

direction as this agreement will encourage Armenia to build trade and economic ties with its largest western neighbor.

The interest of the international community was evident with the presence of the representatives from France, Russia, Switzerland, the European Union and the United States in Zurich at the signing ceremony. I am particularly proud of Secretary Clinton's tireless efforts to encourage both parties to reach agreement on the accords. The signing of the protocols has been a priority for President Obama, and Secretary Clinton's work on October 10th underscores the value of stability in the Caucasus region for the United States and the entire international community.

The protocols must still be brought back to the respective parliaments and ratified, but we should acknowledge this significant progress and continue to encourage both Armenia and Turkey to work together to develop a long lasting diplomatic relationship and stability in the region.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF FREDERICK K. BIEBEL

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to Frederick K. Biebel of Stratford, Connecticut who passed away this week at the age of 83. Fred was a remarkable member of the community and a local political legend. His passing marks the end of an era in the Stratford community and in Connecticut's Republican Party.

Fred began his career in the 1950s as a member of Stratford's Town Council as well as the Chairman of the Stratford Republican Town Committee. During his tenure, he organized countless campaigns and served as a role model and mentor for other candidates. Fred went on to serve as Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee in Connecticut and during President Reagan's Administration he presided as Co-Chairman of the Republican National Committee. He also represented Connecticut as a delegate in fourteen national GOP conventions—the last just this past year. Fred served in every capacity—from volunteer to candidate to national party co-chair. He was committed to his ideals, but understood the value of debate. Through his activism he earned a distinguished reputation and was respected by colleagues of every political persuasion.

As involved in politics as he was, Fred was just as committed to his family and community. He and his wife of 58 years, Violet, raised three children and he was a proud grandfather and great-grandfather. Fred was also a dedicated member of the Lordship Community Church where he served as deacon. In fact, he helped to literally build the Church itself, dismantling, transporting, and reassembling an unused Colonial white church from Vermont in the late 1940s. Fred was proud of the life he built—a fact that was reflected in his recently published autobiography, "Path of a Patriot: The Political Journey of Mr. B."

Though we may have come from different political viewpoints, Fred and I shared a com-

mon cause—public service. Whether through his political career or his work in the community, Fred dedicated a lifetime to service. He understood better than most that a community is only as strong as those members who dedicate themselves to its improvement. He knew that meaningful change came from active involvement—a lesson that he passed on to several generations. I consider myself fortunate to have known him.

Today, as family and friends reflect on the life of Frederick K. Biebel, I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife, Violet, his children, Karen, Kyle, and Kevin, as well as his nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Fred was an extraordinary man who touched the lives of many. His is a legacy that will continue to inspire generations to come.

BOEING BRINGS JOBS TO SOUTH
CAROLINA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, yesterday, Boeing announced that they had chosen their North Charleston, South Carolina, facility as the site for a second 787 Dreamliner final assembly line. This is tremendous news not just for the people of Charleston but for all the families of South Carolina. As we have seen with the success of Michelin across the state, including Lexington, recruited from France by Governor Jim Edwards and BMW at Greer secured from Germany by the late Governor Carroll Campbell bringing new jobs, Boeing's decision will have a broader impact on our state's economy. As noted in today's edition of The State, "S.C. officials expect a network of companies will spring up across the state to support Boeing's operations, just as businesses sprang up around BMW's Upstate plant, opened in the 1990s."

This decision by Boeing is a testament to the strong workforce in South Carolina. I am grateful for the hard work and dedication of so many members of our communities who continue to fight to bring more jobs to South Carolina. In particular, South Carolina Secretary of Commerce Joe Taylor has shown excellent leadership. I've been grateful to work with Secretary Taylor and other leaders as we keep our commitment to those we serve to promote South Carolina as a leader for industry and innovation in the positive environment of a Right to Work State.

HONORING BROOKSIDE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the students, faculty and staff of the Brookside Elementary School and congratulate them for having received the prestigious Blue Ribbon School Award. The Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes schools that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap or whose students achieve at very high levels.

The teachers and staff at Brookside School aim to provide a rigorous yet nurturing environment where on-going academic, social and emotional support is provided so all students can realize their potential. Brookside School has the advantage of small class sizes which creates an atmosphere where each child is recognized for his or her individual gifts and talents.

Character education is woven throughout the curriculum at Brookside Elementary School. Each month, the school hosts "BBOTB", Brookside Brings out the Best, Assembly, where students are recognized for excellent citizenship, character, effort, respect, neatness and organization. As a member of the Committee for Education and Labor, I have the privilege of learning about school both locally and nationally. The future of this country depends on the hopes and dreams of its children. Our community, and our nation, is enhanced by the contributions of high achieving students like those at Brookside Elementary School. Additionally, I would like to recognize the work of the teachers and administrators who dedicate their lives to their students. The staff is the back-bone of the student's success and I thank them for all that they do on a daily basis.

Madam Speaker, it is with pride and admiration I offer my thanks and recognition to the Brookside Elementary School.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE
MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 783, which recognizes Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrates the vast contributions of Hispanic-Americans to the strength and culture of the United States.

In 1968, President Lyndon Johnson introduced Hispanic Heritage Week, which was later expanded to Hispanic Heritage Month in 1988 by President Ronald Reagan. This year, Americans commemorated the history of Hispanic-Americans and their numerous contributions to our country from September 15, 2009, to October 15, 2009.

The estimated Hispanic population of the United States as of July 1, 2008, was 46.9 million. Hispanic-Americans constitute 15 percent of the Nation's total population, comprise 62.2 percent of my district in Houston, Texas, and are the fastest-growing minority group in the United States. Their contributions to our society are evident in many areas including the arts, architecture, literature, military, and our government.

In congratulate all Hispanic-Americans on their rich history and culture, and recognize Hispanic Heritage Month as an important time to commemorate the great achievements and contributions of Hispanic-Americans to the United States.

As a cosponsor of this important resolution, I urge my colleagues to support its passage.