

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JAROSCH BAKERY

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Jarosch Bakery in Elk Grove Village, Illinois in my Congressional District.

Jarosch Bakery was founded in 1959 by father and son George and Herbert Jarosch in order to provide quality baked goods to the northwest suburbs of Chicago. George emigrated from Germany where he had grown up learning the art of baking from his father's business. His son Herbert, a veteran of the Korean War and a trained baker, worked with his father to establish this successful business in downtown Elk Grove.

Together with their wives and children the business has grown today into a successful company that employs more than 50 employees, many of whom have worked for the bakery for over 20 years. The bakery has grown by leaps and bounds, creating a welcoming environment for customers and producing some of the community's most sought-after treats. Through the years, the success of this business has depended on the tireless work of the Jarosch family and their dedicated employees.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing this 50th Anniversary as we celebrate Jarosch Bakery's legacy of hard work entrepreneurial spirit.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, HOSTING THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL MOVING WALL

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Cherokee County, North Carolina, hosting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall. Because of the outstanding efforts of the Cherokee County Marine Corps League, Western North Carolina residents can visit the Moving Wall at the Koneheta Park in Murphy, North Carolina.

The Moving Wall, a half-size replica of the national Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC, allows veterans around the country to experience the Memorial with their families and friends in their communities. The Wall will also provide area schools with valuable hands-on educational opportunities for children to gain better understanding of the

Vietnam War. The Memorial honors members of the U.S. armed forces who served in the Vietnam War and made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. I am honored that Cherokee County has the opportunity to host the Wall as a commemoration to the sacrifices made and the respect earned by our veterans in Western North Carolina.

Madam Speaker, it is with greatest appreciation that I recognize the outstanding contributions made by our veterans in Western North Carolina to ensure our nation's freedom and safety. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the importance of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall as a tribute to the invaluable service of our veterans, and to celebrate the unique opportunity it provides people around the country to honor our veterans in their home towns.

THE MARKET IS RESPONDING TO FAILING MORTGAGES

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, one of America's top concerns during this difficult economic time has been the frequency of home mortgage foreclosures.

Last week, there was news to encourage us. Efforts by banks, borrowers and the Administration to modify troubled mortgages have begun to produce much larger numbers of modifications.

As banks have stabilized their balance sheets and raised fresh capital, their officers even have been able to reduce borrowers' mortgage principal when they work out loans. Modifications that reduce the balances that borrowers owe on their homes have more than tripled.

Earlier this year, Congress debated legislation to change the Bankruptcy Code and force principal reductions on the market. The measure was rightly defeated. To send homeowners into bankruptcy is not the answer and forced principal reductions will chill future lending.

Recently, calls for bankruptcy legislation re-emerged in the House. Last week's news shows once more that the measure is not needed. The market has found a better solution.

Americans need Congress to do something else to help homeowners. Let's pass effective legislation to bring growth and jobs back to America. That is the better way to help people keep their homes.

RECOGNIZING ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY OF AUBURN AND CAYUGA COUNTIES

**HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I stand today in recognition of the Italian Heritage Society of Auburn and Cayuga Counties for providing over 30 years of service and hard work promoting the achievements of Christopher Columbus and local citizens who dedicate themselves to improving the community. The approaching Columbus Day holiday marks an opportunity to celebrate the rich heritage of Italian-Americans in our country and reflect on the important work of organizations like the Italian Heritage Society.

I would like to express special recognition of the late Professor Joseph Camardo, Sr., founder of the Italian Heritage Society of Auburn and an educator at Cayuga Community College for nearly 50 years.

Professor Camardo was a distinguished member of the Italian Heritage Society, described as the glue that bound the organization and kept its work on track. Never a stranger to long hours and working on weekends, Professor Camardo was inspired by the sacrifice and dedication embodied by our ancestors—both Italian and non-Italian alike—when they arrived in this great country many years ago. He knew that to attain a better life and a brighter future for our children and grandchildren, we must carry on the tradition of hard work established by our ancestors.

Professor Camardo leaves big shoes to fill, and I am confident that those who knew him understand the importance of his legacy and the need to continue his work. To the Camardo family and all whose life he touched, I offer my sincerest condolences. He will be remembered as a great friend, a wonderful husband and a loving family man.

The Italian Heritage Society continues carrying out its mission to promote civic engagement in the community by recognizing the men and women who go above and beyond, day-in and day-out, but don't always receive the recognition they've earned. With the help of a strong committee of leaders, each year the Society recognizes four or five members of the community who work hard to better the lives of those around them.

Madam Speaker, I offer my best wishes to all members of the Italian Heritage Society of Auburn and Cayuga Counties and encourage them to keep up the great work. It's truly an honor to serve as your representative in Congress.

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

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

HONORING RESURRECTION  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Resurrection Elementary School in Dubuque, Iowa. The students, parents, faculty, and staff at Resurrection Elementary have earned the 2009 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School Award. Resurrection is one of 320 schools in the United States and one of only 50 private schools that have earned the Blue Ribbon award this year.

The Blue Ribbon School Award is given annually to a select number of schools that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement. These schools are exemplary models that other schools can learn from. The students, families, faculty, and staff at Resurrection are a caring community. As part of the Holy Family Catholic School system, Resurrection is shaping students who believe in justice, peace, stewardship, academic and personal excellence, and civic responsibility.

Resurrection Elementary has worked hard to be one of the best schools in the country. I'm proud to represent Resurrection Elementary and the entire Holy Family Catholic Schools community in Congress and look forward to their continued success.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CAROL STREAM, ILLINOIS

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the incorporation of Carol Stream, Illinois, a vital part of my Congressional District.

The Village was founded by Jay Stream, a leading figure the city's first residential housing development, Carol Stream Estates, in 1959. Named after Jay's daughter Carol, the Village was incorporated on January 5th, 1959. From its early origins, Carol Stream has been a model for other cities and towns to follow, through its continued dedication building a friendly and welcoming community for residents and visitors alike.

On the occasion of this 50th Anniversary, we join together to celebrate Carol Stream's legacy of growth and prosperity and to look ahead to the opportunities facing our state and our nation. Today both marks 50 years of working together to build a brighter future, and reminds us that our work continues.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Carol Stream Mayor Frank Saverino, the Carol Stream Village Legislative Board and the citizens of Carol Stream, and in wishing them every happiness on this special occasion.

RECOGNIZING OLIVIA PATRICIA  
THOMAS, THE OLDEST LIVING  
NATURAL BORN U.S. CITIZEN

**HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN LEE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Williamsville, New York resident Olivia Patricia Thomas, who recently became the oldest living natural born United States citizen.

Born on June 29, 1895, Olivia, or Pat as she prefers to be called, recently celebrated her 114th birthday with family and friends. Originally from Iowa, Pat met her late husband Frederick in grade school in 1923, and the couple then moved to Buffalo in 1946 when Frederick began teaching engineering at the University at Buffalo.

Described as a "social butterfly" by friends, Pat can often be seen moving to the beat of music in group activities classes at St. Francis Home, where she has lived for the last few years.

An avid plant lover, Pat is affectionately referred to as "the plant lady" by her former neighbors for her love of foliage and always keeping a beautiful garden at her previous home, where she lived by herself until she was 109 years of age.

Pat is a wonderful woman and an inspiration to us all.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of her incredible achievement, I ask that this Honorable Body join me in honoring Olivia Patricia Thomas.

HONORING LOGAN SMITH

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

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

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

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

THE DR. HECTOR P. GARCIA DAY  
IN TEXAS

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the State of Texas for honoring Dr. Hector P. Garcia, with its first official Day of Recognition as a civil rights leader and founder of the American G.I. Forum of the United States.

During this past legislative session, the lawmakers of the State of Texas saw it fitting to honor September 16 as the Dr. Hector P. Garcia Day of Recognition throughout the great State of Texas.

Dr. Garcia was born on January 17, 1914, in the Mexican village of Llera, Tamaulipas, Mexico, to Jose and Faustina Garcia. In 1918, at the age of four, Dr. Garcia's parents and his six brothers and sisters left Mexico during the Mexican Revolution and relocated to Mercedes, Texas. During a time of unprecedented Hispanic uprising, he along with five of his brothers and sisters became doctors.

He went on to earn his bachelor's degree from the University of Texas and his medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston in 1940. In 1942, he enlisted in the United States Army and served in World War II. Army officials would go on to discover later during Dr. Garcia's enlistment that he was a medical doctor and he was asked to treat his fellow soldiers, a task he accepted.

While serving in Italy, he earned the Bronze Star Medal with six battle stars and also met his future wife, Wanda Fusillo, whom he married in 1945. In 1946, he was honorably discharged from the Army with a rank of major.

After the war, he moved to Corpus Christi, Texas, where he opened a medical practice, and founded the American G.I. Forum on March 26, 1948, to fight for the rights and benefits promised to returning Hispanic veterans' under the G.I. Bill. His civil rights movement would then grow to also combat discrimination in housing, jobs, education and voting rights.

Congress honored Dr. Hector P. Garcia, who died on July 26, 1996, at age 82. President Bill Clinton eulogized him as a national hero. Congress paid homage to Dr. Garcia in 1998 by granting the American G.I. Forum a congressional charter. This prestigious status places the American G.I. Forum on equal footing with the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and other such veterans organizations. The American G.I. Forum is the largest Hispanic veterans organization in the country, with over 500 chapters throughout the United States.

Dr. Hector P. Garcia is survived by his three daughters; a brother, Dr. C.P. Garcia of San Antonio; and Dr. Dalia Garcia of Corpus Christi. A son, Hector Jr., died in 1962 at age 13.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in commemorating the Dr. Hector P. Garcia Day of Recognition in which his service and dedication to the State of Texas and this country will be remembered on September 16 for years to come.

CHINA'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA TRANSMITTED THROUGH SECRETARY CLINTON IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Yang Jiechi, of the People's Republic of China in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

Hon. HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON,  
*Secretary of State, Department of State, Washington, DC, October 2, 2009.*

DEAR MADAM SECRETARY, I wish to extend to you, and through you to the people of American Samoa, my deepest condolences and sympathy following the recent powerful tsunami which has caused severe casualties and damage. We mourn the loss of so many lives and it is our sincere wish that the people in the affected areas will overcome the disaster and rebuild their homes as quickly as possible.

Sincerely yours,

YANG JIECHI,  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs,  
People's Republic of China.*

AOSIS'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from the Permanent Mission of Grenada to the United Nations as Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

PERMANENT MISSION OF  
GRENADA TO THE UNITED NATIONS,  
*New York, NY, October 1, 2009.*

NOTE NO. 080/09

Hon. ENI HUNKIN FALEOMAVAEGA,  
*Office of the Representative for American Samoa, Washington, DC.*

The Permanent Mission of Grenada to the United Nations in its capacity as Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) presents its compliments to the Office of the Representative for American Samoa, and with regret wishes to express utmost sympathy on the devastation and loss of life, which occurred as a result of the recent Tsunami.

On behalf of the Member States of AOSIS, the Permanent Mission of Grenada to the United Nations expresses deepest condolences to the Government and people of American Samoa, and to the grieving families and friends of those who lost their lives in this tragic occurrence.

The Permanent Mission of Grenada to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the Representative for American Samoa the assurances of its highest consideration.

NAURU'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Ambassador Marlene Moses of the Republic of Nauru in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU  
*New York, NY, October 1, 2009.*

Hon. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA,  
*Rayburn House Office Building,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN FALEOMAVAEGA, I wish to express my heartfelt condolences to you and the people of American Samoa for the tragic loss of life and devastation caused by the recent tsunami that has affected American Samoa. The thoughts and prayers of the people of Nauru are with you as you work towards recovery after this disaster.

If there is anything I can do to be of assistance, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

H.E. MARLENE MOSES,  
*Ambassador Extraordinaire  
and Plenipotentiary.*

UZBEKISTAN'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Ambassador Abdulaziz Kamilov of the Republic of Uzbekistan in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF UZBEKISTAN,  
*Washington, DC, September 30, 2009.*

Hon. ENI FALEOMAVAEGA,  
*Congressman of the United States of America,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN FALEOMAVAEGA, I have learned with deep sorrow the news of the tragic event in your country, resulting in numerous casualties.

Please accept my heartfelt condolences and convey our sympathy to the families and friends of the victims.

ABDULAZIZ KAMILOV,  
*Ambassador.*

INDONESIA'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from

Ambassador Sudjadnan Parnohadiningrat of the Republic of Indonesia in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

KEDUTAAN BESAR REPUBLIC INDONESIA, EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA,

*Washington, DC, October 1, 2009.*

Hon. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA,  
*Chairman, House Sub-Committee on Asia and the Pacific, Rayburn House Office Building,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR SIR, I have followed with sadness the distressing developments shown recently on the news channels regarding the massive tsunami that has struck your home islands of American Samoa causing numerous loss of lives and a great deal of suffering among the islanders.

On behalf of my staff, and in my own behalf, may I offer our deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to you and the people of the islands of Samoa on account of the suffering that they are enduring at this time.

We, Indonesians, understand all too well the situation now being faced in Samoa and share in your pain and suffering, as we are being reminded of our own Tsunami in December of 2004. Even at this writing we, too, are experiencing a massive earthquake that is spreading disaster on the island of Sumatra and exacting upon us a very heavy human toll.

May we join you in your prayers to God Almighty for mercy to those who have lost their lives, and for strength and fortitude to those who have to continue in the face of nature's fury.

Sincerely yours,

SUDJADNAN PARNOHADININGRAT,  
*Ambassador.*

HUNGARY'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Ambassador Bela Szombati of the Republic of Hungary in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

*October 1, 2009.*

Hon. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA,  
*Congressman, Rayburn House Office Building,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN FALEOMAVAEGA, I was deeply shocked to learn about the terrible tsunami and earthquake near the coast of American Samoa on 29 September, 2009 taking the life of 31 people.

The news about the tragic catastrophe shocked the entire Hungarian community in the United States and the citizens of Hungary as well.

On behalf of the Republic of Hungary and myself I express my sincere condolences to the relatives of those who lost their lives in the earthquake and tsunami in American Samoa.

Yours sincerely,

BELA SZOMBATI,  
*Ambassador of Hungary.*

**GRENADA'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI**

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Ambassador Dessima M. Williams of Grenada in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

PERMANENT MISSION OF GRENADA TO  
THE UNITED NATIONS,  
*New York, NY, October 1, 2009.*

Hon. FALEOMAVAEGA ENI HUNKIN,  
*Representative for American Samoa, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.*

Hon. HUNKIN: It is with a sense of grief that I express, on behalf of the Government and people of Grenada and myself, our deepest sorrow and sympathy to the Government and people of American Samoa and yourself on the loss of lives and destruction caused by the recent Tsunami. Our heartfelt condolences go out to your people and, in particular, to the grieving families and friends.

As you are aware, Grenada is very concerned about the vulnerability of island nations to such natural disasters and of the negative effects such disasters bring to the development of our countries. However, it is our sincere belief that through the strength, resilience, and persistence of the people as well as the diligence of the Government of American Samoa, the challenges caused by this extremely difficult circumstance could be overcome.

I take this opportunity on this grave occasion to extend Grenada's commitment and solidarity to the Government and people of American Samoa.

Sincerely yours,  
DESSIMA W. WILLIAMS,  
*Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative.*

**REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI**

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Jason C. Yuan, representative of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to the United States in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL  
REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE  
UNITED STATES,  
*Washington, DC, September 30, 2009.*

Hon. ENI FALEOMAVAEGA,  
*House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN FALEOMAVAEGA: On behalf of the government and the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan), I am writing to express our deepest condolences and support for the people of American Samoa after a massive tsunami hurled by a powerful earthquake yesterday.

I was greatly saddened by the tragic loss of life, as well as the damage to property, livelihoods and power outages. My thoughts and prayers are with the injured, the families who lost their loved ones and those who remain missing.

I also have offered our willingness to help in our most recent communications with officials in the Obama Administration. Please do not hesitate to inform me if we can be of assistance for the relief and recovery efforts. With deepest sympathy,

JASON C. YUAN,  
*Representative.*

**PALAU'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI**

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from President Johnson Toribiong of the Republic of Palau in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I was shocked and deeply saddened this morning when I found out that your beautiful islands were devastated by an earthquake and tsunami. I became more and more distressed throughout the day as the news reports advised just how devastating the tsunami had been. Words cannot truly express how heartrending that news was to me.

My deepest sympathies go out to you and to the people of American Samoa, especially the victims of this tragic disaster. Please convey my heartfelt condolences to your elected and traditional leaders and to your people. The Republic of Palau and I stand ready to assist your recovery efforts in whatever way we can. Please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Sincerely yours,  
JOHNSON TORIBIONG.

**THE PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI**

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Prime Minister Kevin Rudd of Australia as Chair of the Pacific Islands Forum in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2009.  
On behalf of the membership of the Pacific Islands Forum, I wish to formally convey our deepest condolences to Samoa, American Samoa and Tonga for the tragic loss of life as a consequence of the tsunami that struck on the morning of 29 September. Our prayers go out to all of those families who have lost loved ones and those injured or displaced by this tragic event.

I am confident that the Pacific family will do all it can to support the relief efforts in Samoa, American Samoa and Tonga.

As Chair of the Forum, I urge the broader international community to mobilise in support of the relief and recovery efforts and long term reconstruction of the villages and infrastructure devastated by the impacts of both the tsunami and the earthquake.

KEVIN RUDD,  
*Chair.*

**AUSTRALIA'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI**

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Ambassador Dennis Richardson of Australia in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA,  
*Washington, DC, October 5, 2009.*

Hon. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA,  
*Chairman, Sub-Committee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment, Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN, I am writing to extend my condolences for the loss of lives and large-scale damage experienced in American Samoa following the 30 September 2009 earthquake and the resulting tsunami.

Australia was pleased to be able to respond immediately to requests for assistance from our Pacific neighbours Samoa and Tonga, both of which were also devastated by the earthquake. Australia is providing both countries with disaster relief items, including food, clothing, shelter and medical supplies, and stands ready to offer further assistance as needed.

I understand you travelled immediately to American Samoa to survey the damage first hand and lend your support to relief efforts. I wish you well in these endeavours.

I have attached a 30 September 2009 statement by the Australian Prime Minister, the Honourable Kevin Rudd, in his capacity as the current Chair of the Pacific Island Forum, conveying his deepest condolences to Samoa, American Samoa and Tonga for the tragic loss of life as a consequence of the tsunami.

Yours sincerely,  
DENNIS RICHARDSON.

**HONORING ERIC DEAN WALLACE**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

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

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

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

IN RECOGNITION OF HURLEY  
MANNING

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Hurley Manning, a Northwest Florida community leader, upon the dedication of Hurley Manning Field at Milton High School. Coach Manning spent his career serving and teaching, and I am proud to honor his dedication and service.

Hurley is a life-long Floridian. He grew up in Milton, Florida, attending Allentown School, Berryhill Elementary, and Milton High School, graduating in 1956. He played football for Milton on the old Overman Field, and during his senior season played in the very first football game on the field being dedicated in his honor.

After graduating from Troy State University in 1960 and coaching football in Georgia and in Gainesville, Florida, Coach Manning eventually returned to Milton High School in 1968 as the head football coach. He served as head coach for 21 years, winning numerous District and Regional titles. He is the only football coach in the history of Santa Rosa County, Florida to win a state championship, which Coach Manning did twice in back-to-back years 1978 and 1979. He was extremely dedicated to the teaching profession, teaching for almost 30 years, and he continues to keep up with his athletes, who are known as "Hurley's Boys."

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize Coach Hurley Manning for his lifetime of service to the students and families of Northwest Florida. My wife Vicki and I wish him, his wife of 41 years, Shirley, his children Lynette Peterson and Heather Couper, and his grandchildren, all the best for continued success.

"THE IRAN REFINED PETROLEUM  
SANCTIONS ACT OF 2009—THE  
BILL IS RIGHT, AND THE TIME  
IS RIGHT"

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2194, the Iran Refined Petroleum Sanctions Act of 2009, which my good friend and colleague Chairman BERMAN introduced on April 30, and of which I am a co-sponsor.

Madam Speaker, this bill amends the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 to impose sanctions on persons who sell to or service, or otherwise commercially or financially support, Iran's petroleum industry. The bill responds to Iran's lack of refining capabilities—Iran imports 40 percent of its gasoline and relies on foreign

companies to develop its energy industry. Limiting Iran's access to refined petroleum could have a major effect on the Iranian economy—and on Ahmadinejad's policies.

Even as President Obama opens diplomatic talks with Iran, we know, from all our experience with Iran and so many other dictatorships, that a serious effort to peacefully stop Iran's development of nuclear weapons will require the strongest political and economic pressure our country can muster.

Madam Speaker, it will not only be worth the effort, but it's absolutely necessary that we make this effort. In this regard, I want to point out that we have repeatedly seen the correspondence between the way a government treats its own people and the way it behaves internationally. It seems to be almost a law of international relations: massive human rights violators behave deceitfully and aggressively, and the more massive the violations, the greater the deceit and aggression.

The law has certainly held in the case of the Ahmadinejad government, whose deceit in hiding a previously secret uranium enrichment facility was revealed several weeks ago, and whose support of Hezbollah and other terrorists and declarations of genocidal intent toward Israel are notorious. When we read the State Department's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices—I will attach the Iran summary as an addendum—we should keep in mind that all these outrages and atrocities Ahmadinejad and his cronies commit on their own citizens are more evidence of the aggression Ahmadinejad and his cronies are fully prepared and preparing to commit on Israel, toward whom they don't even pretend to have anything other than the most malevolent intent.

As former Senators Coats and Robb and General Wald wrote in the Washington Post on September 21: "By ratcheting up pressure on Iran before we sit down, Western negotiators would gain both sticks (additional measures) and carrots (repealing sanctions) with which to induce Iranian cooperation."

This is exactly right: the time to move this bill is now, before the administration opens its talks with the Ahmadinejad government. This House is ready to send a clear signal to the Iranian regime—that, though our President is negotiating, this country has not weakened one bit its fundamental commitment to defend Israel, that we will not tolerate nuclear threats to Israel, and we will not permit the Ahmadinejad government to obtain nuclear weapons.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and Chairman BERMAN to move this bill, which now has over 325 co-sponsors, to the floor for passage by the full House as soon as possible. The bill is right, and the time is right.

2008 COUNTRY REPORTS, IRAN SUMMARY

The government's poor human rights record worsened, and it continued to commit numerous serious abuses. The government severely limited citizens' right to change their government peacefully through free and fair elections. The government executed numerous persons for criminal convictions as juveniles and after unfair trials. Security forces were implicated in custodial deaths and committed other acts of politically motivated violence, including torture. The government administered severe officially sanctioned punishments, including death by stoning, amputation, and flogging. Vigilante groups with ties to the government com-

mitted acts of violence. Prison conditions remained poor. Security forces arbitrarily arrested and detained individuals, often holding them incommunicado. Authorities held political prisoners and intensified a crackdown against women's rights reformers, ethnic minority rights activists, student activists, and religious minorities. There was a lack of judicial independence and fair public trials. The government severely restricted civil liberties, including freedoms of speech, expression, assembly, association, movement, and privacy, and it placed severe restrictions on freedom of religion. Official corruption and a lack of government transparency persisted. Violence and legal and societal discrimination against women, ethnic and religious minorities, and homosexuals; trafficking in persons; and incitement to anti-Semitism remained problems. The government severely restricted workers' rights, including freedom of association and the right to organize and bargain collectively, and arrested numerous union organizers. Child labor remained a serious problem. On December 18, for the sixth consecutive year, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a resolution on Iran expressing "deep concern at ongoing systematic violations of human rights."

IN HONOR OF CHARLES J.  
"CHARLIE" VIZZINI

**HON. JOHN P. MURTHA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, Charles J. "Charlie" Vizzini. He was born in Colver, Pennsylvania on March 8, 1924 to John and Lillian Vizzini. He passed away on August 11 of this year.

Throughout his life, he dedicated himself to God, his country, and to his fellow man. In particular, he focused on remembering and helping his fellow veterans. His commitment stemmed from an incident during World War II when, as a young Army private stationed in France, Vizzini was wounded. He was struck in the chest by bullets from a German automatic pistol. An Army doctor was quoted in a 1944 article as saying that even though Vizzini sustained tremendous injuries, his life was saved because the bullets hit a New Testament in one of his breast pockets and a Catholic missal in the other. In a 1998 interview, Vizzini said, "I believe it is a miracle from the Lord that I am here today. That is the biggest reason I do the things I do to help veterans." While recovering from his injuries, he stayed in a European hospital for almost a year before returning to Colver. For his courageous efforts serving his country, he received two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star.

After returning to Cambria County, Vizzini married the former Glendora Waterhouse, his loving wife of 60 years. He worked in Pennsylvania's Ebensburg Center and served as commander of Ebensburg Post 4963, Veterans of Foreign Wars. He also served on the Pennsylvania Democratic Committee and was a member of Holy Name Catholic Church in Ebensburg.

Madam Speaker, Vizzini was particularly active in honoring veterans. He would organize annual Veterans Day memorial services to honor veterans. He would also hold services

on the anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor and to honor the memory of fellow Cambria County native Marine Sgt. Michael Strank who helped to raise the flag at Iwo Jima.

Vizzini was often the voice for those who did not have one. He was known for rallying at the Cambria County Courthouse for causes that he felt passionately about. To honor the 63 miners who died at the 1940 Sonman Mines explosion in Portage, Pennsylvania, he organized a memorial service. He also was influential in honoring the 112 who lost their lives in the Cambria Steel Company's 1902 Rolling Mine Mill explosion in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, I wish to conclude my remarks by saying that Charlie Vizzini will be remembered as a great American. He was a war hero who continued to serve his country by honoring his fellow veterans throughout his life. His selfless service to others in all walks of life will not be forgotten. Madam Speaker, Charlie Vizzini will truly be missed.

IN MEMORY OF COLONEL DONALD  
BLAKESKLEE

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it is with sadness that I inform the House of the death of Donald Blakeslee, Colonel, United States Army (Ret.) of Miami, Florida.

Col. Blakeslee was born in Fairport Harbor, Ohio. During his teenager years, he became fond of airplanes after watching them race every year at the National Air Races in Cleveland. Consequently, he and a friend, in the mid-1930s, bought a Piper Cub.

Prior to U.S. entrance into World War II, Col. Blakeslee's enthusiasm for fighting became clear when he joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. After pilot training, he was deployed to Britain, where he flew combat missions for the Royal Air Force (RAF) alongside a group of American volunteers known as American Eagle Squadrons. Ultimately, he became commander of the 133rd RAF Eagle Squadrons. When the Eagle Squadrons joined the U.S. Army Air Forces in September 1942, he became commander of the 335th Fighter Squadron. Then on January 1, 1944, Col. Blakeslee was named commander of the 4th Fighter Group of the 8th Fighter Command.

After four years in the European theater, Col. Blakeslee flew nearly 500 missions and had about 1,000 combat missions. According to Barrett Tillman, a former executive secretary of the American Fighter Aces Association, Col. Blakeslee had more missions and hours "than any other American fighter pilot of World War II." Some of his achievements include leading the first escort mission to Berlin on March 6, 1944, in which his group protected Boeing B-17s and Consolidated B-24s while dropping bombs over the German city and setting a record for most enemies shot down in one day at 31 planes on April 8, 1944.

On April 11, 1944, Col. Blakeslee was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by General Dwight D. Eisenhower. For his service in the Korean War, he received the Legion

of Merit. In all, his military service earned him two Distinguished Service Crosses, seven Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Silver Stars, six Air Medals and the British Distinguished Flying Cross.

After the World War II, Col. Blakeslee remained in the Air Force. He led the 27th Fighter Wing in Korea and served in Vietnam. In 1965, he retired to Florida to live with his wife, Leola Fryer. Col. Blakeslee is survived by his daughter Dawn Blakeslee.

Madam Speaker, Col. Donald Blakeslee was an honorable officer in the military. I am certain that the members of the House will join me in extending their heartfelt condolences to his family and friends. He will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. PAUL  
PRYOR HONORING THEIR 70TH  
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MARK H. SCHAUER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SCHAUER. Madam Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to Paul and Arlene Pryor, who celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary earlier this year. Through their devotion to one another, their commitment to their children and grandchildren, and their involvement in community life, Mr. and Mrs. Pryor have contributed a great deal to the State of Michigan and its future.

Standing by each other, Mr. and Mrs. Pryor have demonstrated the power of love for seven decades. This momentous anniversary only epitomizes the devotion they have shared for so many years. Paul and Arlene Pryor are truly an inspiration to many.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating their joyous occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 125TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF MAE EDWARDS  
MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th Anniversary of Mae Edwards Memorial United Methodist Church in Milton, Florida. Mae Edwards Memorial has long been a positive force in Northwest Florida, and I am proud to honor their tremendous contributions to the community.

Mae Edwards Memorial United Methodist was started in 1884 on the Andrew Jackson Brown property. Since there were no other churches in the local community, all of the families moving to the area attended the same church regardless of denomination. In 1916, a new community church was constructed and used by members of the Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Christian churches. During this time, Mae and Cliff Edwards moved to the area and joined the church. After their passing, the church was named as a memorial to Mae Edwards, who dedicated her time and

her effort to the church's progress and spiritual growth.

In 1936, the old church building was torn down, and wood from the building was used to construct a community hall and church alongside the local school. Church services were originally held in the community hall, but later moved inside the school after it was renovated. The old hall was converted into a kitchen, social area, and classrooms. The church continues to grow and serve the community, and in 2001, Mae Edwards Memorial was named the small membership church of the year for the Pensacola District. In a testament to the church's strength, many of the current members are descendants of the original church founders.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor Mae Edwards Memorial United Methodist Church upon 125 years of dedicated service to our community. My wife Vicki and I wish the best for continued growth and service to Reverend Byrd Mapoles and the entire church family.

INTRODUCING THE DETAINMENT  
REFORM ACT OF 2009

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Detainment Reform Act of 2009, a bill to ensure that we can defend our national security while also ensuring the highest standards of human rights and justice. We owe such an effort not just to ourselves but to an entire world that looks to the United States for leadership. We are a nation where the rule of law is king, and our detainment policies must reflect not the whim of our emotions but the perseverance of our reason.

Great thinkers have long noted that a society can be judged by the way it treats its prisoners. Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the United States has detained—for periods long and short—thousands of individuals captured in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere around the world. Many of those detained are guilty of committing terrible crimes. Many are innocent. We ought to have the authority to protect ourselves by detaining those who use murder, terror, and reckless violence to attack our country. But it must also be apparent that we cannot indefinitely detain those who mean us no harm.

Unfortunately, many of those we capture and detain do not easily fit into our criminal justice system. This has complicated the efforts to provide the same constitutional protections accorded accused persons in the United States. To compound the problem, there exists no agreed-upon procedural standard in United States courts to govern the detention of individuals arrested outside the zones of active military operations. This lack of judicial coherence has created a vacuum in which the current method of combating terrorism is not only inadequate to protect our country, but also fails to adhere to the Constitution, federal law, international human rights law, and the laws of armed conflict.

Under the detention regime in place since 2002, several detainees in United States control have died under mysterious circumstances. Many have been tortured. Still

others have been held for years without access to a lawyer, no right to hear the charges against them, and no way of appealing rudimentary reviews of their status. They are outside our laws but inside our prisons, at the mercy of a process that is bad for our national security, bad for human rights, and downright horrible for America's image in the world. When we detain individuals for years without ensuring that they have access to a fair and accountable system of justice, we undermine hundreds of years of democracy. This system of arbitrary justice risks replicating the very authoritarianism we fight against. It is far past time to change.

Madam Speaker, as I mentioned, we are a nation of laws, and Congress makes those laws. I am aware that many pundits, columnists, television talk show hosts, and others, have suggested that Congress cannot act intelligently or courageously on this matter. They argue that the members of this body are too bogged down in "Not In My Backyard" arguments, and too quick to accuse each other of being weak on national security. While the President has insisted on closing Guantanamo Bay, many Members of Congress have argued to keep it open. But the debate before us today is not about the place. It's about the policy. The fact of the matter is that this issue cannot be left to the Executive Branch to make it up as they go along. Congress has the responsibility to legislate on this issue in a manner that reflects reason, clarity, and an understanding that our detention policies reflect who we are as a nation.

The Detainment Reform Act presents a plan for dramatic change, contemplating policies and guidelines to address not only current detainees but those who we will need to detain in future conflicts. This legislation creates specific definitions for those who can be detained and provides for a process of judicial review upon their initial detention. This model ensures that we will hold only those persons who pose a danger to our security, and that those who mean us no harm will not have to fear languishing in prison. This bill further provides for judicial proceedings to determine whether an individual can be charged with an offense, transferred to either his country of origin or another country, or whether he can continue to be held should the government petition for his detention. But in this last instance, the government will have to demonstrate enough cause to hold someone as a threat.

Ultimately, Madam Speaker, this bill achieves what we are all seeking: a transparent and accountable process. Frederick Douglas once noted that "the life of the nation is secure only while the nation is honest, truthful, and virtuous." If we follow his advice in this debate, we can better protect our national security, maintain the sanctity of human rights, and hold fast to the notion that America is a nation committed to justice for all.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DEAN HELLER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. HELLER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 748, had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

#### REGARDING THE TSUNAMI IN AMERICAN SAMOA

### HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as the Ranking Republican Member of the Natural Resources Subcommittee of Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, which has jurisdiction over the U.S. territories, including American Samoa, I was saddened to hear of the severe devastation that occurred after a tsunami hit the island. My deepest sympathies go out to the island nation of 65,000 people.

News outlets are reporting that four tsunami waves 15 to 20 feet high roared ashore on American Samoa. Many of the island towns are located near the sea and the devastation that followed the tsunami event appears to be immense, with pictures of the island showing buildings destroyed, cars and boats displaced and the local people trying to recover. The island is without power and water at this time as it is in the early stages of the recovery effort. Sadly, it has been reported that many people have lost their lives and the casualty numbers may increase as the recovery effort expands.

Madam Speaker, it is my understanding that the airport and sea port are open and emergency supplies and assistance are en route to the island. The Coast Guard will be inspecting the sea port and is bringing in much needed medical and other necessary supplies from Hawaii. In addition, the USS *Ingram* is headed to the island to assist with medical support, rescue efforts and water needs. Shelters are open on the island to assist displaced citizens and efforts are under way to clear roadways. It will most likely take months to recover from this event and we should do all we can to help assist and support American Samoa in their recovery from this tsunami.

I had the privilege of traveling to American Samoa where I received the utmost hospitality. My thoughts and prayers are with their people as they cope with the effects of this sudden natural disaster.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND FRED ROGERS UPON HIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF MILTON FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Reverend Frederick E. Rogers upon his 40th anniversary as pastor of Milton First Assembly of God in Milton, Florida. He is a true spiritual and community leader, and I am humbled to honor such a dedicated servant of God.

Pastor Rogers is a lifelong Floridian who has always been dedicated to the church. He graduated from Milton High School and received his undergraduate degree from Southeastern Bible Institute in Lakeland, Florida. In 1957, he married Jacquelyn Shelton, and the couple recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Pastor Fred and Jackie pioneered

a church in Eustis, Florida, and then moved on to pastor churches in Greensboro and then Panama City. In August of 1969, they returned to Milton and began pasturing at Milton First Assembly of God.

Pastor Rogers has led a life of service. He has served in a variety of roles for the church, and is currently the Executive Presbyterian in the West District of Florida. He has been a member of the Milton Kiwanis Club since 1970, and served as its president from 1977-1978. In 1977, he was named Santa Rosa county Chamber of Commerce Man of the Year for his continued dedication.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor Fred Rogers on his 40 years with Milton First Assembly of God. Pastor Rogers is a Northwest Florida leader and part of the fabric of our community. My wife Vicki and I wish the best for continued growth and service to Reverend Fred Rogers, his wife Jackie, his children Andy, Robin, and Cheri, his grandchildren, and the entire Milton First Assembly of God church family.

#### HONORING HENRY BIENEN ON HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

### HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Henry Bienen on his retirement as president of Northwestern University, one of the world's top universities and my alma mater. Mr. Bienen's retirement on August 31, 2009 leaves a legacy of nearly 15 years of academic excellence and relentless institutional improvement at Northwestern.

Mr. Bienen's tenure as president yielded truly amazing results. Under his leadership, Northwestern enhanced its academic excellence, doubling its number of undergraduate applicants, raising the average SAT score for incoming freshmen by 150 points, and vastly increasing the number of National Merit Scholars. Larger investments in undergraduate research and expanded programs continue to present students with engaging and innovative learning experiences. Mr. Bienen surpassed all expectations when he led "Campaign Northwestern," raising \$1.55 billion in a five-year period. Mr. Bienen also helped solidify Northwestern's financial stability by quintupling the endowment and raising research funding from outside sources by 140 percent.

Of particular interest to me, Mr. Bienen recognized the need for an even greater commitment to scientific research. He put his efforts behind Northwestern's Institute for Nanotechnology and constructed new research facilities that have made Northwestern a world leader in nanotechnology. Mr. Bienen's commitment to nanotechnology and scientific research at large went far beyond the construction of new buildings, as he was personally invested in the recruitment and hiring of distinguished researchers and instructors. His accomplishments and commitment were recognized in 2005, when Mr. Bienen was one of the first three university presidents awarded the Carnegie Corporation Academic Leadership Award for innovative leadership in higher education.

As a devoted fan of Northwestern athletics, Henry Bienen was proud of the accomplishments of the school's student-athletes. During his tenure, 17 athletic teams won Big Ten championships, including three in football and an unprecedented nine straight in women's tennis. In addition, Northwestern captured five straight NCAA national championships in women's lacrosse and Northwestern's football team went to five post-season bowl games.

I rise today, Madam Speaker, to commend the dedication, service, and indelible legacy of Henry Bienen as he retires as president of Northwestern University. I am proud to have such an exemplary model of a devoted academic and leader as a friend. I wish Henry Bienen great success in his future endeavors.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING JIM MONIGOLD FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP**

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jim Monigold showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Jim Monigold was a supportive coach; and

Whereas, Jim Monigold always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Jim Monigold on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

**RECOGNIZING THE PEA ISLAND LIFE-SAVING STATION**

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to remind my colleagues about the rich history of Pea Island, North Carolina.

On January 24, 1880, Captain Richard Etheridge became the first African-American to command a United States Life-Saving Service station after being appointed as keeper of the Pea Island Life-Saving Station. At the time, Captain Etheridge was one of only eight African Americans in the entire Life-Saving Service. Because of his skill and expertise, he was promoted from the lowest rank at the neighboring Bodie Island station to take over the incompetently run station at Pea Island.

In order to avoid repeating the previous failures at the Pea Island station, Captain Etheridge developed and implemented rigorous lifesaving drills. Under his leadership and direction, the station earned a reputation as the best on the east coast. Captain Etheridge became renowned as one of the most able, prepared, innovative, courageous and resourceful lifesavers in the Service.

On October 11, 1896, Captain Etheridge and his alert Life-Saving Service crew at Pea Island station were put to the test when the E.S. Newman ran aground nearby during a hurricane. Despite the raging storm and enormous waves, the surfmen succeeded in swimming to the ship and heaving a line aboard. Starting with the ship captain's three-year-old son, all nine people aboard the schooner were rescued one by one.

On February 29, 1992, the Coast Guard Cutter Pea Island was commissioned at Norfolk, Virginia, in memory of the African American crews at Pea Island, including Captain Etheridge and his lifesavers. And in 1996, Coast Guard Rear Admiral Stephen W. Rochon successfully spearheaded the effort to award the Gold Lifesaving Medal in recognition of the daring 1896 rescue.

Captain Etheridge served at Pea Island for twenty years. In January 1900, he fell ill and died at the station. Pea Island continued to be manned by all-black crews through the Second World War. The station was decommissioned in 1947, and, in 1949, turned over to the U.S. Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service to be used in connection with the Pea Island Migratory Waterfowl Refuge.

Today, Pea Island provides nesting habitat for loggerhead sea turtles, piping plover and other shorebirds. Despite its small size, the refuge receives over 2.5 million visitors annually.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and applauding the brave efforts of the life-saving crews on Pea Island.

**HONORING WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY'S "PRIDE OF THE MOUNTAINS" MARCHING BAND FOR RECEIVING THE SUDLER TROPHY**

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize the outstanding success of "Pride of the Mountains," the Western Carolina University Marching Band. This outstanding marching band, led by director Robert Buckner, has been awarded the 2009 Sudler Trophy. This prestigious award, made possible by the John Philip Sousa Foundation, is a world-class mark of distinction for college marching bands.

The Sudler Trophy is awarded biannually to collegiate marching bands and their directors who raise the bar for college marching bands across America. This year, the Sousa Foundation has recognized Mr. Buckner and "Pride of the Mountains" for their exciting and artistically outstanding performances. I believe that this national recognition of their dedication to excellence will inspire other college musicians to follow in their path.

Marching bands motivate our sports teams and their fans on the field, and "Pride of the Mountains," has been energizing Western Carolina University's students and football team since 1938. "Pride of the Mountains" is indeed a source of pride not only for Western Carolina University, but for everyone in the mountains of Western North Carolina.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Western Carolina University's "Pride of the Mountains."

**TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBERT GOULD**

**HON. J. RANDY FORBES**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. FORBES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Robert Gould, who will retire from the United States Army on 1 February 2010.

America has long been called the land of opportunity, and the United States Army has served as the launching pad for many young men and women to reach the highest of heights. Rob Gould enlisted in the U.S. Army in April 1984 to commence a military career that would span nearly 26 years. As an enlisted man, Rob completed the requisite school and was awarded the military occupation skill of Chaparral Air Defense Missile Crewman. He served 42 months in the enlisted ranks and achieved the rank of Sergeant before being selected for the Army's officer commissioning program, Green to Gold.

Lieutenant Colonel Gould earned his commission as an Army officer through Army's ROTC program at the University of Arkansas. As a cadet, he was awarded the Chancellor's Trophy in recognition of his selection as Outstanding Cadet of the Year. Following commissioning, Lieutenant Colonel Gould entered flight school and finished second in his class.

As an aviator, Rob proudly served his country wherever duty called. He deployed in support of operations in Somalia, and during his company command, he moved his 122 man troop from Fort Bragg, NC to Fort Polk, LA and later deployed in support of Operation Joint Guard in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Gould subsequently joined the Army's Acquisition Corps and earned an advanced degree at the Florida Institute of Technology. As a member of the Acquisition Corps, Lieutenant Colonel Gould completed assignments at the Army Logistics Management College and the Defense Contract Management Agency. He supported Operations Iraqi Freedom during two tours to Amman, Jordan and Baghdad, Iraq, where he served as the DCMA Officer in Charge for the International Zone.

Nearly twenty-six years of service to our country, ascension from the enlisted ranks to a field grade officer, and excellence in flying and buying for the Army demonstrate that this soldier has been, and always will be, Army Strong!

The lasting legacy Lieutenant Colonel Robert Gould has blazed over the years will be the impact on the men and women he served with and that of his family. This successful journey could not have been completed without the support of his loving wife, Cheryl, and his children, Jessica, Janna and Wesley. On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, the citizens of the Fourth Congressional District of Virginia, and the citizens of a grateful Nation, congratulations on your well-deserved retirement, and thank you for your service to our country.

HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JAPANESE SOCIETY FOR RIGHTS OF AUTHORS, COMPOSERS AND PUBLISHERS

**HON. MICHAEL E. McMAHON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. McMAHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Japanese Society for Rights of Authors, Composers and Publishers (JASRAC) on its 70th anniversary and salute this organization for its lasting and productive international partnership with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) in protecting the rights of musical creators and its commitment and leadership in promoting and advancing copyright standards in Japan and around the world. I wish JASRAC much success in the future in their mission and commitment to protect the intellectual and creative property of the people of Japan.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING LUCAS RIPLEY FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Lucas Ripley showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Lucas Ripley was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Lucas Ripley always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Lucas Ripley on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

NEW YORK TIMES DOWNPLAYS THE TRUTH

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, a new Pew survey has found that one-third of Mexican nationals would move to America, and more than half of them would come illegally, if they could.

But when the New York Times reported on the study, the paper injected it with one of the most common forms of bias: they treat illegal status as a circumstance that just “materialized” for illegal immigrants.

Instead of reporting that half of these individuals would come to the U.S. illegally, the Times said: “more than half . . . would move even if they did not have legal immigration documents.”

Apparently, the Times just can't bring themselves to use the word “illegal.” In that case, why not downplay all illegal activity? The Times could refer to burglars as “building inspectors,” for example.

The fact is that those who broke U.S. laws aren't just “without documents;” they are not entitled to documents. Downplaying that fact won't change it. And, even if the news media try to hide the truth, the American people know that illegal immigrants have broken the law.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO AMEND SECTION 31 OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ACT WITH RESPECT TO AWARDED CONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES TO QUALIFIED HUB ZONE SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**HON. WALLY HERGER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced a bill that would level the playing field for small businesses in my Northern California Congressional District competing for federal contracts. Under current law, federal contractors are required to give first priority to businesses that are HUB Zone certified, often times precluding worthy non-HUB Zone small businesses from having a fair opportunity to compete for federal contracts.

Numerous small businesses in my Northern California Congressional District have contacted me to explain that the HUB Zone program in its current form is preventing them from bidding on contracts with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) with a value over \$100,000. For instance, an engineering firm in Redding, California, a company that had previously received USFS contracts, informed me that they are no longer able to bid for such contracts because they are not a HUB Zone certified company. They were told that USFS had changed its contracting policies based on a 2007 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report that found that the USFS was not in compliance with the small business contracting rules established by the HUB Zone Act of 1997. The new requirements stipulated that only companies with HUB Zone certification could bid for these contracts.

The limitation to HUB Zone certified companies is not in the best interest of all areas. The unemployment rate in my Northern California District exceeds 14% in some areas, but because of the way the HUB Zone criteria were written, only small portions of Redding, California are classified as a HUB Zone. The criteria are based on the long term unemployment rate for an area along with its income levels, two variables that change frequently. Secondly, the maps that define the boundaries are haphazardly drawn, resulting in different sides of a street or even offices in a building having different HUB Zone statuses. Most important, the boundary lines are rarely updated and years may pass before the boundaries note a change in an area's economic situation.

The legislation that I have introduced would provide federal contracting officers with the flexibility to select from the various types of

small business classifications. In doing so, HUB Zone classified small businesses would no longer have automatic first preference for federal small business contracts. This legislation would fix the current rigid preference system and give discretion to federal contracting officers to select small businesses based solely on the circumstances of the contract and quality of the bid.

The legislation would make only a one word change to the HUB Zone statute. It takes away the automatic preference given to the HUB Zone program for federal contracts going to small businesses, thereby leveling the playing field for other small businesses. With federal law mandating that 23% of federal contracts go to small businesses, it is important that federal policy promote competition to ensure that U.S. taxpayer dollars go to the most worthy contractor.

In short, my legislation would level the playing field for small businesses in a manner that is responsible to the taxpayers while continuing to provide assistance to small businesses in economically-disadvantaged areas. I look forward to working with my colleagues to move this legislation through Congress.

CELEBRATING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME OF SENECA FALLS, NEW YORK

**HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today in honor of the National Women's Hall of Fame of Seneca Falls, New York on their 40th anniversary.

It was in Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls in 1848 that activists like Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony and Lucretia Mott laid the cornerstone of the Women's Rights Movement. At the conclusion of this two-day, first ever Women's Rights Convention, 68 women and 32 men signed their names to the Declaration of Sentiments, signaling their commitment to pursuing suffrage and equal rights for women. This historic event, which we remember with a statue in the rotunda here in the U.S. Capitol, paved the way for generations of women who yearned to fully participate in and contribute to American society.

In 1969, the women and men of Seneca Falls established the National Women's Hall of Fame as a permanent showcase for the extraordinary contributions of American women. Forty years later, the organization has grown to include important artifacts and 230 inductees from around the nation, as women continue to influence and shape the arts, athletics, business, education, government, humanities, philanthropy and science.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing the National Women's Hall of Fame on achieving this milestone. Their anniversary provides an important opportunity to honor the many women, both past and present, whose vision and hard work have contributed so much to the strength and progress of our nation.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
LOGAN COZART FOR WINNING  
THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE  
BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Logan Cozart showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Logan Cozart was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Logan Cozart always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Logan Cozart on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure information for project requests that I made and which were included within H.R. 3183, "Making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes."

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Account: Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Project Amount: \$500,000

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: NTRCI, 2360 Cherahala Boulevard, Knoxville, TN 37932

Description of Request: NTRCI will conduct over-the-road, heavy vehicle testing and research to validate the benefits and reliability of the Legacy rotary engine to demonstrate the capability of the Legacy engine to deliver greater fuel efficiency and thus lower consumption and reduced emissions for the \$7 billion Class 8 heavy vehicle engine market.

RECOGNIZING OUR NATION'S  
SUBMARINE VETERANS

**HON. JOHN BOOZMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the United States World War II Submarine Veterans and the important roles they played in the Allied victory.

Approximately 3,500 submariners gave their lives to protect the liberties and freedoms of the United States. The U.S. Submarine Force suffered the highest loss rate of the U.S.

Armed Forces during World War II, losing a total of 52 American submarines in battle. The War in the Pacific could not have been won without the brave and selfless efforts of these men.

It is also a great honor to be able to attend the decommissioning ceremony for World War II Submarine Veterans, Diamond Chapter, hosted by the USS Snook Base of the United States Submarine Veterans in Rogers, Arkansas.

The recognition of our World War II submarine veterans has been long overdue. I am pleased and honored to recognize these servicemen, who risked their lives for their country and made the World War II victory possible in House Resolution 773. I thank Congressman SESTAK for his service to our country and for his leadership on this Resolution and encourage my colleagues to cosponsor this important bill.

CONGRATULING THE DALAI LAMA  
ON HIS TRIUMPHS FOR HUMAN  
RIGHTS

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Dalai Lama as the first-ever Tom Lantos Human Rights Prize honoree. The award acknowledges the Dalai Lama's role as an unsung hero in the fight for human rights. He is already a Nobel Peace Prize and Congressional Gold Medal recipient.

The Dalai Lama was recognized as the reincarnation of the 13th Dalai Lama when he was two years old and enthroned at the age of 15. For more than 50 years, he has fought on behalf of Tibetan Buddhists and made history as the first Dalai Lama to travel to the West. The late Congressman Tom Lantos—who serves as the namesake for the prestigious award—was fittingly the first Congressman to invite a Dalai Lama to the U.S. Congress.

The Dalai Lama serves as a role model to us all. His courageous spirit in the fight for equal rights, democracy, freedom, and religious harmony are the things that will help not only strengthen Tibet, but the world over.

Annette Lantos and the Lantos Foundation for Human Rights and Justice are committed to recognizing and applauding individuals who continue to fight for human rights in America and abroad, in the great spirit of my former colleague Congressman Lantos. May we join them—with enthusiasm and fervor—in that endeavor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, last week I missed several rollcall votes and I wish to state for the record how I would have voted had I been present:

Rollcall No. 740—"yes"; rollcall No. 741—"yes"; rollcall No. 742—"no"; rollcall No. 743—"yes"; rollcall No. 744—"yes"; rollcall

No. 745—"yes"; rollcall No. 746—"no"; rollcall No. 747—"yes"; rollcall No. 748—"yes"; rollcall No. 749—"yes"; rollcall No. 750—"yes"; rollcall No. 751—"yes"; rollcall No. 752—"yes".

HONORING FEMALE CIVIC  
LEADERS OF WATERLOO

**HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor eight influential women of Waterloo, Ruth Anderson, BJ Furgerson, Joy Lowe, Lou Porter, Dorothy Sallis, Dorothy Turner, Anna Weems and Willie Mae Wright. These women define what it means to be a champion for equal rights.

Over the past five decades, these women have helped shape the lives of all residents of Waterloo through their efforts to ensure that equality is attained and maintained. Through their work, the city of Waterloo has become an example of moving beyond what divides the community and instead focusing on what strengthens it.

These women have made remarkable strides in bringing forth equality. They were instrumental in bringing Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to their community, establishing and maintaining Iowa's longest running African American radio station, serving in city and county government, working tirelessly to improve the lives of children, and ensuring that the rights of all citizens of Waterloo are honored. Through their work more people are now invested in their communities and giving back to their neighbors.

These women have dedicated their lives to bringing about the sort of change that we now recognize as fundamental to a full and vibrant society. They are a constant reminder of how far we have come and that we should all strive for fairness in our work and provide opportunities for all. I am proud to represent these women in Congress and wish them well in their future endeavors.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
LOGAN GRAY FOR WINNING THE  
BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASE-  
BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Logan Gray showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Logan Gray was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Logan Gray always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Logan Gray on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND  
DEDICATION OF SARAH M. TUKE

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and dedication of Sarah R. Tuke, a member of my staff who is leaving my office to pursue the next phase in her career.

Sarah Tuke is a Tennessee native, raised in the Nashville area. After graduating from the University of Virginia with a bachelor's degree in History, she moved to St. Louis to work for a non-profit organization. Sarah quickly realized, however, that working in politics interested her more, and she returned to Tennessee to volunteer for Harold Ford Jr.'s U.S. Senate campaign in 2006.

Following the campaign, Sarah moved to Washington, D.C. to further pursue her interests in politics and the legislative process. She joined my staff in February 2007 after an internship with the House Science and Technology Committee.

From the first day she walked into my office, her enthusiasm and kind spirit impressed me and everyone she worked with. Her commitment to helping Middle Tennesseans has always been strong—I have never had a staffer with the patience and kindness that Sarah exudes, especially when answering questions from constituents and volunteering to help her co-workers with projects. She has also worked hard to understand the complexities of adoption and veterans issues, which has helped me in pursuing my legislative priorities.

Madam Speaker, if you would like to package kindness, you could just put a bow on Sarah. It's Sarah's "can-do" attitude, combined with her genuine compassion to others that has led this wonderful individual to rise and succeed as she has done in my office.

Sarah, we're all going to miss you. I wish you the best of luck in your new position with the Japanese Embassy.

RETIREMENT OF COLONEL STEPHEN M. CHRISTIAN, UNITED STATES ARMY

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment to honor a fine officer who will shortly be leaving active duty. COL Stephen M. Christian will be retiring from the United States Army on October 12, 2009, after more than 30 years of active military service, culminating as Garrison Commander for the United States Army Garrison, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

Colonel Christian enlisted in the Army in 1978 and in 1984 attended Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as an Air Defense Artillery Officer. Throughout his career Colonel Christian has held numerous high level command and staff positions, including tours with the 7th Infantry Division (Light) at Fort Ord, California; the 25th Infantry Division (Light) at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and the

10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York. He commanded at the battalion level on two occasions and served two tours of duty in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, during which he was awarded two Bronze Star Medals. Colonel Christian's civilian education includes a master of science in administration and a master of security strategy from the National War College, National Defense University. Colonel Christian is married to Laura Christian and they have two adult children, Captain Nicholas Christian and Leslie Roop.

Madam Speaker, our active duty families make many sacrifices for the rest of us, and this is especially true of those who make the military their career. I thank Colonel Christian for his long and honorable service to our Nation, and I wish him and his wife Laura the very best as they prepare to enter a new phase in their life journey together.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to correct my vote on the Motion to Instruct Conferees for the Fiscal Year 2010 Homeland Security Appropriations Act that was considered on the House floor on October 1, 2009.

The Motion to Instruct Conferees (rollcall No. 746) made recommendations that would prohibit the transfer of detainees currently held at Guantanamo Bay to the United States, even for prosecution. My vote in favor of this motion was a mistake and contradicts my views on our detention policies.

To be clear, I strongly support President Obama's decision to close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay and move our detention policies forward in a responsible manner, even if that means transferring some detainees to the United States. I intended to vote "yes" on rollcall vote No. 663.

TRIBUTE TO FRED NELSON

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to an exemplary public servant from my District in Tennessee.

Fred Nelson recently retired as the General Manager of the Lenoir City Utilities Board in Lenoir City, Tennessee. His career is a testament to the American dream and community service.

Fred began working at the Lenoir City Utilities Board in an entry-level position for \$1.90 per hour. More than four decades later, he retires following a successful tenure as General Manager. Dedicated public servants such as Fred are the seeds of any great community, and I only hope that more people follow in his footsteps.

Like many of his generation, Fred also served his country admirably in the Marine Corps in Vietnam. We owe a debt to Fred and

many others who selflessly put their community and country before themselves.

Recently, the News-Herald in Lenoir City published an article commemorating Fred's service, which is reprinted below. I gladly bring the service of Fred Nelson to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD, and I wish him all the best in his much-deserved retirement.

[From the Lenoir City (TN) News-Herald,  
Sept. 23-24, 2009]

NELSON SET TO RETIRE

(By Greg Wilkerson)

After a more than 43-year career with Lenoir City Utilities Board, General Manager Fred Nelson announced his retirement Monday, effective Jan. 22.

"It's been my life," Nelson said as he reflected on his long career.

Nelson got his start with the utility after leaving the Marine Corps in 1966.

He said his plan had been to make a career in the armed forces, but his mother did not want him to return to Vietnam, so he left to start a civilian career.

He considered a position he was offered in Florida within the space program, but ultimately decided to come to Loudon County because of an offer to work at the Hosiery Mill.

That job paid \$1.80 an hour and the LCUB job paid \$1.90 an hour and he's been working there ever since.

"I think the Lord's led me and actually guided me in ways I needed to go," he said. "It's always been right."

Nelson said health concerns were a major factor in his leaving. Doctors have encouraged him to retire for years because of advanced artery disease in his heart and he said he recently had his sixteenth and seventeenth stints put in.

"I'm going to start walking on the trail and try to lose weight and hopefully play golf," Nelson said. He also said he plans to do more travelling and see more of his out-of-town friends.

When Nelson started with LCUB he worked for about six months as a groundman before starting a four-year apprenticeship to become a lineman. He said he still pays his lineman dues to stay a part of their union.

"There's not much I haven't got to do here," he said.

His career has included the title of foreman, assistant superintendent, superintendent, manager of operations and in 2004, general manager.

"It's been a wonderful ride," he said.

He said he will miss the employees the most.

"We have a great bunch of employees and everybody is very friendly," Nelson said. He recognized there have been disagreements through the years but everything always gets worked out.

"If somebody was to need something, the employees are always ready to help," he said. "Since I came to work at LCUB in 1966, 46 people have passed away that I worked with. I have a lot of good memories with all of them."

Nelson was quick to thank the board for giving him the opportunity to be general manager and said he was proud of the accomplishments of the utility in the five years he's been in charge. He also attributed much of the success to his department heads.

"We've built five new substations in the last three years and we paid for them in-house without having to borrow any money," he said. They also haven't been to the bond market since 2001, and Nelson said they used to go every three years.

"We've really tried to buy the best equipment you can get," he said. "We've had an excellent safety record."

Nelson's wife, Judy, retired from Y-12 two years ago. They have two daughters and five grandchildren, all living in Loudon County.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WEST END SILVER POINT CHURCH

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the founding of the West End Church of Christ congregation in Silver Point, Tennessee.

In 1909, Pastor George Phillip "G.P." Bowser relocated the Laurel Hill congregation to Silver Point and established the Putnam County Normal and Industrial Orphanage to provide housing, education, vocation, and religious instruction to the African American children of the region. In 1913, the school became the Silver Point Christian Institute, educating grades one through eight. A small printing press was operated by the school, which led to the development of the Christian Echo—a publication that is still printed today.

By 1915, the church and school combined into the West End Church of Christ Silver Point. A new building was constructed, which still stands to this day. In December 2007, the building was included in the National Register of Historic Places by the U.S. National Park Service.

The geographically isolated Highland Rim area of Middle Tennessee has always focused on small-scale agriculture and timber resources grouped into small towns. Farms were tended by individual families with little outside help. Until the early 20th century, these small communities in Silver Point had few religious organizations and even fewer schools. Classes were often taught in buildings that could not afford proper maintenance or enough supplies for students.

The school that Pastor Bowser established in 1915 provided the young children of the community with educational opportunities never before seen in the area. Though the school closed in 1959, the Church remains active.

Many prominent and nationally-acclaimed leaders have been personally involved with the Church, including Sam Womack, Alexander Campbell, Marshall Keeble, Henry Clay, J.S. Winston, R.N. Hogan, G.E. Stewart, and Levi Kennedy.

Through its 100 year history, the West End Church of Christ in Silver Point has provided a place of identity and congregation for the African American community of western Putnam County. I congratulate the congregation on its centennial anniversary.

SUPPORTING THE MISSION AND GOALS OF NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the observance of National

Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This October 2009, we celebrate the 25th anniversary of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and honor those women who lost their lives to the disease, along with those who are fighting the disease and those who are survivors.

For the past quarter century, October has been dedicated to the awareness and education of breast cancer. This monthly observance, most notably marked by the color pink which is now recognized worldwide as the color of breast cancer awareness, has also allowed us to trace the tremendous milestones in science and innovation that are producing promising results to combat the disease, such as proven better treatment and lower fatality rates.

I am currently a co-sponsor of H.R. 1691: The "Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act of 2009" introduced in this Congress by my colleague from Connecticut, Rep. ROSA DELAURO. The legislation requires health plans to provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies, lumpectomies, and lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer and coverage for secondary consultations. Currently, the legislation is before the House Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means and Education and Labor. I urge my colleagues to take steps toward bringing this legislation for a vote on the House floor as soon as possible.

This year alone, more than 190,000 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed among women in the United States, and an estimated 40,170 women are expected to die from the disease. With those statistics in mind, I encourage all women over the age of 40 to put their health first this month. That may mean taking precautionary steps, such as doing yearly mammograms and other early detection procedures.

On this silver anniversary of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, I honor those women who are currently fighting the disease and extend to them my warmest blessings for a speedy recovery.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information in regards to H.R. 2997, the Fiscal Year 2010 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010:

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Missouri-Columbia

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Park DeVille Drive, Suite E, Columbia, MO

Description of Request: Provide \$1,339,000 for the Food and Agriculture Policy Research Institute to provide objective, quantitative economic analysis of agricultural policy alternatives. Approximately \$188,000 or 14% will be used to continue a cooperative agreement with the University of Wisconsin relating to

dairy policy; \$340,000 or 25% will be used to conduct analysis of rangeland, cattle and hay, sheep and specialty crops with the University of Nevada—Reno; \$811,000 or 61% will be divided between the University of Missouri and Iowa State University to provide a ten-year baseline and policy analysis for U.S. and world agriculture.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Missouri-Columbia

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Park DeVille Drive, Suite E, Columbia, MO

Description of Request: Provide \$595,000 for the Food and Agriculture Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) and the Agricultural and Food Policy Center (AFPC) to provide Congress with information regarding farm financial risk and farm structure and the impacts of alternative agricultural policies on these factors. Approximately \$244,000 or 41% is for FAPRI at the University of Missouri to provide stochastic and deterministic baseline and policy scenarios, and \$351,000 or 59% is for AFPC at Texas A&M University to provide representative farm analysis.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Missouri-Columbia Delta Research Center

Address of Requesting Entity: Highway 61, Portageville, MO 63873

Description of Request: Provide \$174,000 for the University of Missouri—Delta Research Center to continue research on rice production in the mid-South. Approximately \$140,610 will be for multiple personnel costs, \$29,000 for materials and supplies, and \$5,000 for other costs.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Missouri-Columbia

Address of Requesting Entity: 214 Middlebush Hall, Columbia, Missouri 65211

Description of Request: Provide \$889,000 for the Rural Policies Institute to provide unbiased analysis and information on the challenges, needs, and opportunities in rural people and places; and to spur public dialogue and help policymakers understand the impacts of public policies and programs on rural people and places. Salaries and fringe benefits \$654,000 or 74%, for Center Investments \$60,000 or 7%, for conferences and events \$50,000 or 6%, for consultants \$25,000 or 2%, for office expenses \$40,000 or 4%, for travel \$60,000 or 7%.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Missouri-Columbia Delta Research Center

Address of Requesting Entity: Highway 61, Portageville, MO 63873

Description of Request: Provide \$556,000 for continued soybean cyst nematode research at the University of Missouri—Delta Research Center. Of the \$556,000, 85% is for salaries and benefits, the remaining 15% is for

travel, supplies, and costs for a winter seed nursery.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Bootheel Resource Conservation and Development, Inc.  
Address of Requesting Entity: 18450 Ridgeview Lane, Dexter, MO 63841

Description of Request: Provide \$207,000 to the USDA—APHIS—Wildlife Services in Southeast Missouri. Of the \$207,000, 80% would be utilized for salaries and benefits, 17% for APHIS—Wildlife Services program support and 3% for vehicle maintenance and fuel. A portion of the operating budget will also be provided by local municipalities, commodity organizations and university support.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: General Provision

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Congressional Hunger Center

Address of Requesting Entity: Hall of States Building, 400 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite G100, Washington, DC 20001

Description of Request: Provide \$3,000,000 for the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship Program and the Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship Program. Of the \$3,000,000 in funding 54% would be for salaries, benefits, healthcare and other costs associated with the Emerson National Hunger Fellowship Program and 46% for similar costs associated with the Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship Program.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Agriculture Research Service—Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry

Address of Requesting Entity: 203 Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources Building, Columbia, Missouri, 65211

Description of Request: Provide \$660,000 to support research on viable alternative production and protection options to help revitalize the economic and environmental health of rural farms and communities in Missouri and surrounding states. Approximately, \$438,882 [or 66%] is for salary and fringe to support professional track faculty, research associates, field research specialists, graduate and undergraduate students; \$201,982 [or 31%] for materials and supplies in support of laboratory and field-based research on campus and at five MU farms and centers; \$19,137 [or 3%] for travel.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—Research and Education Activities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Center for Grapevine Biotechnology at Missouri State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 9740 Red Spring Road, Mountain Grove, Missouri, 65711

Description of Request: Provide \$422,000 to research the ability of wild grapevines to defend themselves against pathogens, and their capacity to synthesize health-promoting properties. Of the funds available 46% for salary and benefits, 21% for other direct costs including materials and supplies, and 25% for F&A.

#### TRIBUTE TO BILL HARRISON

### HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bill Harrison, the recently retired president of the Coweta County Development Authority, who died September 29 after a battle with cancer.

I had the great privilege of knowing Bill personally. He was a professional, a dedicated husband and father, an avid outdoorsman, and an all-around great guy.

He put his heart and soul into bringing new businesses and opportunities to Coweta County, and that's how he and I became acquainted. He would take business recruits under his wing like a mother hen. He would often bring them into my district office personally, assuring they had a friendly, familiar face in the room and that they got all of their needs met and all of their questions answered. He also saw to it that nothing got lost in translation between us Georgians and our international business partners.

As the Newnan Times-Herald reported upon his death, "Harrison assisted with locations or expansions of numerous companies, including PetSmart, SYGMA Networking, Kingwasong, Winpak Films, D&H Distribution, and MC Pre-cast. He considered the planned location of the Cancer Treatment Centers of America to Coweta County the highlight of his professional career."

It's fitting that his crowning achievement will be a center to fight the ravages of cancer, the disease that took him from us much too soon. The cancer treatment center will bring at least 500 new jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in economic impact for Coweta County.

When Bill retired this summer, the Times-Herald editorialized: "Bill Harrison is a good guy. If he were in an old western movie, he would be wearing a white hat. . . . When Harrison took the economic development job in Coweta, our community's industry-recruiting effort was a mess. It was fragmented. There was no single go-to person or organization. It had gotten so bad that prospects would simply look elsewhere. That changed after Harrison was hired to preside over the Development Authority and that group became the go-to agency here."

Bill was more than a fierce advocate for the community; he was also a beloved figure. On a web site set up for his family, more than 2,000 people expressed their condolences.

All of Coweta County mourns the loss of our dear friend Bill Harrison. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife of 43 years, Virginia Heitzman Harrison, and their family.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO HOWARD CHO, PRESIDENT OF CVE TECHNOLOGY GROUP IN PLANO

### HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, congratulations are in order for Howard Cho, president of CVE Technology Group in Plano.

It is an honor and a privilege to salute him for winning the distinguished Minority Manufacturer of the Year Award. Presented on behalf of the United States Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency, this prestigious award pays tribute to the minority entrepreneurs who have demonstrated industry leadership, business success, and community impact.

Founded by President Cho in New Jersey in 1986, the company specializes in consumer electronics, has revenues of \$50 million and employs over 1,200 people. In 2002, CVE Technology Group relocated to Plano, Texas, where it now provides refurbishment of cell phones and remanufacturing business with Samsung Telecommunications America, LLC. CVE plans for more growth through continued cellular phone manufacturing, expanding their operation and sales revenue.

In fact, the city of Plano honored Mr. Cho and the company with a citation creating "CVE Technology Group Day."

Economic data demonstrates minority-owned firms are poised to generate long-term employment and economic growth in their communities. Howard Cho's CVE Technology Group in Plano is a shining example of that.

Congratulations again, and thank you, to Mr. Cho and CVE Technology Group in Plano, Texas. I salute you.

#### TRIBUTE TO BEN LEWIS ATUAHENE

### HON. THOMAS S.P. PERRIELLO

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, Ben Lewis Atuahene—also known as Kofi Kwarteng—was born to Dora Yaa Akyea Kyerematen and Samuel Kwadwo Atuahene on January 23, 1942 in Kumasi, Ghana. He attended Ghana National Secondary School in Cape Coast and briefly worked at the President's Castle in Ghana before moving to London, England in 1965 to study law. In 1969, he was admitted to the Honorable Society of the Inner Temple, and was called to the Bar in 1971. During that same time he met and married the love of his life, Beatrice Achampong, in London. They later moved to New York in 1972, where they started their family. Opportunities arose for the couple in California and they moved with their two daughters, Nannette and Bernadette, to Los Angeles in 1976, where he began work as legal counsel for C & R Clothiers in Culver City. In 1984, he passed the California Bar and immediately began the independent law practice he ran until his untimely death. Ben was an invaluable asset to the Ghanaian community and touched the lives of thousands of people through his legal practice, philanthropy, and mentorship. Ben's untiring generosity, strength of character, determination to succeed, and desire to make those around him realize their full potential survive in his daughters, Nannette and Bernadette, and his grandchildren, Abdeena, Aliue, Alim, and Afia Nyarko. He is also survived by brothers, Yaw Kankam, Oppong, Frimpong, Dixon, Kwame, Ernest, and sister, Eva Atuahene, as well as extended family both here and abroad. Ben will be deeply missed by his family and his

community, where he served as a guide, a counselor, and a friend.

HONORING SOUTH PADRE ISLAND  
CHIEF OF POLICE ROBERT  
RODRIGUEZ ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and dedication of Police Chief Robert Rodriguez for his service and commitment to the Town of South Padre Island, where he worked for 25 years, and retired from the police force on September 1, 2009.

Chief Rodriguez has been instrumental in working during the years with the many law enforcement agencies in the Rio Grande Valley as each of the town's police officers, including him, strove to serve and protect South Texans and guests who visit South Padre Island year-round.

During the past few years, Chief Rodriguez, along with those that call South Texas home, has seen South Padre Island grow. We have seen new development come in, new businesses open, and hotels and condominiums constructed.

Through these significant changes, we know South Padre Island continues to evolve even after suffering from great loss in revenues and services brought about by Hurricane Dolly. South Padre Island continues to accommodate, protect, and serve its many residents and tourists.

Chief Rodriguez has been able to adjust his staff and manpower to the growing needs of South Padre Island. On any given day, you can spot Chief Rodriguez, while on or off duty, visiting with locals and residents. He works around the clock.

In 1984, he began his work for the Town of South Padre Island as a dispatcher, and later was promoted to the police force. From then on, Chief Rodriguez has climbed the ranks within the South Padre Island Police Department and on August 18, 2000, he was sworn in as police chief.

Chief Rodriguez has been instrumental in his work with South Padre Island, and although I am sad to see him leave, I know he is ready to enjoy his much needed retirement with his family, friends and loved ones.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in commemorating the service of Chief Robert Rodriguez, who served the Town of South Padre Island, the State of Texas, and the United States of America, in his capacity of law enforcement officer for 25 years.

HONORING COL. JIM MUDD

**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true leader, dedicated public servant, and a dear friend, Col. Jim Mudd, Collier County Manager.

Jim served his country honorably for 26 years in the U.S. Army, achieving the rank of Colonel and retiring as the Commander and District Engineer of the U.S. Army Engineer District in Rock Island, Illinois. He graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1974 and earned a Master's degree in operations research from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1982. He was formerly Assistant Director of Civil Works, Central Region, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C., and Chief of the Assessment Division, U.S. Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He is also a veteran of the Gulf War. He and his wife Annette have two children who are also serving in the armed services. His son Ryan is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy and his daughter Kati is a Captain and physician in the U.S. Army.

After completing his military service in 2000, he moved to Collier County where he became the Public Utilities manager followed by nine months as the Deputy County Manager and eventually earning the top leadership position as County Manager on July 15, 2002.

Throughout the years I have had the privilege of working with Jim to advance the needs of Collier County and the Southwest Florida Community. He has been committed to the people of Collier County for almost a decade even continuing his service after being diagnosed with brain cancer. Through this most difficult battle of his life Jim has shown grace and dignity. He has dedicated his life to his country and to the people of Southwest Florida and truly embodies the spirit of public service. Speaker, I ask that you join me in thanking County Manager Jim Mudd for his service to this country and the people of Southwest Florida. It is an honor to know such a great man, and a personal privilege to call him a friend.

THE RETIREMENT OF PAUL  
COWEN AS CHIEF OF STAFF TO  
STATE SENATOR EDDIE LUCIO,  
JR.

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of Paul Cowen, who is retiring after 20 years as Chief of Staff to State Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr.

Paul has worked day in and day out with our office on policy that has greatly impacted South Texas. His vision, perseverance and commitment to helping the less fortunate is remarkable.

In 1989, Paul got a call from then-candidate Eddie Lucio, Jr., the soon-to-be Senator asked Paul if he would run his campaign for the Texas 27th Senatorial District, Paul agreed. The rest is history.

Paul is one of 10 children of Louis and Virginia Cowen. He has been married to Tamara Cowen for 37 years and has three children: Tara Jean, Jonathan Paul, and Timothy Patrick. I take this time on the House Floor to wish Paul a happy retirement, and at the same time, thank him for the many lives he impacted and changed through his work in the Texas Legislature alongside Sen. Lucio.

Although Paul will no longer be Chief of Staff to Sen. Lucio, he will forever remain in the hearts and souls of those he impacted.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in commemorating the retirement of Paul Cowen as Chief of Staff to Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr. I wish you the best of luck, amigo.

ACCEPTANCE OF STATUE OF  
HELEN KELLER PRESENTED BY  
THE PEOPLE OF ALABAMA

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Congressional Tribute commending the dedication of the statue of Helen Keller.

The life of Helen Keller is one that we continue to praise because of her tenacious spirit. Having her sight and hearing stolen by illness as an infant in rural Alabama did not stop her from accomplishing incredible feats. Ms. Keller is not only a champion for the blind and deaf in the United States, but also worldwide. Her miraculous breakthrough came at a simple well-pump, learning the spelling of the word "water" as it ran over her hand. From this moment, she went on to graduate from Radcliffe College, author several books and be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

As a Representative, as a woman, and as a nurse, I can appreciate the societal and medical challenges Ms. Keller overcame to become the triumphant figure that she is. Young women have a great role model in Helen Keller. She has also inspired medical professionals and humanitarians across the globe to fight preventable blindness and malnutrition.

It is with great respect for this American hero that I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Congressional Tribute commending the dedication of the statue of Helen Keller.

TRIBUTE TO ART VAN FURNITURE

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Art Van Furniture. Throughout the month of October, Mr. Art Van Elslander and Art Van Furniture are celebrating 50 years as a family-owned and Michigan-based company.

In my district, the city of Kalamazoo is home to an Art Van Furniture store that has been dedicated to supplying guests with quality furniture and superior customer service. They have continued to provide jobs and revenue to the local economy during a time when Southwest Michigan has needed it most.

As Michigan's largest furniture retailer with 32 locations, Art Van Furniture has brought recognition and notoriety to our State by receiving numerous distinguished honors. One recent accolade was the 2009 Retailer of the Year Award from Furniture Today, a furniture industry publication. In acknowledgment of their green efforts, the Michigan Retailers Association named Art Van Furniture a 2007

GreenTailer. This inaugural honor is given to retailers who are protecting the environment by adopting energy conservation and Earth-friendly practices.

Providing continual and vital economic growth to local communities statewide by employing more than 2,500 Michiganders, Art Van Furniture has been continually named one of West Michigan's 101 Best and Brightest places to work. Furthermore, Art Van Furniture has an exceptional record of giving back to area charities and communities through a variety of generous financial contributions.

Again, it is my honor to rise today in honor of Art Van Furniture on the monumental occasion of its 50th anniversary. Congratulations and best wishes for another five decades.

TRIBUTE TO THE CONGREGATION  
GEMILUTH CHASSODIM

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim of Alexandria, LA, originally known as the Hebrew Benevolent Society of Rapides. Chartered on October 2, 1859, the congregation recently celebrated its 150th anniversary of distinguished service to the Jewish community, as well as to providing faithful dedication to the Alexandria area.

The congregation first held religious services in various private homes with lay leadership. The initial Jewish sanctuary was built in 1870, and the first rabbi, Marx Klein, came in 1873. On October 14, 1873, the young congregation became one of the original charter members of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, presently known as the Union for Reform Judaism, which today represents 900 affiliate congregations in the United States and abroad. The present sanctuary was constructed in 1952.

The congregation has been served by 23 rabbis and 33 board presidents. It grew to a peak of nearly 300 families during the mid-twentieth century.

Many members of the Temple have held various leadership roles in civic and charitable organizations throughout Central Louisiana. In addition, they have made significant contributions in the fields of medicine, law, government, social services, education and the cultural life of the region.

The Temple, the Rabbi and individual members continue to play an integral part in achieving better interfaith understanding, working to strengthen the quality of life for all citizens in the communities of the region.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending the Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROTECTING RESORT CITIES FROM DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2009

**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, earlier today I, along with Representative DEAN HELL-

ER of Nevada introduced the Protecting Resort Cities from Discrimination Act of 2009.

If enacted, the bill would prohibit federal agencies from discriminating against cities like Scottsdale, Arizona, and Reno and Las Vegas, Nevada, simply because they are great places to visit.

Scottsdale, and resort destination cities like it, are reeling right now—not just from an economic downturn, but from stigma. Business travelers are reluctant to avail themselves of the great facilities and great value we have to offer, out of fear that they will be accused of inappropriately vacationing on the company dime.

In Arizona, some are calling it the “AIG effect.”

As a result, an already difficult situation has become dire.

Earlier this year, the Arizona Republic reported that, in Scottsdale alone, an estimated 80 events and business meetings had been canceled and local resorts had lost a combined \$23.9 million from groups fearing a public-relations backlash.

Scottsdale's hotel occupancy is down nearly 12 percent, and revenue per available room is down nearly 30 percent.

The ripple effect this has had on our economy is even worse. Restaurants, suppliers—you name it—they're all suffering.

And it doesn't help when the federal government tells the business community that they're afraid of giving up their business, too.

Cities like Scottsdale, Reno and Las Vegas should have every bit as much right to win federal meeting and conference business as anywhere else. If we can provide the right facilities at the right price, we shouldn't be punished because we also happen to be great places to visit.

If enacted, the Protecting Resort Cities from Discrimination Act would stop that from happening. The bipartisan bill would prohibit federal agencies from discriminating against cities that are perceived to be resort or vacation destinations when planning events, meetings or conferences.

I want to assure my colleagues that nothing in this bill will encourage federal agencies to undertake any additional or unnecessary travel. I firmly believe that federal agencies have an obligation to ensure that tax dollars are not wasted or misused.

All this bill would do is ensure that, when appropriate, cities like Scottsdale have a right to compete.

I want to thank Rep. HELLER for his partnership on this legislation and I urge my colleagues to support it.

H.R. 3590, SERVICEMEMBERS HOME OWNERSHIP TAX ACT OF 2009

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I extend my support to H.R. 3590, the Service Members Home Ownership Tax Act of 2009, and thank my friend from New York, Mr. RANGEL, for introducing this legislation.

When Congress passed the first-time homebuyer tax credit in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in January of this year, it

sought to reverse the downturn in the housing market by helping qualified homebuyers purchase their first home with a maximum \$8,000 tax credit. To ensure that the credit benefited ordinary Americans and not speculators, we required that borrowers who took advantage of the credit repay it if they sold their home within three years of the purchase date.

At the time, we thought this was good policy. However, it is clear now that an exception should have been made for our servicemen and women and their families, who are often required by federal orders to redeploy overseas within a three-year period. The chance for us to correct this oversight has now come.

The Service Members Home Ownership Tax Act amends the federal tax code to provide an exemption for members of the military, CIA, and Department of State that would not require them to repay the homebuyer tax credit if they are called for overseas duty and are forced to sell their homes within three years of purchasing it. It also extends for one year the deadline for utilizing the first-time homebuyer tax credit for service members who served outside the country for at least 90 days in 2009. This provision would help returning veterans take full advantage of the tax credit, which is set to expire on November 30, 2009.

In exchange for service in war zones abroad and the sacrifices that our servicemen and women make everyday, it is only fair that our military families be able to take full advantage of the programs we enact in Congress. The Service Members Home Ownership Tax Act of 2009 is deficit neutral and reaffirms our commitment to our men and women in uniform. I am proud to provide my support to H.R. 3590.

“BRINGING HER LIGHT”—IN HONOR OF HELEN KELLER AND THE UNVEILING OF HER STATUE AT THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an American heroine, Helen Keller, on the occasion of the unveiling of her statue at The United States Capitol on Wednesday, October 7th 2009, in the Great Rotunda. Born in Tuscumbia Alabama, Helen would rise up to be one of the greatest daughters of the South. Stricken at the age of 19 months as a baby, losing both her hearing and her sight. Against all odds, armed with but only her will, courage and persistence, would come out of the dark to teach the world. And become admired for her shining example of faith and courage. Providing hope to all and championing the betterment of others. I ask that this poem penned by Albert Caswell of the Capitol Guide Service be placed in the RECORD.

BRINGING HER LIGHT

Out of the darkness . . .  
Into the light . . .  
From out of the darkness . . .  
Can so come the light . . .  
From out of such silence . . .  
Can so come one's soul . . .  
A voice heard, so sounding . . . so very  
bright, to behold!  
All in the Keller, the color of one's soul . . .

Of which so ignites . . .  
 All in it's brightness . . .  
 All in it's brilliance . . .  
 As ever so there, so Bringing Her Light . . .  
     with but her glow . . .  
 Of the one who could not so see . . .  
 And yet, saw even clearer . . . all in what  
     hope can so be . . .  
 Of the one who could not so hear . . .  
 And yet, heard all of those answers . . . so  
     very clear . . .  
 Lessons, for woman and mankind . . . to help  
     win that fight . . .  
 Inspiring us all, with but her heart and her  
     mind . . .  
 A Miracle Worker . . .  
 Showing us all . . .  
 How faith and courage, all in ones soul . . .  
     ever burns bright to behold . . .  
 While, coming out of the darkest . . . out of  
     that night . . .  
 That, against all odds . . .  
 Only, with ones soul . . .  
 Can ones heart, so be heard and so seen . . .  
     so all in its light!  
 Coming Out of The Darkness!  
 Bringing Her Light!

INTRODUCTION OF THE SMALL  
 BUSINESS TAX EQUALIZATION  
 AND COMPLIANCE ACT

**HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to re-introduce the Small Business Tax Equalization and Compliance Act, legislation that would extend the existing tip tax credit—the 45(b) credit—to employers in the salon industry and at the same time encourage tax compliance through education and improved tip reporting requirements. This legislation makes needed changes to the tax code to help support a vital and growing sector of America's economy, the salon industry.

The salon industry is one of America's most diverse industries and home to a large number of entry-level jobs, but with room for advancement and opportunities that go far beyond minimum-wage. The industry is also a significant employer of women, particularly working mothers who need flexibility in their work schedules.

In 1993, Congress formally recognized that employers should not be responsible for paying FICA taxes on income that was not paid by them, and granted the restaurant industry a dollar-for-dollar tax credit on the employer's share of FICA taxes paid on tip income above

the minimum wage. Much like restaurants, salon employees receive a large portion of their income in the form of tips. As a matter of tax fairness, it is time to extend similar treatment to the salon industry.

My bill also includes provisions to improve tip reporting to ensure that all salons—whether the traditional employer-employee model or the non-employer salons where independent contractors report their own tips—are fully complying with reporting requirements.

I believe that small businesses are the backbone of the American economy, and salons are an important part of the small business community. Eighty-two percent of salon establishments have fewer than 10 employees and 98 percent of salons are single-unit operations. Extending the tip tax credit to these small businesses would provide much needed tax relief, particularly in these challenging economic times, and allow them to reinvest in their businesses, employees, and communities.

A strong economic recovery will depend on the health and strength of our small business sector. It is imperative that we work to ensure our tax rules governing this sector are fair, simple, and encourage compliance. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN. A. YARMUTH**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast the recorded votes for Rollcall 741, H. Res. 16, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" for this measure. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the permanent RECORD immediately following these votes.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY  
 OF GOODRICH  
 AEROSTRUCTURES IN FOLEY,  
 ALABAMA

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I want to extend my congratulations to Goodrich

Aerostructures Original Equipment Manufacturer and the Alabama Service Center on their 25th anniversary in Foley, Alabama. For a quarter of a century the hard working men and women of Goodrich have been manufacturing, assembling, maintaining, repairing, and servicing aircraft engine components and structures such as nacelles, pylons, fan and inlet cowls, and thrust reversers for both military and commercial aircraft.

Goodrich Aerostructures, originally known as Rohr Industries, became part of the Baldwin County community in 1984. In December 2006, Goodrich began an expansion project to increase its size in Foley to more than 425,000 square feet. Since 2005, Goodrich Aerostructures has become the second largest employer in Foley with more than 800 people working at the facility. Most recently, the Aerostructures team in Foley was recognized by General Electric for delivering its 500th CF34-10 nacelle; they have also received production contracts to supply the pylons and nacelle systems for the Air Force C-5 Galaxy strategic airlifter as part of the Reliability Enhancement and Re-engining Program and, for eight consecutive years, workers at Goodrich in Foley have been recognized by the FAA with Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) awards.

As a good corporate citizen, Goodrich has been a leader in the Foley community. Goodrich has partnered with Alabama Industrial Development Training to offer training classes with more than 900 graduates. Earlier this year, the United Way of Baldwin County recognized Goodrich as the top contributing industry in the county. Goodrich is also recognized for supporting education, arts, and civic activities in the local community such as the Baldwin County Sheriff's Boys Ranch in Summerdale, Community Hospice for Baldwin County, and putting together and sending care packages to family members and friends of employees who are serving our country in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent the working families of Goodrich Aerostructures in Foley, and I ask my colleagues to join me in offering heartfelt congratulations on 25 years of dedication, hard work, and leadership in the community. Needless to say, I wish them much continued success in the future.