

local entrepreneurial development service providers to improve coordination with Federal resources. This will make the bill especially helpful for minority owned businesses.

This legislation is particularly efficient because it develops a cost effective way to reach a larger number of entrepreneurs in need and coordinates all entrepreneurial development programs eliminating duplication and government waste.

That is why I am supporting this legislation—because of what it will do to help women, minorities, and veterans who gave the ultimate service to our great country to be a part of its great dream.

CHARLES GOLDEN

HON. MICHAEL E. McMAHON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. McMAHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles Golden as he celebrates his 90th birthday this month. Mr. Golden is the grandfather of my constituent Stevie Lacy-Pendleton, and I honor him for being a great community role model.

Throughout his life, Mr. Golden overcame many adversities. As the only son born into a family of young women, much was expected of him after his father's death. Still only a child when his father died, he took a job in the coalmines of Virginia to help support his family through the Great Depression. It was a different time in America. There were few jobs available especially for African-Americans, so Mr. Golden considered himself lucky, even blessed to have a job, no matter how difficult it was on a day to day basis.

An early work accident left him unable to join the military, but it opened a door to higher education. He applied and was accepted to Central State, which later became Central State University. Throughout his college years, he continued to work and send money home, at times holding more than one job.

Upon graduation, he became one of the few African-American engineers in America. He was hired by a federal defense contractor in Dayton, Ohio spending his entire career with them and retiring after over 40 years of service in 1989. During his 40 plus years as an engineer, he mentored countless young people as they began their engineering careers.

He has always been a great community leader. He became an active member of the Middle Run Baptist Church which was founded by freed slaves and is one of the oldest such institutions in the country. As a member of the Middle Run Baptist Church for over 50 years, he serves as a senior deacon, assistant treasurer and a member of the men's choir. He supervises church maintenance and repairs, and cooks for the weekly breakfast program that is open to church members and non members alike. He also fills in as the driver of the church bus which helps transport seniors and people with disabilities.

He was married to his devoted wife Frances for more than 50 years before her passing a number of years ago. Mr. Golden puts his religious beliefs into everyday action. He is a role model for young and old.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Charles Golden as we

join with the members of his church who honored him on November 13, 2009, as a man who overcame insurmountable obstacles, and as the quiet man who has touched and made a difference in so many lives.

THE DIABETES PREVENTION ACT
OF 2009

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address a serious and expanding health problem. Rates of type 2 diabetes continue to rise—despite our knowledge of how to prevent it—and it is time we took action to reverse the disturbing trend.

Thirty years ago, there was no known or proven strategy to fight the onset of type 2 diabetes. Now, we know how to delay onset of this disease, or prevent it completely, according to the National Institutes of Health, NIH. And yet, we are not using this potentially life-saving knowledge to our greatest benefit.

Meanwhile, those who develop the illness still suffer from and can't always properly recognize its symptoms, including fatigue and vision problems. When type 2 diabetes causes those symptoms to progress, it can lead to detrimental and heartbreaking results.

Furthermore, the cost to care for diabetes patients reached \$174 billion in 2007, and that number is only expected to get larger. The illness is a growing problem in the population as a whole, and appears to be increasing among children and adolescents, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC. It makes sense to work to prevent onset of type 2 diabetes. This will both ensure quality of life for patients and reduce overall health spending—especially when the number of Americans at risk is predicted to grow.

I am introducing the Diabetes Prevention Act of 2009 to put our medical knowledge to use to reduce and delay instances of type 2 diabetes. Through the CDC, communities will be able to apply for grants to establish prevention programs designed to assist those diagnosed with pre-diabetes. Working with local medical officials, the programs will help patients with good diet, exercise plans, and other lifestyle changes needed to prevent or delay onset of the illness.

The Diabetes Prevention Act of 2009 builds on the success community organizations have had with similar programs in preventing illness. It is crucial that we address this serious problem and act now to stem the number of cases of type 2 diabetes developing in our country.

I urge consideration of the legislation.

RECOGNITION OF SPRINGFIELD
NARFE CHAPTER 893

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Spring-

field Chapter 893 and applaud its dedication and service to the local community. This chapter of NARFE enjoys the second largest membership in the country, and continues to carry out NARFE's mission of safeguarding and enhancing the benefits of America's active and retired federal employees, and their survivors.

At a recent meeting this chapter took a moment to remember and reflect on friends and family who have served in the armed forces. Of particular note was a poem written by Chaplain Margaret Yowell entitled "What Is a Veteran?"

"WHAT IS A VETERAN?"

He is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia sweating two gallons a day and making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel. He is the barroom loudmouth whose overgrown frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times in the cosmic scales by four hours of exquisite bravery near the 38th parallel.

She is the nurse who fought against futility and went to sleep sobbing every night for two solid years in Da Nang. He is the POW who went away one person and came back another—or didn't come back at all. He is the Quantico drill instructor that has never seen combat—but has saved countless lives by turning young men into Marines, and teaching them to watch each other's backs.

He is the parade-riding Legionnaire who pins on his ribbons and medals with a prosthetic hand. He is the career quartermaster who watches the ribbons and medals pass him by.

He is the three anonymous heroes in The Tomb of the Unknowns, whose presence at the Arlington National Cemetery must forever preserve the memory of all the anonymous heroes whose valor dies unrecognized with them on the battlefield or in the ocean's sunless deep. He is the older guy at the supermarket—palsied now and slow—who helped liberate a Nazi death camp and who wishes all day long that his wife were still alive to hold him when the nightmares come.

He is an ordinary and yet an extraordinary human being—a person who offered some of his life's most vital years in the service of his country, and who sacrificed his ambitions so others would not have to sacrifice theirs.

So remember, each time you see someone who has served our country, just lean over and say Thank You. That's all most people need, and in most cases it will mean more than any medals they could have been awarded or were awarded.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chaplain Margaret Yowell and the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Springfield Chapter 893 for their dedication and service to our brothers and sisters who have so bravely served their country. Our veterans have made the ultimate sacrifice to their nation, and I am proud to work with NARFE to ensure we uphold our commitment to our federal employees and service men and women.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, this morning our national debt was

\$12,030,202,701,513.91. I should note this week is the first time our debt has broken the 12 trillion level.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

The national debt has increased by \$1,391,776,955,220.11 so far this year.

According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, the forecast deficit for this year is \$1.6 trillion. That means that so far this year, we borrowed and spent \$4.4 billion a day more than we have collected, passing that debt and its interest payments to our children and all future Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 63RD
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF MR.
AND MRS. A. NORMAN BANTZ

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I respectfully request the attention of the House to pay recognition to an important day in the lives of Mr. and Mrs. A. Norman Bantz.

On November 16, 2009, Norman and Gloria Bantz celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary. Norman was born on July 17, 1921, and his wife, Gloria, was born on November 16, 1922.

The couple married on November 16, 1946 at Annunciation Church in Crestwood, New York.

Over the years, Norman and Gloria have been blessed with 6 children, Alexandra Louise, Rita Marie, Ralph Fredrick, Margaret Elizabeth, Katherine Mary, and Peter James; 13 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren.

On November 16, the couple along with their family and friends celebrated their anniversary at the home of their daughter.

I would like to congratulate, Norman and Gloria, for reaching this important milestone in their lives. They are shining examples of love and dedication for us all, and I wish them and their family all the best at this important occasion.

HONORING CARY LIGHTSEY

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a nationally recognized leader in protecting the environment and a sixth generation Florida rancher, Cary Lightsey of Lake Wales, Florida, who was awarded the 2009 Southeastern Farmer of the Year.

The Sunbelt Agricultural Exhibition Southeastern Farmer of the Year Award honors excellence in agricultural production and management, leadership in community and farm organizations, and recognizes family contributions in producing safe, abundant supplies of food, fiber and shelter for U.S. consumers. Cary Lightsey, as the sixth award recipient to come from the state of Florida, represents some of the best of American agriculture.

It is a great privilege to recognize Cary Lightsey and his family for their many achieve-

ments and contributions to the fanning industry and to their community.

Brahma Island, a large secluded region in Lake Kissimmee, is home to 28 endangered species, 14 nests of bald eagles and 300-year-old oaks, ancient Indian settlements, wild game, and commercial beef cattle. This island, owned by Cary Lightsey, and the Lightsey Cattle Co., is preserved in its natural state and will remain so through a perpetual conservation easement. On the island and his other ranches, Lightsey raises over 7,000 head of commercial cattle.

Lightsey and his family have been innovative leaders in methods to market cattle, development of replacement stock, as well as expansion and vertical integration into the cattle market throughout the United States. In addition to raising livestock on the island, Lightsey offers ecological tours and guided hunts for wild hogs and exotic deer.

Cary Lightsey was the first Florida rancher to use conservation easements. By keeping 40 percent of his ranches in native land use, Lightsey has been able to make extensive use of conservation easements that cover about 70 percent of his ranching properties. With the easements, Lightsey retains ownership of the land and receives benefits from environmental and governmental organizations in return for giving up his rights to develop the land.

In addition to these conservation and livestock endeavors, Lightsey has been involved in several other innovative ventures including harvesting palmetto berries used for a prostate cancer medicine, relocating threatened gopher turtles onto his ranches, and his latest effort, raising Wagyu cattle for the Japanese beef market. He has also established new grass varieties used for forages and treatments for water flow nutrients, sharing these technologies with other Florida ranchers.

Cary Lightsey has made valuable contributions to his community through numerous civic activities as well. Each year he donates cattle to the Florida State Fair Futurity Steer Show, is active in the Polk County Youth Fair, and has served on numerous conservation and water management district land boards.

I stand today to commend Cary Lightsey and his family, including his wife, three children and grandchildren for this honor, which was said to be have been bestowed due to his entrepreneurial spirit, good business judgment, sound farming practices, high ethical standards and leadership in his family, community, state and nation. The 2009 Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year title was also awarded to Lightsey for his sensitivity to the environment, his response to community and social concerns, and his "abiding devotion to his family, his faith and his nation."

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent this great American.

HONORING CHRIS MARROU

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the end of an era. For just shy of 35 years, Chris Marrou has anchored the news broadcast at San Antonio's KENS-5 television. On November 24, 2009, he will give his final broadcast.

Though he spent his youngest days in San Marcos, TX, Chris was born in San Antonio and has lived in the city for most of his life. He was among the first students at Robert E. Lee High School. After being voted "Most Likely to Succeed" by his graduating class, it was off to Princeton University where he began his career in broadcasting on the campus radio station, WPRB. Upon graduating, Chris returned to San Antonio, working first in radio, for KITE and KBAT, before moving into television with WOAI, where he soon began covering sports. San Antonio lost him briefly when a Dallas radio station lured him away, but he soon returned, taking over the anchor spot at KENS-5 television on December 24, 1973. And what a Christmas present that was.

Over the past 36 years Chris has been one of the most trusted and respected voices in San Antonio and South Texas, even during his brief sojourn in Boston. He has won numerous awards from the Texas Associated Press Broadcasters and other organizations. Not content with just one career, however, Chris began attending St. Mary's University School of Law, graduating with his Juris Doctor in 2007, the same year he was voted "Best TV News Anchor" by the San Antonio Express-News. After passing the Texas bar later that year, he founded the firm of Ramiriz, Marrou & Martinez de Vara, P.L.L.C. with some of his law school classmates.

Chris Marrou has been a great friend to the City of San Antonio, a familiar and trusted friend, welcomed into the homes, and hearts, of millions of people at 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. every night. He will be greatly missed, though we wish him the best as he moves into the next phase of his life.

COMMENDING BETA GAMMA CHAPTER (VSU) OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague Rep. RANDY FORBES, to call attention to a group of young students from Petersburg, Virginia, who have distinguished themselves, their University, and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

I direct my colleagues' attention to the brothers of the Beta Gamma Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity at Virginia State University. Over the last three years the Beta Gamma chapter has partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters and has maintained one hundred percent chapter membership participation rate. They are the first, and only, Alpha Phi Alpha chapter in the country to accomplish this remarkable achievement. I would like to applaud my brothers for volunteering to be responsible role models for at-risk youth, helping them to reach their full potential and to lead vibrant, successful lives.

Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity was founded on December 4, 1906, at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. As the first intercollegiate Greek letter fraternity established for African Americans, Alpha Phi Alpha initially served as a brotherhood and study and support group for minority students at Cornell, but it also recognized the need to help correct the educational, economic, political and social injustices faced by African Americans.