

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE LATE JULIAN  
WAGER

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to Julian Wager, the legendary civic activist and community leader in the communities of western Queens, who passed away this month. Aply honored as the "Honorary Mayor of Long Island City" for his extraordinary character and dedication to the neighborhoods of the city he loved, Julie Wager was a uniquely beloved figure who provided lifelong service to others.

Over the course of six decades, Mr. Wager sought tirelessly to expand and improve professional, financial and networking opportunities for businesses and residents in the Borough of Queens. He provided both entrepreneurial and philanthropic services to the people of his beloved community of Astoria. His family's business, Genius Shop, has been an integral part of the fabric of the vibrant Astoria community for more than half a century. Among his many notable contributions to the resilient Astoria neighborhood, Julie Wager helped ensure the commercial vibrance of Steinway Street for future generations.

Mr. Wager was once memorably quoted as saying, "We work together within the communities, and we appreciate the values of the residents and the merchants. These are the people that support the myriad of charities that exist out there, not the trendy franchised stores who just take the bucks and get out." True to those precepts, Julie Wager was one of the foremost reasons why the business and commercial communities of western Queens remain a thriving hub of commercial activity while also serving as livable communities for tens of thousands of New Yorkers.

Among his extensive contributions to the civic and commercial life of western Queens, Julie Wager served as president of the Steinway Street Merchants Association for more than a quarter century. In 1979, he founded the Central Astoria Local Development Coalition and has served as its president for more than two decades. In 1991, he established the Steinway Street Business Improvement District, serving as its president and executive vice president.

Having suffered a serious spinal injury in 2000 that left him a paraplegic, Julie Wager remained undaunted in his valiant perseverance and undeterred from his determination to volunteer his energies on behalf of others. He served as vice president of the Walter Kaner Foundation; former chairperson of A Way Out; and as a member of Queens Community Board 1 for more than three decades. He was also an enterprising and dedicated advertising director for the Queens Gazette, an institutional pillar of the communities he knew and loved so well. He leaves six daughters and nine grandchildren. Like them, the residents

and communities of western Queens know that we shall not see the likes of Julie Wager again, and we are all the poorer for it.

Madam Speaker, I salute the life and work of Mr. Julian Wager and I ask that my distinguished colleagues in this House join me in recognizing his extraordinary service and contributions to the civic and business life of our nation's greatest city.

CBC HOUR

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 13, 2010*

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in solemn sympathy with the residents of Haiti as they are once again forced to cope with a major catastrophe. As you know, on Tuesday, January 12th, a massive, 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti near the capital of Port-au-Prince. There is still no official estimate of death or destruction, the damage to buildings is extensive and the number of injured or dead is estimated to be in the hundreds, even thousands.

Several eyewitnesses reported heavy damage and bodies in the streets of the capital, Port-au-Prince, where concrete-block homes line steep hillsides.

Haiti sits on a large fault that has caused catastrophic quakes in the past, but this one was described as among the most powerful to hit the region within the last 200 years. With many poor residents living in tin-roof shacks that sit precariously on steep ravines arid with much of the construction in Port-au-Prince and elsewhere in the country of questionable quality, the expectation was that the quake caused major damage to buildings and significant loss of life.

The dimensions of the disaster are still unfolding, Haiti's Prime Minister Jean-Max Bellerive told CNN that he believes there are well over 100,000 dead, and leading senator Youri Latortue estimated the number at possibly as high as 500,000, according the Associated Press.

Although this tragedy struck the land of our neighbor, it is also an American tragedy. The earthquake injured eight American employees working at the Embassy, including three who were medivaced. There are 3 U.S. citizens deaths currently reported but this number is expected to rise. Additionally, countless Americans have relatives in Haiti, and many of them are still unable to locate their loved ones.

America is responding, and will continue to respond with immediate humanitarian assistance to help the people of this struggling island nation rebuild their livelihoods. In the days ahead, I look forward to working with President Clinton, the Special Envoy to Haiti, to address the destruction caused by this natural disaster. I send my condolences to the people and government of Haiti as they grieve

once again in the aftermath of a natural disaster. As Haiti's neighbor, it is the United States' responsibility to help Haiti recover, and build the capacity to mitigate against future disasters.

America and her allies have already initiated a comprehensive, interagency response to the earthquake. The State Department, Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, Coast Guard, USAID—all worked overnight to ensure that critical resources are positioned to support the response and recovery effort, including efforts to find and assist American citizens in Haiti.

U.S. Southern Command will deploy a team of 30 people to Haiti to support U.S. relief efforts in the aftermath of yesterday's devastating earthquake. The team includes U.S. military engineers, operational planners, and a command and control group and communication specialists, will arrive in Haiti today on two C-130 Hercules aircraft. The team will work with U.S. Embassy personnel as well as Haitian, United Nations and international officials to assess the situation and facilitate followup on U.S. military support.

Our friends in the international community must also be commended for their efforts. The United Nations is releasing \$10 million from its emergency funds. The European Commission has approved €3 million (\$4.37 million) with more funds likely. Countless other nations from Germany, to China, to Israel to Mexico have also pledged support. I commend each of these nations for coming to a nation in dire need of assistance. Many of my constituents ask what they can do to help, or how they can find their loved ones. Those who are interested in helping immediately may text HAITI to 90999 and a donation of \$10 will be made automatically to the Red Cross for relief efforts. The donation will be charged to your cell phone bill.

The State Department also suggested contacting agencies such as the Red Cross or Mercy Corps to help with relief efforts.

For loved ones, The U.S. State Department Operations Center set up the following number for Americans seeking information about relatives in Haiti: (888) 407-4747. The department cautioned that because of heavy volume, some callers may hear a recording.

This weekend I will return to Houston, where I will meet with my Haitian-American constituents. It is important to mention that the Department of Homeland Security has already put a hold on the scheduled deportation of Haitians in America. I cannot imagine that any Member of Congress will rise to challenge this assistance to Haitian families in their time of need.

Once again, I am devastated by the immeasurable tragedy that occurred in Haiti. Along with my colleagues, I hope to visit Haiti in the near future to meet with their leaders and see what the United States can do to rebuild the shattered livelihoods.

• 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.

IN RECOGNITION OF JIM  
KEATHLEY

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it has come to my attention that Jim Keathley, the superintendent of the Missouri Highway Patrol, will be retiring on March 1, 2010. After exactly 33 years of service with the highway patrol, Mr. Keathley's impressive career will come to a close.

The people of Missouri have benefited greatly from the 3 years he has served as superintendent, a job he enjoys immensely. Among his most notable achievements is a reduction in traffic deaths to levels not seen since 1950. This impressive accomplishment is due in no small part to his vigilant focus on highway safety.

For more than three decades, Mr. Keathley has put his life on the line for the safety of my fellow Missourians. Now, his sons follow this proud tradition as state troopers themselves. Missouri is a better place due to the proud service of Mr. Keathley and his sons.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I wish the very best for Mr. Keathley as he begins a new chapter in his life. I trust that my fellow members of the House will join me in thanking him for his service to the people of Missouri.

HONORING GARY SEVERSON

**HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and legacy of Gary Severson, who for the past 11 years has admirably served as Executive Director of the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG).

Mr. Severson has led the council with an openness and team spirit that has allowed for effective management, while developing partnerships among the city and county entities he served. Under his leadership, the NWCCOG has emerged as a viable cohort and has grown as a respected and valued resource in addressing regional issues. As a result, the Council's guidance has been sought by elected officials from Colorado to Washington, DC.

Under Mr. Severson, the NWCCOG has taken responsibility for many complex federal and state projects with significant impact on programs including Weatherization, All-Hazards Emergency Management and Elevator Inspection Programs. The influence of his leadership has been particularly profound in protection of federal lands within the confines of the NWCCOG region.

With more than 68 percent of the NWCCOG region being managed by federal agencies, his stewardship and insight have helped grow the Council into a recognized leader in National Forest Planning, Community Wildfire Protection Planning and mitigating the detrimental effects of bark beetle infestation. Such efforts have led to many accolades, including receipt of the prestigious USDA Rural Leadership Award.

The future is bright for the region as the NWCCOG explores ways to expand on an economic base of recreation and construction. Mr. Severson's vision includes the possibilities of a sustainable wood products industry, enhancing higher education and upgrading medical services. He has truly left a lasting legacy of accomplishment.

Madam Speaker, I proudly acknowledge the work and leadership of Gary Severson and extend to him the gratitude of the 28 member jurisdictions of NWCCOG for his 11 years as Executive Director. I wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE DEATH OF LAHORI  
RAM

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the one year passing of Lahori Ram. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding achievements of Lahori during his lifetime.

Lahori Ram served with a strong vision and dedication to the local community and California. From the day he emigrated from India to this great nation in 1972, Lahori embraced the notion that in America, hard work and sacrifice has limitless possibilities. He lived his American Dream, and his lasting legacy of philanthropy, community leadership, and political activism will be with us for generations to come.

As a 28-year-old graduate student, Lahori Ram worked in farm fields in Fresno for 75 cents an hour to help pay for a master's degree in Foreign Affairs from Yuba College. In 1976, he started a career with the United States Postal Service, where he worked an average of 55 to 60 hours per week, including most holidays, before retiring 18 years later in 1994.

Lahori Ram's hard work allowed him to buy his first family home in San Bruno in 1979, and with uncanny investment ability he sold that home in 1984, and eventually came to own over 100 apartment units in the bay area. With his success, after retirement, Lahori dedicated himself to philanthropy and to giving back to his community.

In 1981 Lahori Ram helped establish the Sri Guru Ravidass Sabha Temple in Pittsburg, generously donated to charity, assisted many causes in India, and was a well-known figure in the Sikh and Hindu religious communities. He was appointed and served on the California Technology, Trade, and Commerce Committee; the California Transportation Commission; and the California Commission for Economic Development.

Madam Speaker, I am truly honored in joining many Californians to pay tribute to my friend and dedicated public servant, Lahori Ram.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5, I was not present. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 2, "yea" on rollcall No. 3, "yea" on rollcall No. 4, and "yea" on rollcall No. 5.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, I was not present for votes 4 and 5.

Had I been present for rollcall 4, supporting the initiatives of Chicago Wilderness and the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall 5, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 West Highway 64 Bypass in Roper, North Carolina, as the E.V. Wilkins Post Office, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO ERIC BOTKIN

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Eric Botkin, a retired firefighter paramedic and valued member of the community of Riverside, California. Riverside has been blessed by dynamic and dedicated leaders, like Eric, who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work.

Eric Botkin began his career with the City of Riverside Fire Department on May 1, 1998. He held the position of firefighter paramedic until his retirement. During his career he performed as a fire investigator from February 18, 2000 through July 5, 2002. He completed Engine Certification on November 2, 2007. His last assignment was Fire Station 13 on Canyon Springs Blvd.

Prior to working for the City of Riverside Fire Department Eric was a paid/call firefighter with the Orange County Fire Authority. He also worked for Lifefleet Ambulance and Medtrans Ambulance before pursuing his fire department career.

Eric passed away at his Temecula home on December 27th surrounded by family and friends, including his wife, Hallie, and son, Hunter, 10, after battling glioblastoma multiforme, a form of brain cancer. Eric Botkin was diagnosed in October of 2007 and retired from the fire department on October 30, 2008. For the past two years Eric remained upbeat and was an inspiration to all.

On behalf of all those who knew him, it is my honor to offer these remarks as a tribute to the life and legacy of Riverside Firefighter

Eric Botkin. His life and presence will be sorely missed and I extend my condolences to his dear family and friends.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREENSBORO LUNCH COUNTER SIT-IN

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Greensboro Lunch Counter Sit-In.

Bucking the convention of segregation, on February 1, 1960, Ezell Blair, Jr. (Jibreel Khazan), Franklin McCain, Joseph McNeil and David Richmond sat at a Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, refusing to leave without service. These four courageous young students at the Agricultural and Technical College of North Carolina, now the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, became known as the A&T Four. Their actions on February 1st inspired a wave of sit-in demonstrations across the nation that played a pivotal role in the Civil Rights Movement.

After the first sit-in on February 1st more than twenty other A&T students joined the A&T Four for the second day of the sit-in. By the end of the first week, hundreds of students from colleges throughout the area came to the downtown Greensboro area to participate in the Woolworth sit-in and rally in the streets in support. The following week, student sit-ins were launched across the state of North Carolina, and soon thereafter, across the country. After months of commitment by young civil rights activists, the first African-American was served at the Greensboro Woolworth's lunch counter on July 25, 1960. The lunch counter was officially desegregated the following day.

As a Representative from the great state of North Carolina, it brings me great pride to recognize the outstanding efforts of this group whose actions were instrumental in securing equal treatment for African-Americans throughout North Carolina and the United States. The story of the A&T Four exemplifies the sacrifices made by countless courageous individuals to end inequality. The culmination of their efforts resulted in the end of an era of racial segregation and structured discrimination.

Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and appreciation that I recognize the bravery shown by the young men who launched the Greensboro Lunch Counter Sit-In, and all those who followed in their footsteps, making the state of North Carolina and the nation a better place for all Americans.

HONORING ASSISTANT CHIEF LENN GRANT OF THE BARRINGTON ILLINOIS FIRE DEPARTMENT

**HON. MELISSA L. BEAN**

OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Ms. BEAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Assistant Chief Lenn Grant of the Bar-

ington Fire Department. I would like to thank Assistant Chief Grant for his 37 years of service to the Barrington community and congratulate him on his recent retirement. Assistant Chief Grant has made a valuable contribution to his community, and to the district I represent.

During the course of Assistant Chief Grant's career, the Barrington Fire Department has grown along with the needs of the community, evolving from a small on-call team to a modernized full-time squad with advanced emergency capabilities. Assistant Chief Grant's rise from a part-time firefighter to assistant chief reflects the dedication and professionalism that have earned him the respect of his colleagues and community. Throughout Assistant Chief Grant's time with the department, he has continually reached beyond the call of duty, serving on numerous public safety committees and developing innovative training programs for fellow firefighters.

Madam Speaker, the Village of Barrington will greatly miss Assistant Chief Grant's hard work and initiative within the fire department, but I know he will continue to apply the same talents and values to the benefit of the Barrington community for years to come. I thank Assistant Chief Grant for his service and wish him continued success in the future.

Thank you and I yield back the balance of my time.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEPHANIE R. DAWKINS

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mrs. MAHONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Stephanie R. Dawkins, a respected business leader both here and abroad. The founder and CEO of Stephanie Dawkins International, Inc., and a former Senior Vice President of AB Volvo, Stephanie Dawkins is widely respected in the world of business for her expertise and acumen, which she now shares as a renowned consultant, strategic advisor, and professional public speaker on business management.

Stephanie is a leader and innovator in her field, where she has amassed more than two decades of operations and human resources experience. As the former Senior Vice President of AB Volvo, Stephanie Dawkins was responsible for labor and employee relations, safety and the environment, health and well being, performance management, organizational effectiveness, exit management and global policy harmonization at an international corporation with tens of thousands of employees. She was the first African-American to be promoted to the ranks of Volvo's senior executives.

Stephanie Dawkins' achievements have been recognized by a wide range of respected organizations. She serves as a Trustee of the Business and Professional Women's Foundation and as a member of the European-American Women's Council, the National Speakers Association, the Executive Leadership Council, the Society for Human Resources Management, the Associated Society for Training and Development, the National Association of African Americans in Human Resources, and the Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce.

The hallmarks of Stephanie Dawkins' success in her professional and civic engagement have been her optimism, her work ethic, and her persistence. As she herself so eloquently stated in the June 2006 edition of the North Carolina Journal for Women, ". . . I understand the importance of always being at your personal best. You never know under what circumstance another person's path will meet with your own. You never know who is watching, who is seeing you as a role model, or who will make the decision to emulate you."

Stephanie R. Dawkins has worked tirelessly in her professional life and leadership roles to support the accomplishments of women both in the United States and abroad. Through her involvement in and leadership of such vital and vibrant organizations as the European-American Women's Council (EAWC) and the Business and Professional Women's Foundation, she strives to forge ties and improve communications between professional women around the globe. She has dedicated her efforts to expanding and improving training for future leaders of EAWC and has consistently demonstrated her commitment to the mission of the EAWC in helping women in the workforce achieve their business and professional goals.

Madam Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Stephanie R. Dawkins and her vital contributions to our nation's civic and business endeavors.

HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM GREINER

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding citizen of Buffalo and Western New York and a dear friend who will be profoundly missed, William Greiner. Bill Greiner, the 13th president of the University at Buffalo, died due to complications from heart surgery at the age of 75. This is a devastating loss to his family and friends, and to our community.

William R. Greiner, who spent 42 years at UB as president, provost, and longtime Law School faculty member, joined the law faculty in 1967. He rose through the faculty and administrative ranks, culminating with his appointment as the University at Buffalo's 13th president in 1991. He served until 2003 and was named president emeritus on November 17, 2009 by the SUNY Board of Trustees.

Greiner's administrative leadership resulted in a period of unprecedented growth at the University at Buffalo. His extensive list of major accomplishments includes the expansion of the university's research enterprise, including the creation of major research institutes and recruitment of world-class faculty, solidifying UB's place as a top-flight research university. He established the university as a leading international educational institution, and under his leadership UB became the first American university to establish a branch in China when it opened a center in Beijing.

Bill was deeply loved by his family, friends, and the community. He will be remembered as much for his engaging, hands-on administrative style, and tireless advocacy on behalf of

UB as for his long list of accomplishments. He was known as the quintessential university citizen and he cherished his role as professor and mentor.

Madam Speaker, I offer my deepest condolences to Bill's family. My thoughts are with them, and I share their grief of this wonderful man I am honored to have called a dear friend. His loss is felt by the many lives he touched in the Buffalo community.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRANCIS  
BRILLHART

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this means to recognize Francis Brillhart, a businessman, volunteer, and mayor who has served the community of Holden, Missouri for over 43 years. On January 3, 2010, Mr. Brillhart celebrated his 75th birthday.

Francis Brillhart has owned and operated Brillhart Music for the past 4 decades. In that time, he has donated or provided at reduced cost audio equipment and sound systems to local churches, nonprofits, and service organizations throughout the community. Though his work with this Holden staple consumed much of his time, Mr. Brillhart's true passion was serving others.

Serving on the Johnson County Real Estate Board, Emergency Management Board, and the Community Health Board, Mr. Brillhart worked diligently so that his fellow citizens could lead better, safer, and more comfortable lives.

The hallmark of his lifetime of service has been the 11½ years he served as Mayor of Holden. During that time, Mr. Brillhart ensured that government worked for the people he represented. With his family, friends, and neighbors in mind, he made tough decisions that benefited all. He left big shoes to fill in Holden's City Hall, and he will not soon be forgotten.

Madam Speaker, I trust that my fellow Members of the House will join me in wishing a very happy birthday to Francis Brillhart, a man who has bettered the lives of countless residents of Holden, Missouri.

H.R. 4173, "THE WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009"

HON. MELVIN L. WATT

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mr. WATT. Madam Speaker, I would like to submit the following information on H.R. 4173:

[From the Washington Post, Dec. 19, 2009]  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE'S REFORM PACKAGE HURTS THE FED'S INDEPENDENCE

The House of Representatives has passed a comprehensive financial regulatory reform package. It creates a consumer protection agency for financial services and establishes a mechanism for resolving failed, systematically important institutions. Agree or disagree with the particulars, there is no dis-

puting the bill's significance. Certainly President Obama has made reform one of his top priorities. The Senate, of course, has yet to weigh in, and it will probably be months before Mr. Obama has legislation on his desk. Yet if the House bill did come to him, he should veto it, for one reason: Whatever good it might do would be canceled out by the inclusion of Texas Republican Ron Paul's proposal to subject the Federal Reserve's monetary policymaking to regular audits by the Government Accountability Office, an arm of Congress.

Supporters suggest that the measure would merely provide "transparency" for a secretive, powerful institution. But for all its wide, bipartisan backing, this is anything but a prudent or centrist law. In fact, it is an attack—born of crisis and the attendant emotions—on the political independence the central bank must have to do its job.

The case for political independence at the Fed is elementary. Elected officials, such as members of Congress, are inherently loath to tighten the supply of money available to their constituents, even when that might be necessary to fight inflation. U.S. experience, and that of countries around the world, confirms this, which is why Congress exempted the Fed's money-supply decisions from GAO scrutiny in a 1978 law. Mr. Paul's proposal would effectively repeal that. Investors already spend enough energy and money trying to figure out where interest rates are heading without this additional dose of permanent uncertainty. Trust in the Fed, and, by extension, the dollar, will evaporate if markets believe that the Fed is courting the approval of Congress's auditors.

Mr. Paul doesn't care; he's an "end the Fed" man. In the past, other members of Congress have basically just humored him. It's a sign of the times—and not a good one—that they have been Fed-bashed into following him now. To be sure, the Fed may have been lax as a bank regulator. Monetary policy under former chairman Alan Greenspan was, in hindsight, too loose. Both failures contributed to the current crisis—during which the Fed has ventured into new and unorthodox areas to stave off depression, thus unavoidably politicizing itself. Under Chairman Ben S. Bernanke, the central bank has corrected some regulatory errors. It is aware of the politicization risk posed by its current monetary policies and seemingly is eager to undo them as soon as it safely can. This week, the Fed announced that it will phase out special lending programs for money market mutual funds, short-term corporate lending and investment banks by Feb. 1.

Mr. Paul's cure is worse than the Fed's ills, real or alleged. The central bank is already more transparent than the Fed-bashers let on: It produces an annual report; the chairman testifies before Congress; it releases, with some delay, the minutes of its policy meetings. We hope cooler heads prevail in the Senate, though a similar measure has 31 co-sponsors there. If not, Mr. Obama will have to get out his veto pen. In fact, it might save everyone a lot of trouble if he made that intention clear right away.

View all comments that have been posted about the article.

OPEN LETTER TO CONGRESS AND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Representatives Ron Paul and Alan Grayson have put forward an amendment, under the banner of increasing the Federal Reserve's transparency and accountability, to subject the Fed's monetary policy and discount-lending actions to an audit by the Government Accounting Office (GAO). This amendment, which has just been voted out of

the House Financial Services Committee, is an attempt to undermine the Fed's independence which will worsen economic policy and macroeconomic outcomes, particularly on inflation.

Economic theory and a massive body of empirical evidence provide strong support for the independence of central banks in their conduct of monetary policy. Subjecting central banks to short-run political pressure impairs the credibility of their commitment to maintaining low and stable inflation, with an outcome of higher and more volatile inflation, interest rates, and unemployment. This has happened over and over again in the past, not only in the United States but in many other countries throughout the world.

The Fed's independence gives it credibility in fighting inflation which stabilizes inflation expectations. During this crisis this credibility allowed the Fed to take extraordinary action to prevent the recent financial market disruption from causing a possible depression without triggering inflation. Eventually the Fed will have to scale back its unprecedented monetary accommodation. When the Fed seeks to begin tightening monetary conditions, it must be allowed to do so without political interference. Weakening of the Fed's independence now might raise inflation risk, which would cause borrowing costs to rise and would lower prospects for a strong economic recovery.

We believe that the Paul/Grayson amendment will substantially weaken the Federal Reserve's independence and will do serious harm to the economy, particularly at this critical juncture. We recommend that it not be adopted in any Congressional legislation.

Ricardo Caballero, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Kenneth French, Dartmouth College; Robert Hall, Stanford University; Anil Kashyap, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Pete Klenow, Stanford University; Frederic Mishkin, Columbia University; Thomas Sargent, New York University; Michael Woodford, Columbia University; Andrew Abel, Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania; Daron Acemoglu, MIT; Viral Acharya, New York University Stern School of Business; Stefania Albanesi, Columbia University; Laurence Ales, Carnegie Mellon University; Alberto Alesina, Harvard University; Robert M Anderson, UC Berkeley; Kathryn Anderson, Vanderbilt University; Boragan Aruoba; University of Maryland; Paul Asquith, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Jeremy Atack, Vanderbilt University; Alan Auerbach, University of California, Berkeley.

Costas Azariadis, Washington University in St. Louis; David Backus, NYU; Martin Baily, The Brookings Institution; Brad Barber, UC Davis; David Bate, University of Iowa; William Baumol, New York University; Charles Becker, Duke University; David Beim, Finance and Economics, Columbia Business School; Geert Bekaert, Columbia University; Ola Bengtsson, University of Illinois; Dan Bernhardt, University of Illinois; Jagdish Bhagwati, University Professor, Columbia University; Alan Blinder, Princeton University; Nick Bloom, Stanford; Patrick Bolton, Columbia University; George Borts, Brown University; Phillip Braun, University of Chicago; Bruce Brown, Cal State Polytechnic Univ. Pomona; Clair Brown, University of California, Berkeley; Gardner Brown, University of Washington.

Stephen Buckles, Vanderbilt University; Eric Budish, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Francisco Buera, University of California at Los Angeles; Jeremy Bulow, Stanford Business School; Craig Burnside, Duke University; John Campbell, Harvard University; Miltiades Chacholiades, Georgia State University; Joseph Chen, University of California, Davis; Yu-chin Chen,

University of Washington; Martin Cherkes, Columbia University; Pierre Andre Chiappori, Columbia University; Lawrence Christiano, Northwestern University; Russell Chuderewicz, Penn State University; Sanjay Chugh, University of Maryland; Timothy Cogley, New York University; Olivier Coibion, College of William and Mary; Shawn Cole, Harvard Business School; Pierre Collin-Dufresne, Columbia University.

Diego Comin, Harvard; Michelle Connolly, Duke University; Thomas Cooley, New York University; Dora Costa, UCLA; Roger Craine, University of California, Berkeley; Janet Currie, Columbia University; Andrew Daughety, Vanderbilt University; Steven Davis, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Davide Debortoli, University of California, San Diego; Francesco Decarolis, University of Wisconsin, Madison; Stefano DellaVigna, UC Berkeley; Wouter Dessein, Columbia University; Phoebe Dhrymes, Columbia University; Peter Diamond, MIT.

Douglas Diamond, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Francis Diebold, University of Pennsylvania; Avinash Dixit, Princeton University; Allan Drazen, University of Maryland; Robert Driskill, Vanderbilt University; Darrell Duffie, Stanford University; Chris Edmond, NYU Stern; Franklin Edwards, Columbia University; Sebastian Edwards, UCLA; Martin Eichenbaum, Northwestern University; Theo Eicher, University of Washington; Andrea Eisfeldt, Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management; Michael Elsyby, University of Michigan; Charles Engel, University of Wisconsin; Eduardo Engel, Yale University; Roger E. A. Farmer, UCLA; Jon Faust, Center for Financial Economics, Johns Hopkins U.; Jesus Fernandez-Villaverde, University of Pennsylvania; T. Aldrich Finegan, Vanderbilt University (Professor Emeritus); Michael Fishman, Northwestern University.

Virginia Grace France, University of Illinois; Jeffrey Frankel, Harvard University; Ken Froot, Harvard University; Xavier Gabaix, NYU; Francisco Gallego, Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile; Marc Giannoni, Columbia University; J. Fred Giertz, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Richard Gilbert, University of California, Berkeley; Simon Gilchrist, Boston University; Yuriy Gorodnichenko, UC Berkeley; Gary Gorton, Yale University; Francois Gourio, Boston University; Daniel Graham, Duke University; William Greene, New York University; Nathaniel Gregory, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Bronwyn Hall, University of California at Berkeley; John Haltiwanger, University of Maryland; Gary Hansen, UCLA; Lars Peter Hansen, University of Chicago; Bruce Hansen, University of Wisconsin.

Gordon Hanson, UC San Diego; Milton Harris, University of Chicago; Christian Hellwig, UCLA; Benjamin Hermalin, University of California; Andrew Hertzberg, Columbia University; Yael Hochberg, Northwestern University; Robert Hodrick, Columbia University; Burton Hollifield, Carnegie Mellon University; Takeo Hoshi, University of California, San Diego; Christopher House, University of Michigan; Peter Howitt, Brown University; Chang-Tai Hsieh, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Glenn Hubbard, Columbia University; John Huizinga, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Erik Hurst, University of Chicago; Saul H. Hymans, University of Michigan; David Ikenberry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Ravi Jagannathan, Northwestern University; Nir Jaimovich, Stanford University; Urban Jermann, University of Pennsylvania.

Dana Johnson, Comerica Incorporated; Charles I. Jones, Stanford University, Graduate School of Business; Marcin Kacperczyk,

New York University Stern School of Business; Charles Kahn, University of Illinois; Steve Kaplan, University of Chicago Booth.

Shachar Kariv, UC Berkeley/Economics; Anthony Karydakis, Stern School of Business, New York University; Barbara Katz, Stern School of Business, New York University; Peter Kenen, Princeton University; Miles Kimball, University of Michigan; Kent Kimbrough, Duke University; Patrick Kline, UC Berkeley; Ralph Koijen, Chicago Booth; Samuel Kortum, University of Chicago; SP Kothari, MIT; Kala Krishna, Penn State University; Randall Kroszner, University of Chicago, Booth School of Business; Finn Kydland, University of California, Santa Barbara; David Laibson, Harvard University; Bruce Lehmann, Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies, University of California, San Diego.

Jonathan Lewellen, Dartmouth College; Frank Lichtenberg, Columbia University; Victor Lima, The University of Chicago; Barton Lipman, Boston University; Adriana Lleras-Muney, UCLA; Andrew Lo, MIT; Sydney Ludvigson, New York University; Louis Maccini, Johns Hopkins University; W Bentley MacLeod, Columbia University; Burton Malkiel, Princeton University; Ulrike Malmendier, University of California, Berkeley; Paula Malone, University of Michigan; Robert McDonald, Northwestern University; Daniel McFadden, University of California, Berkeley; Rajnish Mehra, University of California, Santa Barbara; Marc Melitz, Harvard University; Allan Meltzer, Carnegie Mellon University; Enrique Mendoza, University of Maryland; Laurence Meyer, Macroeconomic Advisers; Frederic Mishkin, Graduate School of Business, Columbia University.

Robert Moffitt, Johns Hopkins University; Enrico Moretti, University of California, Berkeley; Stephen Morris, Princeton University; Adair Morse, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Giuseppe Moscarini, Yale University; Kevin Murphy, University of Chicago; Stewart Myers, MIT; Roger Myerson, University of Chicago; Brent Neiman, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Maurice Obstfeld, University of California, Berkeley; Brendan O'Flaherty, Columbia University; Lee Ohanian, UCLA; Maureen O'Hara, Cornell University; Claudia Olivetti, Boston University; Martha Olney, U.C. Berkeley; Joseph Ostroy, UCLA; Stavros Panageas, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Lubos Pastor, University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Neil Pearson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Lasse H. Pedersen, New York University.

George Pennacchi, University of Illinois; Scott Perkins, University of Illinois; George Perry, Brookings Institution; Thomas Philippon, New York University; Monika Piazzesi, Stanford University; Elizabeth Powers, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Edward C Prescott, Arizona State University; Giorgio Primiceri, Northwestern University; Thomas Pugel, New York University Stern School of Business.

John Quigley, University of California, Berkeley; Valerie Ramey, University of California, San Diego; John Riley, UCLA; Michael Riordan, Columbia University; James Roberts, Duke; Gerard Roland, UC Berkeley; Michael Rothschild, Princeton University (Emeritus); Peter L. Rousseau, Vanderbilt University; Juan Rubio-Ramirez, Duke University; Kim Ruhl, NYU Stern School of Business; Lynne Sagalyn, Columbia University.

Bernard Salanie, Columbia University; Seth Sanders, Duke University; Allen Sanderson, University of Chicago; Tano Santos, Columbia University; Paola Sapienza, Northwestern University; Rafael Schiozer, University of Illinois at Urbana

Champaign; Richard Schmalensee, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Stephanie Schmitt-Grohe, Columbia University; Myron Scholes, Stanford University, Emeritus; Frank Schorheide, University of Pennsylvania; John Shea, University of Maryland at College Park; Robert Shiller, Yale University; Robert Shiller, University of Chicago; Stephen Shore, Johns Hopkins University; Kenneth Singleton, Stanford University; Matt Slaughter, Dartmouth College; Jeffrey Smith, University of Michigan; Lones Smith, University of Michigan; Tony Smith, Yale University; Nicholas Souleles, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

Chester Spatt, Carnegie Mellon University; Victor Stango, University of California, Davis; Richard Startz, University of Washington; James Stock, Harvard University; Marti Subrahmanyam, New York University; Suresh Sundaresan, Columbia University; Chris Telmer, Carnegie Mellon University; Peter Temin, MIT; Michele Tertilt, Stanford University; Duncan Thomas, Duke University; George Tolley, University of Chicago; Robert Topel, University of Chicago; Robert Townsend, MIT; Grace Tsiang, University of Chicago; Stephen Turnovsky, University of Washington; Harald Uhlig, University of Chicago; Martin Uribe, Columbia University; Salvador Valdés-Prieto, Catholic University of Chile; Stijn Van Nieuwerburgh, New York University Stern School of Business; Hal Varian, UC Berkeley.

Carlos Vegh, University of Maryland; Laura Veldkamp, New York University, Stern School of Business; Pietro Veronesi, University of Chicago; Anne Villamil, University of Illinois; Paul Wachtel, New York University, Stern School of Business; Neng Wang, Columbia University; Mark Watson, Princeton University; Shang-Jin Wei, Columbia Business School Chazen Institute; Pierre-Olivier Weill, UCLA; David Weinstein, Columbia University; E. Roy Weintraub, Duke University; Louis Wells, Harvard Business School; Kenneth West, University of Wisconsin—Madison; Diana Weymark, Vanderbilt, University.

Michael Whinston, Northwestern University; Mirko Wiederholt, Northwestern University; Robert Willis, University of Michigan; Daniel Wolfenzon, Columbia University; Robert Wright, Augustana College SD; Jonathan Wright, Johns Hopkins University; Randall Wright, University of Wisconsin—Madison; Stephen Yeaple, Penn State University; Stephen Zeldes, Columbia University; Stanley Zin, New York University; Eric Zivot, University of Washington Dept of Economics; Mark Zmijewski, University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

## EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 15, 2010

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks received as part of H.R. 3288, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman BILL SHUSTER (PA-9)

Bill Number: H.R. 3288, Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Projects

Project Name: Confluence Cellular Communication Tower Project

Account: DOJ/COPS Tech

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: County of Somerset

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 North Center Avenue, Somerset, PA 15501

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$100,000 for Confluence Cellular Communication Tower Project

It is my understanding that funding will be used to construct a cellular communications tower to provide mobile phone and radio communications along the Greater Allegheny Passage Trail.

This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because the tower would make emergency communications available to law enforcement personnel, rangers, and trail users for critical incidents and emergencies.

TRIBUTE TO ST. MARGARET'S  
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL, FOUR TIME  
CALIFORNIA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a school in my congressional district, St. Margaret's Episcopal School, that not only excels in academics but is also distinguished on the football field. The St. Margaret's football team won the 2009 California Interscholastic Federation, CIF, Small Schools State Championship for the fourth consecutive year. In the championship game, St. Margaret's defeated Ontario Christian 12 to 6.

The football team is an outstanding example of hard work, determination and perseverance. After 4 straight years of being on top, they have certainly earned the title "Champions." The members of the winning football team include:

Matt Duenes, Houston Agan, James Murayama, Mike Schmall, Andrew Torok, Fernando Almejo, Brennan Smith, Joey Sego, Jon Gencarella, Chris Adams, Chris Bauer, Chase McClure, Scott McGowan, Davis Edwards, Mark Olivier, John Carpenter, Adam Miyawaki, Nolan Lynch, Byran Flores, Leo Garcia, Chase Steuber, Jake Dappen, Jeff Askin, Brett Nicholas, Freddy Valencia, Will Findiesen, Matt Kloss, Connor McClure, Max Carpenter, and AJ Rovsek.

The team is led by Head Coach Harry Welch; Assistants Rod Baltau, Sean Coen, Hiram Johnson, Jay Noonan, Brent Ward, and Butch Ward.

It is an honor to represent such a fine group of young people with a strong dedication to teamwork and academics. I know each one of them will treasure the memories of their fourth championship season, and I commend them, and the entire St. Margaret's community, for this truly great achievement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LATE  
JOHN HOBBS

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 15, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of my good friend John Hobbs, a remarkable man who distinguished himself in his personal and professional endeavors. A respected, highly successful pioneer in the investment management industry, John Hobbs was also a selfless civic activist and philanthropist who was dedicated to education and to the pursuit of justice and civil rights. He bequeathes a legacy of professional excellence and compassion for others.

John Hobbs demonstrated a lifelong dedication to education and youth development. He attended Wesleyan University and earned an A.B. and M.B.A. degrees from Harvard University. He served on the Harvard Graduate School of Education's and the Harvard Business School's Dean's Advisory Boards and co-chaired—along with his late wife of 46 years, Elisabeth Atwater Hobbs—the Harvard Graduate School of Education's Capital Campaign. As the Campaign Steering Committee's Co-Chairs in the 1990s, John and Liz helped raise \$111 million, the largest sum ever raised by a school of education. They endowed the John H. and Elisabeth A. Hobbs Chair of Cognition and Education held by Prof. Howard Gardner. They also helped many students cover education costs through the Hobbs Fellowship. John had been Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Common Cents in NYC, on the Governing Board of the Graduate Faculty of the New School University and on the Board of the Foundation for Child Development. He was also a dedicated patriot who served in the United States Air Force Reserve.

As an investment manager, John Hobbs was a co-founder, Chairman, and CEO of Jennison Associates, one of Wall Street's first independent institutional investment management firms. At the time, institutional investment portfolios were managed primarily by large bank investment departments, insurance companies, and investment counselors. John and his colleagues built Jennison with the belief that in-house fundamental research and specialized investment teams would generate superior long-term investment returns. Now a subsidiary of Prudential Financial, Jennison manages more than \$90 billion in assets for major institutions, mutual funds, and private individuals. Many of its existing client relationships were established while he was Chief Executive Officer.

He was instrumental in Jennison's expansion beyond equities into the institutional fixed income market. He was named Jennison's president and chief executive officer in 1976 and became chairman in 1994. In 1996, he took on added responsibilities as president of institutional asset management for the global money management group of Prudential. In 2000, he took the helm of Prudential's entire equity asset management business, including the active quantitative management firm Quantitative Management Associates. He served as Jennison's vice chairman from late 2002 until he retired in 2003. After the death of his wife, he returned to work and was most recently the vice chairman of Madison Asset

Management Group, LLC, a global infrastructure investment specialist.

In addition to his beloved wife who predeceased him, John Hobbs was the devoted father of Margaret M., George C. and Kate H. Hobbs; beloved brother of Eleanor Richardson of Niantic, Conn., and Margaret Sudbury of Winchester, MA. He is also survived by loving nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of a lifetime of service to others, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the late John Hobbs, a great American who made immeasurable improvements to our civic life. John Hobbs' selfless and enduring dedication to others inspires us all.

CONGRATULATING ILLINOIS  
MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE  
ACADEMY

SPEECH OF

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 13, 2010*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the staff, students, and faculty at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy for winning the 2009 Star Innovator in the Intel Schools of Distinction competition.

Supporting mathematics and science in education is crucial to our national prosperity. The U.S. workforce is dramatically changing, and the demand for highly skilled jobs is rising. In the recent years the employment in science, technology, engineering and mathematics—or "STEM"—fields increased by an estimated 25 percent.

Every year, Intel honors U.S. schools that demonstrate 21st century teaching and learning environments that promote excellence in math and science with the Intel Schools of Distinction awards. To be considered, schools must develop an environment and curricula that meet or exceed benchmarks put forth by national mathematics and science content standards.

The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy uses competency-driven learning experiences to enable students to acquire strong bases of disciplinary content knowledge and skills. Students at IMSA design and conduct hands-on experiments, make observations, analyze data, draw conclusions, and communicate evidence-based principles. Students also delve into the scientific literature and build understanding by synthesizing information and investigation through writing. These skills and abilities are then extended with electives and through the Student Inquiry and Research, SIR, program. Through SIR, students partner with cutting edge scientists on diagnostics, nanotechnology, medical research, and much more.

I am honored to join Representative FOSTER in congratulating the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy in receiving this prestigious honor, the Star Innovator in the Intel Schools of Distinction Award.