing ties because of the similarity of the populations they serve. "UWI is a regional university serving the English-speaking Caribbean population and MEC is the college most closely associated with the Caribbean-American community within the CUNY system and the New York City metropolitan area." The strong connection between the two universities will be mutually beneficial and it will give UWI, the most prestigious institution of higher learning in the Caribbean, tangible ties to an American university that can give greater opportunities for exchange in both university communities.

TRIBUTE TO ROCHESTER LADY ROCKETS SOCCER TEAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the Rochester Lady Rockets soccer team on their success in winning the championship game of the Illinois High School Association Class A State tournament.

Kelly Werthwien, Kelcie Kolis, Sarah Wright, Grace Capranica, Marissa Burge, Beth Fitzsimmons, Kellse Sandercock, Amy Shackelford, Jessica Heaton, Jillian Sulcer, Mollie Edgcomb, Kassie McIntyre, Taylor Heissing, Kelcee Walsh, Amy Cassidy,

Maryssa Bandy, Taylor McDermott, Alecia Mantei, Taryn Butler, Aubrey Heck, Caley Cook and Casey Turner, along with head coach Chad Kutscher, Assistant Coaches Scott Tucker, Andrew Ford and Kristi Coppennoll and Trainer Sara Powless, put together a 16–4–3 season and swept through the sectional tournament en route to their first State championship.

This is the third straight year in which the Lady Rockets reached the State tournament, and the first for Coach Kutscher.

I am very pleased to congratulate the Rochester Lady Rockets on their victory and wish them the best of luck for next season.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA WILLIAMS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend, a constituent, and a distinguished journalist. On June 30, 2008 Barbara Stambaugh Williams retired as editor of the Charleston Post and Courier. Although she will continue to provide weekly columns and serve as editor emeritus, her daily leadership of the paper will be sorely missed.

I first met Barbara when I lived in Charleston, South Carolina in the 1960s and '70s. At that time, I was a young political activist who ran for the State House of Representatives in 1970. Barbara was at that time a reporter for the Charleston News & Courier. In addition, she became the first woman assigned to cover the State Legislature. It was in that role that we first became personally acquainted. It was because of her coverage of that campaign that I came to the favorable attention of John West, who was the winning candidate for governor. In my race for the House, I went to bed election night having been declared a 500-vote winner, but awoke to find that I was a 500-vote loser. When Barbara asked me what happened, I simply responded "I didn't get enough votes." Her reporting of that story precipitated a call to me from Governor-elect West, and he invited me to become the first African American advisor to a sitting South Carolina governor. The rest is history.

Barbara and I continued to cross paths even after I moved to Columbia to join the Governor's administration. I also watched her career with great interest. In 1976, she rose to the position of assistant managing editor of the News & Courier, which was Charleston's morning paper. In 1981, the afternoon paper, The Evening Post, named Barbara its editor. This was historic as she became the first woman in modern times to serve as editor of a major daily newspaper in South Carolina. In 1990, she continued her trailblazing ascent and returned to the News & Courier as its editor.

As was a common trend around the country, the morning and afternoon papers later merged, and in 1991, Barbara became the first editor of the Charleston Post & Courier. Her extraordinary career in journalism spans 47 years, 44 of those with Charleston newspapers.

She is a member of several professional organizations, and in 1992, Barbara served as president of the National Conference of Edi-

torial Writers, which includes newspapers in the United States and Canada. Her numerous awards include the 1962 King Award given to the outstanding newspaperwoman in South Carolina and the 1973 Byliner Award from the Central S.C. Chapter, Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi.

The city of Charleston and the State of South Carolina owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to her for providing decades of insight into the workings of our government and fair-minded opinions of public affairs at the local, state, national and global level. Although her skilled hand will no longer be guiding the Post & Courier on a daily basis, her influence on the newspaper will be felt for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Barbara Williams on an extraordinary career. This trailblazing journalist has made a lasting impact on her profession and her community. I thank Barbara for her important contributions, and wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

NEW MARKETS TAX CREDIT

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about the New Markets Tax Credit, a vital community development financing tool which is set to expire at the end of this year unless Congress takes action to extend it.

The New Markets Tax Credit was signed into law in 2000 with the goal of using a modest Federal tax credit as an incentive to attract private investment capital to viable urban and rural markets that private investors often overlook—and I am happy to report that the credit has done just that.

As of July 1, 2008, the Treasury Department reported that the credit was responsible for \$11 billion in new investment in economically distressed communities across the country.

As a senior member of the House Ways and Means Committee, and Ranking Member of the Select Revenue Measures Subcommittee, I am interested in seeing how Federal tax credits influence investor behavior. I was particularly interested in GAO's findings on the NMTC in 2007 that found 88 percent of NMTC investors surveyed would not have made the investment in the low income community if not for the credit. The report further found that 69 percent of the investors surveyed indicated they had not invested in low income community projects prior to working with NMTC.

These GAO findings are very powerful in my view because they indicate that the \$11 billion in low income community investments reported by the Treasury Department would not have occurred were it not for the New Markets Tax Credit.

As I mentioned, the credit was created with a clearly articulated goal: To generate private investment in low income communities by financing business and economic development activity. I am pleased to see that in a relatively short period of time a vibrant New Markets Tax Credit industry including community development organizations and investors has

emerged to embrace this goal. In my home State of Pennsylvania, community development organizations have been awarded more than \$413 million in NMTC allocations that have been used to finance a range of businesses and economic development projects in some of the State's most economically distressed areas in both urban and rural parts of the State.

For example, in the East Liberty section of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the New Markets Tax Credit was instrumental in preserving the historic Nabisco Bakery building. The Commonwealth Cornerstone Group, a nonprofit created by the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency that received a \$60 million allocation of credits in 2006 to use throughout the State, used a portion of its allocation to revitalize the Nabisco Bakery building into a mixed use development to house neighborhood retail businesses as well as a 110-room hotel. The project, once complete, will create approximately 1,200 jobs for neighborhood residents.

While I am pleased to point to the Nabisco Bakery project as a prime example of how the credit is being used to revitalize our distressed urban centers, more than 40 percent of my constituents live in rural areas. For this reason, I am pleased to see that the Treasury Department established rules to ensure that rural communities secure a proportional share of the investments generated with the credit. As we know, it is often the isolated rural communities and businesses that face the most significant barriers in terms of attracting outside private capital and the credit would be a powerful tool in bringing private equity capital to rural markets.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting an extension of the New Markets Tax Credit which is currently set to expire at the end of this year. Our cities and rural towns stand to benefit greatly from this program and it should be extended.

RECOGNIZING LIFE OF C.H. "BOOTS" DUESING

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of C.H. "Boots" Duesing who passed on July 6, 2008.

Boots was an entrepreneur whose commitment to his community led to the founding of Graduate Service, Inc. Many high school students in Southwestern Ohio know Graduate Service because it supplies class rings, caps and gowns, and commencement announcements to graduating high school students.

Prior to his business endeavors, Boots graduated from DePauw University and showed his passion for his country by serving in the U.S. Navy Air Corps for a year.

Ohio's Second Congressional District shared Boots and his wife Doris with the citizens of Palisades Park, Michigan, where they spent their summers. Boots established a youth tennis program there which continues to thrive to this day.

Although Boots was active in the community and worked to enrich the lives of those living in the communities he called home, he was most devoted to his family. I am certain that

his wife Doris; daughters Donna, Susie, Nancy, and Linda and his seven grandchildren Kelly, Kevin, Matt, Christine, Jessica, Brett and Bridget, will miss him terribly and remember him fondly. They will definitely recall his "infectious laugh" and "colorful attire."

While his passing brings sadness to the many lives he touched, his legacy and contributions will be remembered for years to come. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring C.H. "Boots" Duesing, and offering condolences to his family.

TRIBUTE TO JIM GALE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Mr. Jim Gale, a guidance counselor at Algona High School in Algona, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his years of dedication and commitment to the youth of Iowa.

After graduating from Akron High School and receiving his education degree and master's degree in counseling from South Dakota University, Jim Gale has spent the past 39 years contributing his time and talents to youth development. He began by teaching for 5 years and then counseling for 2 years at a small school in Minnesota before coming to Algona High School as a guidance counselor, where he remained for the past 32 years. Through teaching, counseling, and coaching sports, Jim has touched the lives of thousands of students. Inspired to become a counselor because of the great impact his own counselor had on him while growing up, Jim says the most memorable experience he will take with him is seeing students come in as freshmen and mature into seniors, later becoming mature adults giving back to their communities.

Although his leadership will be missed, Jim Gale has made a lasting impact on the many students and teachers he has worked with over his career, and he plans to continue serving his community through part-time guidance and counseling at schools in the area and other volunteer efforts. I consider it an honor to represent Jim Gale in the United States Congress, and I wish him and his wife Marilyn a long, happy and healthy retirement as they enjoy their grandchildren and continued community involvement.

HONORING LOUISIANA REGION 7
PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cooper Knecht, a principal at Herndon Magnet School in Caddo Parish. Knecht was recently awarded the Principal of the Year Award from Louisiana State Department of Education and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. This fall her dedication will rise to new heights as she serves as superintendent for Region 7 schools.

Knecht's designation as Principal of the Year was based on evident collaborative and instructional leadership. Knecht was also appointed according to her community contributions, affiliation with educational organizations, and ability to inspire students to achieve scholastic accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of Cooper Knecht. Her dedication to the growth and development of America's future leaders is worthy of applaud. Her leadership is a beneficial element to education in the 5th Congressional District of Louisiana that deserves acknowledgement.

A.J. JUDICE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today I come to pay tribute to a long time cultural icon in Southeast Texas. A.J. Judice was a proud ambassador of his Cajun heritage and used his life to promote and spread their culture across the area. His family started Judice's French Market 80 years ago and introduced Cajun food to the region for the first time. Known for his black beret, white moustache, red scooter, and colorful personality, Judice was truly a Southeast Texas original.

Albin Joseph "A.J." Judice, Jr. was born in Port Arthur in 1927. He graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1945, the same year that his beloved Yellow Jackets played for the State championship, he so frequently bragged. He spent 2 years as a Merchant Mariner, allowing him to see the world. His heart and his future, however, belonged in Texas. He married Lois the former senior prom queen in 1948. They had two children in one year, eventually having five in all.

Judice is most recognized as the mascot for the restaurants and grocery stores that have been in his family since the 1920's. His family opened Judice's French Market in 1927 in their single car garage while the family lived above. They moved in the 1930s and settled where they still operate today. A.J. and his mother, "Maw Maw" Judice, are credited as being the first store in Texas to sell live crawfish and hot boudain, two staples of any Cajun diet. He was always happy to announce that their seafood "slept in the Gulf last night." They also own Larry's French Market in Groves. Though he passed the stores on to his sons, the caricature of Judice in his apron and beret is still used to advertise the store. Thanks to him, "crawfish season" is just as popular as "football season" in Southeast Texas.

Judice was known as the "Crazy Frenchman" and he definitely lived up to the branding. He helped popularize the sport of Crawfish racing in Southeast Texas, a sport created to celebrate the Cajun lifestyle. In the early 1960's, Texas Governor Preston Smith appointed him as a Texas Crawfish Racing Commissioner. It was then that he coined his famous cheer, "Hot boudain, and cold cush cush! Come on crawfish, push push push!" A.J. and his crawfish eventually won the world championship in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana. He was so well known that a 1980's USA Today

article spotlighted Judice and his racing mudbugs. CBS news featured him on a cover story after he trained two crawfish to jump out of airplanes. From the smallest local festival to the largest Mardi Gras festivities around, Judice was always visible, playing his triangle "ding-a-ling" or dancing to zydeco music. He was full of life and lived every second like it was his last.

Madam Speaker, Mr. A.J. Judice, Jr. was a pioneer in promoting a respect of rural Louisiana history and culture. He enhanced his community of Southeast Texas for 80 years, and I am proud to celebrate his accomplishments and the legacy that he leaves behind.

A TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR JOHN MORETTA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION INTO THE PRIESTHOOD AND HIS 25TH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF RESURRECTION CHURCH IN BOYLE HEIGHTS

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary spiritual and civic leader in the Boyle Heights community in the heart of my congressional district.

This year, Monsignor John Moretta is celebrating two significant milestones. It is the 40th anniversary of his ordination into the priesthood and his 25th anniversary serving as the immensely respected and beloved pastor of Resurrection Church in Boyle Heights.

It is my pleasure to tell you more about this remarkable man.

A native Angelino, Monsignor Moretta entered St. John's Seminary, Camarillo, in 1960. After completing Philosophy and Theology studies, he was ordained on April 27, 1968. Since then, he has served in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles as a parish priest in five parishes, the most recent being Resurrection Church. In addition to being an elected member of the Council of Priests, the Monsignor received special recognition within the church on February 2, 1992 when he was invested as a Domestic Prelate to His Holiness with the title of Monsignor.

During Monsignor Moretta's ministry, he has worked primarily in the Spanish-speaking Latino immigrant community. While he provides motivational spiritual guidance to his congregation, Monsignor Moretta is also highly regarded for his extensive community work that extends well beyond the walls of Resurrection Church.

Under his leadership, Resurrection Church offers a broad array of initiatives to improve the lives of families in the community. Among the many examples of his outreach, Monsignor Moretta empowers his parishioners to learn English and become U.S. citizens.

Monsignor Moretta also encourages residents to speak out against crime and pollution in their neighborhoods. For over nine years, as part of the Resurrection Church Neighborhood Watch group, Monsignor Moretta has met with members of the community every week to discuss public safety.

In an effort to address the neighborhood's concerns about crime and gang activity, Monsignor Moretta took the lead in bringing the successful Project CLEAR anti-gang program to Boyle Heights. I remember well when Monsignor Moretta first approached me about obtaining the federal funding needed to start and maintain the program. Monsignor Moretta explained that he was very concerned about our community because he was increasingly attending funeral services for those killed in gang-related violence, including the funerals of innocent bystanders caught in the line of fire.

Today, through intelligence-gathering, visible community patrols, gang-related arrests, and the investigation of gang-related crimes, the officers in the CLEAR Unit are credited with reducing crime in the area. The officers also work closely with school officials to reduce gang activity and local gang-intervention organizations to divert "at-risk" youth from gang involvement.

Monsignor Moretta has also led efforts to protect our children and families from a number of projects that raised significant health and safety concerns in the community.

Under his guidance, the Mothers of East Los Angeles (MELA) was formed in the 1980s to bring the community together to protest the building of a state prison. As part of this effort, Monsignor Moretta led 200 Latina mothers on a lobbying mission to Sacramento where they successfully voiced their concerns about the proposed prison with the governor and state legislators.

Ever since then, on behalf of the community's ongoing quest for social and environmental justice, Monsignor Moretta, in coordination with MELA and other local leaders, has worked to ward off other harmful projects. They have been at the forefront of efforts to stop the expansion of a plant that recycles petroleum and battery acids. They joined forces to oppose the siting of a toxic incinerator. And, most recently, they have been organizing to protest the proposed construction of a power plant that will increase toxic emissions in the area.

In addition to environmental causes, Monsignor Moretta and the Mothers of East Los Angeles have joined forces to bring stability and pride to neighborhoods through homeownership. They worked together to make low-income housing units available to area families. They also established the Boyle Heights Resident Homeowners Association and the Mothers of East Los Angeles Home Ownership Center to provide information and resources to help families become first-time homeowners.

Madam Speaker, on the occasions of Monsignor Moretta's 40th Anniversary of ordination and his 25th Anniversary as pastor of Resurrection Church, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Monsignor Moretta—or Father John as the community lovingly refers to him—on both of these significant anniversaries and, above all, in thanking him for his tireless advocacy on behalf of the Boyle Heights community.

BP'S 2008 A+ FOR ENERGY
TEACHERS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend twenty-five local educators from Northwest Indiana who have been recognized for their outstanding achievements in promoting energy education and conservation through innovative classroom activities. These individuals will be honored as part of BP's A+ for Energy program at a very special luncheon that will take place at the Radisson Star Plaza Hotel in Merrillville, Indiana, on Monday, July 21, 2008.

BP's A+ for Energy program, being offered in Indiana for the second year, recognizes community educators who have gone above and beyond to bring real-world, innovative ideas into our schools, allowing students to become involved in classroom, after-school, extra-curricular, or summer activities that will not only challenge and enrich their lives, but will also teach them the importance of energy conservation.

The twenty-five individuals selected as the winning A+ for Energy teachers, based on their grant submissions, were chosen by two independent panels of experts in the fields of education, science, and the environment. Each recipient will be awarded a cash grant of either \$5,000 or \$10,000 to take back to their schools, as well as a scholarship to attend a three-day energy training conference sponsored by BP, in partnership with the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). It is estimated that more than 8,400 students will benefit from these grants.

This year's A+ for Energy honorees are: Karen Augustyn of Tolleston Middle School in Gary (Project P.O.W.E.R.—Providing Our World with Energy Resources), Patricia Casella of Jefferson Elementary School in Hammond (Experience Energy! Talk It, Live It, Touch It, Share It), Stanley Casella of Montessori Academy in the Oaks in Hobart (The Elementary Energy News Network), Barbara Cerwinski of Saint John the Evangelist School in Saint John (SJE is Hot About Global Warming), Dr. Charles Costa of the Northwest Indiana Education Service Center in Highland (TREE: Transforming the Region through Energy Enrichment), Edna Crittenden-Gregory of Roosevelt High School in Gary (Energy-Wise Conservation Calendar), Michelle Frantal of Forest Ridge Academy in Schererville (Saving Two by Two), Dana Hoeckelberg of Forest Ridge Academy (The Energy K'Nnextion Club), Susan Labovic of Forest Ridge Academy (Now Broadcasting . . . Electricity), Kathryn Midkiff of Gavitt Middle/High School in Hammond (Green Circle Project), Mary Moriarty of Gavitt Middle/High School (Renewable Energy), Sandra Platt of Lake Central High School in Saint John (Lake Central High School—Blue Goes Green), Thomas Puplava of the Diocese of Gary Catholic Schools in Merrillville (Energy from the Sun), Jill Sayers of Lake Prairie Elementary School in Lowell (Art and the Science of Energy: A Fusing of Concepts), Glenn Smith of Forest Ridge Academy (Super Solar Power at Our Indianapolis

500), Elva Sotello of Whiting Middle School in Whiting (Working for a Joule), Mary Beth Tabaczynski of Edison Elementary School in Hammond (Exploring the Power of the Wind), Georgia Veneziano of Our Lady of Grace School in Highland (Energy Dilemma: The Answer is Blowin' in the Wind), Jay Drew of Portage High School in Portage (The Biology of Alternative Fuels), Monica Hargarten of Liberty Elementary School in Chesterton (Exploring Energy), Lisa Hughes of Saint Patrick School in Chesterton (Solar Energy and the Greenhouse Effect), Angela Reyes of ALLWays Learning Child Development Center in Valparaiso (CampALLWays Energized), Christine Robbins of Hebron Elementary School in Hebron (Today's Students—Tomorrow's Consumers), Jean Sienkowski of Central Elementary School in Valparaiso (The Central Energy Academy), and Melody Winnell of Junior Junction Childcare in Portage (Rain Garden and Solar Greenhouse).

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these outstanding, innovative educators on their recognition as BP's 2008 A+ for Energy teachers. Their hard work and creativity have played and will continue to play a major role in shaping the minds and futures of Northwest Indiana's young people, as well as in bringing to the forefront the importance of energy conservation.

HONORING MARIAN ORFEO

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. TIERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Marian Orfeo, a constituent from Lynnfield, Massachusetts and Director of Planning & Coordination with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), on being named the new President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA). Marian will assume the Presidency at NACWA's Annual Conference, which convenes in Anchorage, Alaska this week.

Ms. Orfeo has served the MWRA in varying capacities for nearly two decades. The MWRA provides wholesale water and sewer services to 2.5 million people in sixty-one communities across eastern and central Massachusetts, including several in the sixth congressional district. As the Director of Planning and Coordination, her responsibilities include long-range planning to construct and renew MWRA's water and wastewater facilities and infrastructure as well as short-term strategic business planning for all agency functions.

Marian also manages the Authority's performance reporting system and is a member of the Steering Committee for the MetroFuture initiative of the Boston Metropolitan Area Planning Council. Over her career, Ms. Orfeo has demonstrated leadership and committed countless hours and tireless energy to efforts dedicated to the improvement of Boston's water quality and public health. As a result, she has earned the trust and respect of her peers, who recognize her as an environmental champion.

Marian Orfeo's public service career predates her twenty years of service with the MWRA. She previously worked for the City of

Boston for sixteen years during which time she was engaged with operations, administration, finance and planning functions. Marian has been an active member of NACWA since 1994 and a Member of its Board of Directors since 2000. She continues to be an ardent advocate for the need to develop a new, holistic approach to the nation's complex 21st century water challenges.

It is appropriate that the House recognize this personal accomplishment of Marian Orfeo. I am confident that NACWA will flourish under her leadership, and I trust that Marian will bring her contagious energy and enthusiasm to the position and help secure NACWA's role as a leading advocate for responsible national policies that advance clean water and a healthy environment.

TRIBUTE TO SILVER LAKE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Silver Lake Lutheran Church of Northwood, Iowa, on celebrating its 150th anniversary as a congregation.

On July 20, 1858, twelve families met under a tree in rural Northwood for Silver Lake's first service. Today's congregation still worships in the church built by the original founders. Silver Lake Lutheran Church, which has had several upgrades, is the oldest church in Worth County, Iowa and was moved from its original location. Built by the Silver Lake cemetery, the church was later set on logs and rolled to its new location.

During the Civil War the church faced some difficulties and a split between some church members, but Silver Lake's congregation remained strong in faith and continued to grow despite the struggle. Today, Silver Lake has 226 baptized members, and they support local and international charities with their Mission Endowment program.

Silver Lake Lutheran Church of Northwood is dedicated to benefiting the lives of those in Northwood and the surrounding rural areas, and for this I offer Silver Lake my utmost congratulations and thanks on a prosperous history. It is an honor to represent all the parishioners of Silver Lake and current Pastor Randy Baldwin in the United States Congress, and I wish them continued success, peace, and celebration as a community.

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE THOMAS
FITZPATRICK

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of George Thomas Fitzpatrick of Dunn, NC, who passed away on June 8, 2008 at the age of 82. In his passing, North Carolina lost a truly gifted and dedicated educator who was influential and beloved in his community, county, and State.

My dear friend, George Thomas Fitzpatrick, was born in Elyria, OH, in 1925 and was the

son of the late Ben and Mary Fitzpatrick. He was the seventh of 11 children. After graduating from high school in Ohio, Reverend Fitzpatrick joined the Army during the midst of World War II. He established a fine military career that included flight training with the Army Air Corps and the Tuskegee Airmen. After bravely serving his country, Reverend Fitzpatrick used the GI Bill to enroll at Fayetteville State University, graduating with a bachelors degree in elementary education. While at Fayetteville State University, he became a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Reverend Fitzpatrick continued his education, obtaining a masters degree from North Carolina Central University.

While at Fayetteville State University, Reverend Fitzpatrick developed an interest in education. Upon graduation, he accepted a teaching position with the Harnett County School System in Dunn, NC. Not only was Reverend Fitzpatrick an outstanding educator, he coached the men's basketball and football teams. Reverend Fitzpatrick became principal of South Harnett Elementary School in 1968. After a distinguished career in education, Reverend Fitzpatrick retired in 1984.

Reverend Fitzpatrick was not only influential to the community as an educator, but also as a spiritual leader. Being a man of great faith, Reverend Fitzpatrick was called to the ministry in 1964 at Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church. He later became pastor of Piney Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church in Bolivia, NC; Mt. Zion Original Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson, NC; and North East Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church in Mt. Olive, NC. He formally retired from the pulpit in 2004 after 44 years of service.

Reverend Fitzpatrick is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Antoinette Fitzpatrick; his children, John Fitzpatrick, Warren Monroe, Barry Monroe, Kevin Monroe, and Michael Fitzpatrick; and his grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, George was someone who influenced the lives of others for the better, but lived simply. Reverend Fitzpatrick loved to hunt and was a member of several summer baseball and softball leagues. He kept a small farm with hogs and chickens. Reverend Fitzpatrick was, above all, a respected and dedicated educator and pastor, a dedicated public servant, and a great North Carolinian. It is fitting that we honor him and his family today.

A TRIBUTE TO TOM LANTOS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, poet and capitol tour guide Albert C. Caswell has penned a number of heartfelt tributes and recently, he wrote a piece dedicated to Representative Tom Lantos, our friend and colleague, who passed away on February 11, 2008. I was honored to travel with Congressman Lantos and his wife Annette in their native Hungary as a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and as a Washington neighbor.

FROM OUT OF THE DARKNESS

(By Albert Carey Caswell)

From out of the darkness, as so comes the light!

From out of such evil, as so comes the good into that night . . . as ever there burning bright . . .

From out of a child, who has so witnessed such injustice . . . can so come the battle, can so come the fight!

To witness such darkness, to face such an early dark death!

To carry such horrors, so deep down in ones chest . . . as Satan's warriors aggress . . .

To stand up and fight, to become such a true champion of right . . . as this our world you so bless!

To forge victory, from all of your most noble deeds . . . to have the battle won . . .

To leave your homeland, for but a bright new shining future . . . that you have begun . . .

To witness within your soul, the cost of victory you behold . . . ever ready to fight, for a new day's dawn . . .

To be a crusader for all which is good, for those most noblest of causes. Tom you so would . . .

To fight off the darkness and evil hatred with all your might . . . to bring the light with all that you could!

To be a true champion among men, as is this fine son . . . who has so brought such hope and such good . . .

For the life of Thomas Lantos, is but a magnificent battle as won!

As this great warrior has so endeavored, to fight the good fight . . . when and wherever hatred's begun!

Who as a child, witnessed evil's contempt ever so vile . . . for our Lord's, most precious daughters and sons . . .

When you look, for hatred . . . in these our most trying of times . . .

As there too, you shall ever so find . . . a man of action, who so comes to mind!

To carry that fight, against dark ignorance and hate . . . for human rights, as is his life's mission so fine . . .

As a Father, and as a Husband . . . and truly a great Rhyme . . .

As all throughout his lifetime, Thomas Lantos . . . has took the greatest of stands!

As a great American Hungarian, as an example for hearts to carry on . . . so blessing our heartland

Whenever you walk into that the darkest of all nights . . .

Ever remember my child, that out of your faith, courage and your love . . . but comes the light!

For as long as we have men, who to great heights so ascend . . . than evil shall never so rule the night!

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT MONROE'S ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAM

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) for its recent designation as one of only ten universities in our nation whose elementary education program received full passing marks from National Council on Teacher Quality for its preparation for future mathematics teachers.

As our nation's educators continue to strive to improve and strengthen education in America, the need to ensure our children have a

strong background in mathematics is becoming increasingly important in a generation where breakthroughs in fields such as research and technology are occurring every day.

To keep the United States on the cutting edge of these advancements, we must work to ensure our children are properly prepared from the very first day of their education. Universities such as ULM and the nine other universities acknowledged by the council are surely doing their part to make certain the teachers who complete their programs are ready to meet the challenges of educating the new generation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the University of Louisiana at Monroe elementary education program and its efforts to produce quality educators in the field of mathematics.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CAPTIVE
PRIMATE SAFETY AND DIS-
ABLED HUMAN ASSISTANCE ACT

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing a bill to assist a remarkable nonprofit humanitarian organization known as Helping Hands.

This organization, which was first established in 1979, has placed 131 specially trained capuchin monkeys in the homes of severely disabled Americans throughout the country at absolutely no cost to the recipient.

While Helping Hands initially received some financial assistance from the National Science Foundation, the Paralyzed Veterans of America and the U.S. Veterans Administration, it has been operating solely on its own since its final government grant in 1994. The purpose of this legislation is not to authorize any government funding for this organization. In fact, it is simply designed to correct what I am sure is an unintended consequence of a bill, H.R. 2964, the Captive Wildlife Safety Act that passed the House of Representatives on June 17, 2008.

The measure I am introducing today is a solution to the problem created by H.R. 2964 which would prohibit the transportation of nonhuman primates across State lines. Since this legislation is pending action in the other body, I have incorporated the text of the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, as passed by the House, in this measure with the modification of allowing the Helping Hands organization to continue to place their service monkeys in the homes of disabled Americans throughout this country. It is a narrowly tailored change that only exempts a nonprofit organization that provides service monkeys to recipients with severe mobility impairment.

Madam Speaker, until my office was recently contacted by a representative of Helping Hands, I was not aware of its existence. I was also not aware that capuchin monkeys were being specifically trained at the Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation Center in Boston to help disabled individuals with simple everyday tasks. This training lasts between 18 to 24 months and costs about \$10,000 per monkey. It is a remarkable program.

Upon graduation, these trained service monkeys are transported by car and plane from Boston to disabled recipients throughout the United States. The recipients must hold a valid state permit for the nonhuman primate and Helping Hands retains ownership of the service monkey at all times.

For nearly 30 years, this humanitarian organization has provided invaluable assistance to Americans with polio, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injuries, military veterans who sustained severe injuries in Vietnam and Iraq and people who are paralyzed or live with other severe mobility impairments. The service monkeys perform a variety of tasks including retrieving dropped items, turning on the television or loading a compact disc, putting straws in drinking bottles and pushing buttons on personal computers. Just as importantly, these service monkeys provide the disabled recipients with a sense of independence, companionship and a renewed enthusiasm for life.

Madam Speaker, my bill will make a small simple modification to the Lacey Act to ensure that Helping Hands will be able to continue to transport its service monkeys to worthy recipients in all 50 States and U.S. territories in the future. I am confident that the authors of H.R. 2964 never intended to adversely affect this humanitarian group nor did they realize it would effectively kill this nationwide effort to assist Americans like the marine who was severely injured by a roadside explosion in Iraq. As a result of this attack, the marine sustained a severe brain injury, lost both legs and one of his eyes. Today, he is living in southern California and he has become a recent recipient of a Helping Hand service monkey.

Madam Speaker, I urge the adoption of the Captive Primate Safety and Disabled Human Assistance Act. It is a humanitarian solution to what would be, if uncorrected, a serious problem. It is also right that we allow our disabled military veterans who have sacrificed so much for this country the opportunity to participate in the Helping Hands Program. I want to also acknowledge that the Army Veterinary Corps has already endorsed its enactment.

TRIBUTE TO GARY SINNWELL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Gary Sinnwell as the recipient of the 2007 Siemens Award for Advanced Placement (AP) for his commitment and enthusiasm as a Mason City, Iowa High School teacher.

Mr. Sinnwell is a mathematics instructor who has taught at Mason City High School for 20 years. He graduated from Waterloo Columbus High School and earned his teaching degree from the University of Northern Iowa. He continues to further his education by pursuing his master's degree. Mr. Sinnwell was humbled by the award and contributes his success to his own excellent teachers while in high school.

Another secret to Mr. Sinnwell's success is his devotion to serving others. While in college, he volunteered his time at Waterloo West High School and found his calling in serving as a role model and helping guide

youth. Mr. Sinnwell's goal is to help his students work cooperatively and be self-directed learners.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in commending and congratulating Gary Sinnwell. It is an honor to represent Mr. Sinnwell in Congress, and I wish him the best as he continues to provide a positive impact as a role model and educator for the youth he serves.

DR. JERRY LIN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, noted historian Henry Brooks Adams once said that, "A teacher affects eternity—he can never tell where his influence stops." Today I come to honor one of the most influential teachers at Lamar University. Each year the Lamar University Research Council chooses to honor a faculty member for their outstanding contributions to scholarship, research, grant writing, and creative activity. Associate Professor of Civil Engineering Dr. Jerry Lin received the 2008 University Scholar Award, the university's highest honor recognizing research and creative activity.

Since he joined Lamar University in 1999, Dr. Lin has been considered one of the leading investigators in his field. He has received over \$3 million in research grants where his interests include both air quality and water quality in environmental science and engineering. He is particularly well known for his contributions in mercury research. This has led to collaborations with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the Texas Air Research Center, among others.

Dr. Lin has a sincere love for helping and teaching. His work as an associate professor and academic advisor has affected many lives. He has taught 5 undergraduate and 12 graduate courses at Lamar. Dr. Lin serves as the faculty advisor of the American Society of Civil Engineers, which has won over 40 regional competitions under his direction since 2000.

Dr. Lin is a distinguished author who has been quoted by many other researchers all over the world, from Canada to France and China. He has authored over 100 publications, from book chapters to peer-reviewed journal articles. Publications such as Environmental Science and Technology and the Journal of Environmental Engineering have featured his work. Dr. Lin has been invited to speak in Thailand, Croatia, and across the United States.

Awards and recognition are nothing new to Dr. Lin. He has received the University Research Forum Award, Who's Who in Engineering and Science, the Gill Master Award for Young Investigator, and in 2002 received a University Merit Award, which recognizes faculty members who show an outstanding commitment to education.

Dr. Lin's passion for students, his research projects and publications, and contributions to his field earned him this top honor. I am proud to recognize his contributions in the Second Congressional District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on July 14, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my vote for rollcall No. 486.

Had I been present I would have voted: Rollcall No. 486—"yes"—Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the crossing of the North Pole by the USS *Nautilus* (SSN 571).

TRIBUTE TO MARILYN ADAMS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Marilyn Adams of Earlham, Iowa for her dedication to promoting farm safety and earning the Volvo for Life National Hometown Hero Award.

The Volvo for Life National Hometown Hero Award recognizes leaders in safety, the environment and quality of life. In addition to the award, Marilyn receives a Volvo vehicle of her choice and is able to trade-in for a new Volvo vehicle every three years. Marilyn dedicated the award to her son who passed away in a farm accident over two decades ago. To help prevent other farm accidents, Marilyn founded Farm Safety 4 Just Kids, which is a farm advocacy safety organization for children. It started as a local organization and grew to a national and international organization which has 137 chapters across the globe. Marilyn also received \$100,000 which she is putting into an endowment for Farm Safety 4 Just Kids.

Marilyn's dedication to educating children and her commitment to preserving the lives of children in the farming community should be commended. I consider it an honor to represent Marilyn Adams in the United States Congress and I wish her and Farm Safety 4 Just Kids the very best in the future.

FEDERAL LAND ASSISTANCE,
MANAGEMENT, AND ENHANCE-
MENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, with nearly 300 fires continuing to burn in California, it is clear we cannot afford to wait to deal with the enduring threat forest fires pose to our communities. That's why I rise in strong support of H.R. 5541, the Federal Land Assistance, Management, and Enhancement (FLAME) Act.

Over the last decade, we've seen a dramatic increase in the number of devastating forest fires. Those fires have long lasting effects on our ecosystem, increasing the deadliness of mudslides, which destroy our homes, displace once vegetated areas with bare terrain, and disburse large quantities of pollutants across broad regions.

Nine million acres burned across the United States last year, and there is no indication that 2008 will be any different. Climate change and drought are creating longer and more intense fire seasons, while a century of fire containment has made the forests denser and more vulnerable to burning.

The increase in forest fires has led to skyrocketing costs for federal fire suppression efforts, which prevents the U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service Agency from adequately funding essential programs that will lessen the intensity of fires, reduce their frequency, and better protect the public. The FLAME Act would prevent future forest fires from devastating communities across the country and crippling federal land management agency budgets by creating an emergency national fund devoted solely to fighting such destructive fires. This fund will be separate from traditional funding for fire mitigation and prevention.

It's our responsibility to empower our nation's firefighters with the tools they need to effectively fight forest fires. I ask my colleagues to join me in passing this important legislation to better ensure that our citizens, environment, and ecosystem are safe from the dangers of forest fires.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION OF
CONGRESS TO THE FAMILIES OF
MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES

SPEECH OF

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2008

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 295, which takes the initiative in extending the appreciation of Congress to both the members of the United States Armed Forces and their families.

First, I want to commend the chief sponsor, Mr. BILIRAKIS of Florida, for his great efforts in introducing this important bill.

As a former member of our United States Armed Forces, I want to personally convey my gratitude to Congressman BILIRAKIS and all of the co-sponsors for bringing this vital resolution forth. It is an example of the Congress' dedication to those serving our country around the world and our efforts to assist their families in various ways.

Mr. Speaker, with increased conflicts around the world needing our armed forces' attention, the amount of our active troops has increased exponentially. According to the Department of Defense (DOD), we currently have over 2 million personnel serving. Of that number, there are more than 700,000 households with at least one parent deployed on active military duty. While deployed, the remaining family provides much needed support to their military members through correspondence and packages. Yet, many times, these families do not have the resources to provide the full support they desire. Fortunately, the Department of Defense offers assistance through numerous programs. For example, the Military Homefront aids service members, whether active or retired, and their families with DOD Quality of Life programs. Even with the available pro-

grams, more programs are needed in order to provide for both the immediate and extended families of our current and past military personnel.

In response to this growing need, Congressman BILIRAKIS introduced H. Con. Res. 295 on February 13, 2008. This includes not only the support of the United States Armed Forces, but also support of their families through any physical and emotional ordeals that may arise as their loved ones devote their lives to their country. As the Representative for American Samoa, I realize the great importance of supporting our military families. The Samoan people take great pride in serving our nation and have shown it through our high recruitment numbers. Yet regrettably, we also have the highest casualty rate per capita. Just a few weeks ago, a son of American Samoa, Lt. Col. Max Galea'i was killed while supporting combat operations in Iraq's Al Anbar Province. Last week, I was honored to accompany Max's family, his wife Evelyn and four beautiful children, to American Samoa where Max was laid to rest. The 42-year old commander of the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines from the Marine Corps Base Hawaii represented the epitome of a proud military member, and for his dedication and for the dedication of all our service men and women and their families, we must support this bill.

For the sake of their commitment and sacrifice, we must honor our United States Armed Forces by supporting those most important to them, their families. I urge my colleagues to pass H. Con. Res. 295, and I thank you for your support of this very important resolution.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
WILLIAM F. "BILL" ROBINSON**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a dedicated public servant whose contributions to the residents of my district will live on for many years to come—The Honorable William F. "Bill" Robinson.

Born in Valdosta, Ga., Mr. Robinson spent part of his youth in Miami, where he excelled at baseball. In 1934, he went on to play in the Negro Leagues for the Brooklyn Royals, as a catcher for the team until 1940. His old uniform now hangs in the Negro League's Baseball Museum in Kansas City, Mo.

Moved to Buffalo in 1942, Mr. Robinson employed his training as a welder and was recruited to build machine guns at the old Buffalo Arms plant during World War II. He later was employed at International Railway Co., a forerunner to the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (NFTA), for which he was one of the first African-American bus drivers, retiring in 1979 after 35 years of service.

What's most amazing, however, is what Bill Robinson did long after most people retire from active work service. Retired from the NFTA but still active as a Democratic Party activist, Mr. Robinson was appointed to the County Legislature in the mid-1980s, following the death of his son Barry, who had been elected to three terms in his own right.

Mr. Robinson's service in the Legislature for a time coincided with my own service on the

Buffalo Common Council, and while we represented different portions of the city, Mr. Robinson's commitment to his community was on constant display. From 1986 to 1993, Bill Robinson served his constituents with honor, dignity and effectiveness. A quiet man with enormous intelligence, it was an honor to call Bill Robinson my colleague in government. During his time in the Legislature, Bill Robinson served with men and women who would later become members of Congress, State Senators, Members of the State Assembly (including party floor leaders) and many other officeholders.

Madam Speaker, Bill Robinson was a truly dedicated public servant; an individual who touched the lives of everyone he met. The impact he made in Erie County will forever bear his name and legacy. I thank you for joining all of Erie County in expressing to the Robinson family the deepest condolences of the House upon their loss.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, yesterday I was unavailable to vote and missed the votes on:

H. Res. 1067—Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the crossing of the North Pole by the USS *Nautilus* (SSN 571) and its significance in the history of both our Nation and the world (Rep. COURTNEY—Armed Services).

H. Res. 1080—Honoring the extraordinary service and exceptional sacrifice of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), known as the Screaming Eagles (Rep. WHITFIELD—Armed Services).

H. Con. Res. 297—Recognizing the 60th anniversary of the integration of the United States Armed Forces. (Rep. ROGERS (AL)—Armed Services).

Although each of those bills passed by an overwhelming margin, I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcalls 486, 487, and 488.

IN TRIBUTE TO STEWART R. MOTT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to serve as Co-Chair of the 74-Member Congressional Progressive Caucus in this Congress. In that capacity, I am saddened by the recent death of one of the great progressive leaders and philanthropists of my generation—Stewart R. Mott. Many of us have attended functions and meals at the renowned Mott House across the street from the U.S. Supreme Court. Hosting so many of us so often for progressive causes was just one of the countless ways in which this remarkable man gave of himself and his personal wealth to defend the Bill of Rights and preserve our liberty.

It is not very often that the editorial writers at the Wall Street Journal pay homage to lib-

erals. But that is just what they did a few weeks ago in the following editorial about Stewart Mott under the heading: A Liberal Freedom Fighter.

A LIBERAL FREEDOM FIGHTER

Some people walk to the beat of their own brass band, and so it was for Stewart Mott, the eccentric liberal philanthropist and General Motors heir who died last week at 70 years old. Beloved by Democrats for his decades of charity to progressive causes, he was also a notable champion of free political speech.

In 1968, he was one of a handful of millionaires who bankrolled the primary campaign of Eugene McCarthy, at the time a little-known Minnesota Senator challenging a sitting President. With the help of Mott's \$210,000, that effort became a groundswell that drove Lyndon Johnson out of the race and changed Democratic foreign policy. In our view that change wasn't for the better, but without Mott and other "fat cat" donors, Clean Gene might never have had an impact.

Mott went on to finance the candidacy of George McGovern in 1972. Four years later, he went to court to protect his right to make such contributions, joining Republican Senator James Buckley's challenge to a 1974 campaign finance law in Buckley v. Valeo. Mott and the First Amendment lost that fight, but he would live to see his views vindicated by the political shambles that Congress and the High Court have made trying to limit money in campaigns.

Today, the campaign finance laws have strengthened the incumbents whom Mott loved to challenge, while making political donations less transparent than ever. And today, unlike Mott, George Soros and other wealthy liberal patrons support campaign-finance rules that enhance their own power by limiting others. Stewart Mott was admirably truer to his liberal principles.

IN CELEBRATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND CIVIC LEADER ALBERT TEGLIA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening in celebration of a true humanitarian and community leader, Albert Mario Teglia, who has served his community and our nation for well over half a century as a public employee, elected official and mentor.

Albert Teglia has lived his entire life in San Mateo County. Born in Colma on June 27, 1931, as a teenager he moved to Daly City, a community he would serve with distinction as a Trustee of the Jefferson Union High School District, Daly City Councilman, and Mayor. During his long tenure in public office, Al was widely-respected as a hard worker, unabashed community booster and savvy coalition-builder. I had the privilege of working with Al on many issues, as well as the daunting challenge of opposing him on a handful of others. Whether sitting side-by-side or across the table, Al always earned my complete respect for his thoughtfulness and honesty.

Upon his retirement after 38 years with the San Mateo Union High School District and 26 years in elected office, Al continued his serv-

ice as Legislative Aide to San Mateo County Supervisor Mary Griffin. From there, at the sprightly age of 69, he became a family and children advocate for the San Mateo County Human Services Agency, where he has been instrumental in founding programs such as Jobs for You, which provides employment for young people; the Peddler Program, Children's Fund, and the Italian Catholic Federation's Gifts of Love, which gather donations of cash, household items, food and toys for local families in need; and the Uninsured Children's Dental Program, which finds dentists for children from underprivileged families.

Madam Speaker, how a life this full allows any time for socializing, I can't fathom. But Albert Teglia, true to his Italian heritage, is a man of boundless energy and passion. This is evidenced by his membership in the Italian Catholic Federation, where he served as Grand President and in many other capacities since joining in 1948. It was at the ICF that he met the beautiful and vivacious Frances Foglia, a one-time Sacramento District President who, after decades of friendship, consented to marry the still-handsome Albert when both found themselves newly-single in their later years.

On April 1st of this year, Albert and Frances, both 77 years young, were married. Albert joins Frances' large and boisterous family of two children, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Of all the responsibilities and projects Al has taken on in his busy and productive life, none will be as rewarding, fulfilling (and exhausting) as becoming a new great-grandfather.

But, Madam Speaker, those of us who know Al Teglia know that he will succeed in this new challenge as he has succeeded in every task he has undertaken. He will do it with grace, compassion, intellect and an undeniable charisma. The Foglia family is fortunate to have him join them, just as I am honored to have him as a constituent and proud to call Albert Teglia my friend.

HONORING DANIEL ON THEIR 124TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Florida's oldest child service agency, Daniel, located in Jacksonville.

On July 19, 2008, Daniel will celebrate 124 years of service to Northeast Florida's abandoned, abused and neglected children. Founded in 1884 as The Orphanage and Home for the Friendless and later named for Colonel James Daniel, a well-known community leader who died as a result of his fight against Jacksonville's yellow fever epidemic, Daniel has continued to serve our children and our community uninterrupted since that time.

Over the years, Daniel has served more than 100,000 children, gained national acclaim as a leader in the area of independent living services and offered our children structure, routine and discipline in caring and comfortable facilities where they can learn, live and know that they are valued.

Through its many programs, Daniel works hard to give the children entrusted in its care

the tools to develop solid character traits for life. Character builds slowly but can be torn down with incredible swiftness. Through the years, daniel's staff has continued to strengthen our community by dedicated devotion to the children they serve. They are in the business of building lives. They plant a thought and reap an act. They plant an act and reap a habit. They plant a habit and reap a character trait. They plant character and reap a destiny.

As a community it may be years before we realize the full value of daniel's services. But each time one of daniel's kids goes on to become a productive member of our community, it is testimony to their hard work. I congratulate this very special program and rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of daniel's 124 years of service to the children of our community.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD COBLE

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in order to honor a great man and a dedicated Member of this body. Today HOWARD COBLE has become the longest serving Republican Member from North Carolina in the history of the House of Representatives. HOWARD has been a credit to the North Carolina delegation since 1984 and I wish to thank him for his service and his wonderful work on behalf of the people of our State.

It should be remembered that Representative COBLE's dedication to service did not begin with his election to Congress. Before he ever came to this Chamber HOWARD had already spent 5½ years on active duty in the U.S. Coast Guard and another 18 years as a reservist. He had served as an Assistant County Attorney for Guilford Co., an Assistant U.S. Attorney, and the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Revenue. Beyond these roles he had served his community through 5 years of work in the North Carolina General Assembly.

Since coming to Congress HOWARD has represented the sixth District of North Carolina with a dedication and ability that has endeared him to his constituents. I have been honored to serve with him and to call him a friend. And now that those same constituents have kept him in Congress longer than any other Republican from North Carolina in history, I congratulate him on this milestone and I look forward to continuing to serve with HOWARD in the future.

THE DAILY 45: VICTIMS' FAMILIES
IN MIAMI SUPPORT EACH OTHER

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, the Department of Justice tells us that, everyday, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. Those victims have families who struggle each and every day to survive the violence and its emotional toll.

I was struck by news accounts, last week-end, of how grieving families in Miami, Florida are standing together to find the strength to live their lives. Arleen White, grieving mother to her slain, 15-year-old son Anthony, stared down her son's teenaged murderer in a local courtroom last week. The juvenile was about to be released for time served, because of his age, for taking her son's life with a gun in the midst of a home invasion. Said White, "I'm full of tears, but I give God thanks for this day because when this is all over, I ain't got to worry about nobody gunning down my boy in the street because you already did that."

White's son was killed in 2003 when 47 African Americans were the victims of homicide in Miami. To date, 50 black youth have been killed, in this community, most with the use of firearms.

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will we say "Enough is enough, stop the killing!"

TRIBUTE TO LAURA WEGMANN

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commend Laura Wegmann of Woodburn, Indiana. Laura won the 2008 Indiana Right to Life Oratory Contest and recently participated in the national finals held in Washington, DC.

Laura is a terrific role model for young adults in Indiana. She has excelled both in school and various extracurricular activities. I am especially proud that she has joined me and millions across this Nation in speaking out against the heinous practice of abortion and physician assisted suicide. Her speech is a testament to the value of human life and I ask that it be submitted into the RECORD.

LAURA WEGMANN'S INDIANA RIGHT TO LIFE ORATORY
CONTEST SPEECH

In the climactic scene of the movie, "Judgment at Nuremberg," set in post Nazi Germany, Chief Justice Daniel Haywood, of the American Tribunal, delivers the sentence of four Nazi leaders. The men on trial were accused of consigning millions of innocent lives to the infamous gas-chambers of Auschwitz. After the tribunal's deliberation, Judge Haywood ardently declared: "Before the people of the world, let it now be noted—that here in our decision, this is what we stand for: justice, truth and the value of a single human being."

Judge Haywood's conclusion was neither new nor radical. It was, rather, an affirmation of the fundamental principle that all individuals possess inherent worth and dignity, simply by virtue of being human. This was the very principle which the German people failed to uphold and it is the same principle that has come under attack today, by those in support of physician assisted suicide.

If legalized federally, as it is in the State of Oregon, this act threatens to become one of the most fraudulent perversions of justice legitimized in the wake of *Roe v. Wade*. The Supreme Court's decision on abortion stated: "Only viable human beings who have the capability for meaningful life may, but need not, be protected by the state." It is just as Francis Schaefer warned: "Will a society which has assumed the right to kill infants in the womb—because they are unwanted,

imperfect, or merely inconvenient—have difficulty in assuming the right to kill other human beings . . . ?" No. This is where abortion on demand has brought us. Once our Nation swallowed the lethal pill of choice, anything and everything became acceptable.

Proponents of the right to die movement have lost all respect for human life. To many of these advocates, Physician assisted suicide is, in the words of Derrick Humphry, Hemlock Society's co-founder, the "ultimate civil liberty." They contend that individual autonomy and quality of life supersede all other considerations. As one of their proponents, Carol Ferry argued: "The idea that human life is sacred no matter the condition or the desire of the person, seems to me irrational"

This same spirit fueled the Nazi madness. In 1941, German officials removed thousands of disabled children from their families. Among the innocent was a young boy afflicted with Down Syndrome. He was sent to the crematorium because his condition was thought burdensome to society. This little one was Pope Benedict's young cousin.

Today's cries for individual autonomy and quality of life are twisted both in their use of language and in their treatment of humanity. They deny the very words which have been declared self-evident, secure, instituted among men and understood to be unalienable, that is, ". . . that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." We are not mere machines, that if broken, should be discarded. Nor are we animals that if found suffering may be killed. We are human beings created in the image of God and therefore worthy of the utmost respect, love and protection.

How then, should we contend with this Industry of Death? First we must address the proper role of medicine. Many advancements have been made in the area of palliative care. Palliative care, takes its meaning from the Latin: *pulliave*, to cover. It is a form of specialized care that concentrates efforts in reducing pain, stress and the severity of symptoms.

We must never allow society to lose sight of the fact that doctors are healers, and when they can no longer heal, their role is to comfort. We must exhort the medical community to uphold the classic Hippocratic Oath which states: "I will neither give a deadly drug . . . nor will I make [any] suggestion to this effect." To accept killing as a medical procedure would grant unprecedented power to the medical community. Such acceptance would ultimately lead to abuse. Let us not forget, that America is an aging society. It is estimated that in a few short years over 71 million Americans will be 65 years and older. Cost cutting agendas combined with dwindling resources would inevitably lead HMO's and other healthcare providers to perceive mercy killing as a form of cost control.

Finally, we must do everything in our power to shake this Nation from its ethical stupor. Our message of hope and truth must fill the sanctuaries, echo in the classroom, and ring in the ears of our elected officials. We must flood our libraries with well written books and publications exposing this wretched Industry of Death. We, the Pro Life community, must define for society our firmly set principles. We must affirm, to those who would be robbed, we will overcome this present evil. We too must ardently declare as Justice Haywood did: "Before the people of the world, let it now be noted . . . this is

what we stand for: justice, truth and the value of a single human being.”

COMMEMORATING ARIZONA NATIVE AMERICAN RIGHT TO VOTE DAY

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor our Native American communities, 22 federally recognized Arizona tribal nations, representing more than 300,000 community members.

On June 2, 1924, the United States Congress passed the Indian Citizenship Act which guaranteed certain citizenship rights to Native Americans, however in Arizona and other states that did not guarantee their right to vote.

Yet, as early as 1863, before citizenship was granted, Pima and Maricopa warriors were serving in the United States Army protecting settlers in the Arizona territory.

Additionally, while Arizona Native Americans were not considered citizens of the United States before World War I, more than 8,000 Native Americans from Arizona served our country in the United States military during World War I.

In 1928, Peter Porter, a Pima from the Gila River Indian Community, courageously filed the initial lawsuit to challenge the denial of Native Americans' right to vote. His efforts were denied by the Arizona Supreme Court. The Court argued that Native Americans were under federal guardianship.

In 1940, this distinguished body passed the Nationality Act of 1940, reaffirming citizenship of Native Americans, inspiring more than 25,000 Native Americans to serve our country in the United States military. Yet, they were still being denied the right to vote in Arizona.

In 1947, two courageous Arizonans, Frank Harrison and Harry Austin, filed suit to overturn the 1928 Arizona Supreme Court decision which denied Native Americans the right to vote. The acts of these men, both members of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, a community that I am honored to serve and represent in the United States Congress, won the landmark case. On July 15, 1948, the 1928 court ruling was overturned and Arizona's Native Americans confirmed their right to vote.

Tuesday, July 15, 2008, is Arizona Native American Right to Vote Day. It is on this day that we celebrate the 60th anniversary of this pivotal moment in the recognition of the rights of our Native American citizens. Their patriotic actions set an example for all who see injustice and fight to overcome it, and I am proud to call the people of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation my constituents.

It is with a great deal of pride that I rise today to honor our Arizona Native American community. It is also with great resolve that I reaffirm my commitment to our Native people, honor their sovereignty and urge the United States Congress to honor all commitments to our Native American Tribal Nations.

TRIBUTE TO MR. FRANCIS A. LEONE, SR.

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Francis A. Leone, Sr., a former resident of my congressional district in Upstate New York, and his remarkable record of service as a World War II and Korean war veteran.

It is always a pleasure to recognize the service and sacrifices made by our military veterans, and Mr. Leone is no exception. In 1940, at the age of 19, Mr. Leone enlisted as a private in the Army National Guard. He was assigned to Company M 10th Infantry 27th Division. Stationed for basic and advanced infantry training in Fort McClellan, Alabama, he quickly moved up the ranks and was promoted to corporal. In 1942, his unit was dispatched to the Pacific Theatre of World War II. Throughout the next 3 years, Mr. Leone saw combat in Eneiwetok, Saipan, and Okinawa. During this period he was promoted to the rank of staff sergeant, where he was honorably discharged at the end of World War II.

Mr. Leone demonstrated his deep patriotism again in 1946, when he reenlisted in the New York Army Guard Truck Company. There he held the rank of first sergeant and was assigned as chief of small arms repair. In January 1950, he was appointed warrant officer junior grade, as a small arms and ordnance supply officer and joined the 132nd Ordnance Company stationed at Fort Pickett, Virginia. Later that year his unit was recalled to active Federal service for the Korean war. In May 1952, Mr. Leone and his unit were transferred to Germany where he served with the 93rd Light Aviation Maintenance Company. He was promoted to the rank of chief warrant officer.

Mr. Leone served the remainder of the war and following years in various assignments within maintenance. On May 30, 1981, at the age of 60, he was honorably discharged.

During Mr. Leone's time of service he received 17 awards and medals including the Bronze Star, the Army Commendation, and a Combat Infantry Badge, among others. However, his time in the military had a cost. During World War II, Mr. Leone spent 5 long years without seeing his family and loved ones, 3 of those years in combat.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Leone's dedication to this Nation and its citizens is to be commended. His service should be an inspiration to us all. Thank you, Mr. Leone, for your hard work and tremendous personal sacrifices for our Nation.

CONGRATULATING NEIL SLATER, CHAIRMAN OF THE JAZZ STUDIES DIVISION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS, ON AN OUTSTANDING CAREER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding career of

Neil Slater, chairman of the Jazz Studies Division at the University of North Texas and nationally recognized jazz composer. Mr. Slater has been an integral part of the UNT School of Music for 27 years and plans to retire in August.

Mr. Slater created the jazz masters program at the University of North Texas, and has been instrumental in making UNT one of our nation's outstanding colleges for jazz composition and performance. In addition to his role as chairman of the jazz department, Mr. Slater also leads the "One O'Clock Lab Band," a jazz ensemble named after its traditional practice time. This Band has performed and recorded across the world, occasionally participating alongside jazz greats as Freddie Hubbard, Joe Henderson, and Ron Carter.

Slater was nominated for a Grammy award in 1993, and he received a 1995 National Endowment for the Arts fellowship grant. He has composed over 60 pieces for jazz ensembles, in addition to writing pieces for symphony, mixed chamber groups, a cappella chorus, and theater. In recognition of his reputation as a jazz expert, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers has bestowed its "Standard Award" upon Slater each year since 1987. Prior to educating musicians at UNT, Mr. Slater founded the Jazz Studies program at the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut.

I commend Neil Slater for his outstanding career as an educator and composer. As an alumnus of the University of North Texas, I am especially proud of the work he has done to make the University a leader in jazz education. I am honored to represent Neil Slater and the University of North Texas in the 26th District of Texas.

TRIBUTE TO CATHERINE M. "KITTY" LAFALCE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ms. Catherine M. "Kitty" (Stasio) LaFalce, proud mother of our former colleague, Congressman John J. LaFalce.

Born in Buffalo in 1914, Mrs. LaFalce the youngest of a brood of 14 children, and was as devoted as Western New Yorker as we have ever seen. She will be dearly missed by her many family members who will hold her memory with them always.

Mrs. LaFalce, who passed away last week at the age of 94, was a wonderful wife to the late Dominic E. LaFalce, and was the beloved mother of two children: John and Lorraine LaFalce Kenny; was grandmother to four grandchildren: Lauren, Christine, Allison, and Martin; and great-grandmother to four: Austin, Rachel, Colton, and Autumn. Her life was a blessing to her friends, family, and community. Survived also by her dear sister, Rita Chiavaroli and many dozens of family members and good friends, Mrs. LaFalce's memory will be one of a strong woman with tremendous faith, and her memory will endure for many years to come.

Madam Speaker, I hope that you will join with me in expressing to our former colleague Mr. LaFalce and to the entire LaFalce family

the most sincere condolences of the House upon the passing of Catherine M. "Kitty" LaFalce.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this House with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is July 15, 2008 in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today, Mr. Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,958 days since the tragedy called *Roe v. Wade* was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common. First, they were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone, and each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the

same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government." The phrase in the 14th Amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Mr. Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth.

It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Madam Speaker, it is who we are.

And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

So Madam Speaker, let me conclude this Sunset Memorial in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard it tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies; that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express; and that 12,958 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that it is time that we stood up together again, and remembered that we are the same America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust; and we are still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

Madam Speaker, as we consider the plight of unborn America tonight, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each one of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of innocent unborn children. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny, little American brothers and sisters from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is July 15, 2008, 12,958 days since *Roe versus Wade* first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children; this in the land of the free and the home of the brave.