

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN ON CELEBRATING ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GARY C. PETERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 3, 2010*

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Construction Association of Michigan on the occasion of its 125th anniversary. As a Member of Congress, it is both my honor and privilege to recognize this important milestone. In the Association's 125 years of operation it has grown to become both the oldest and largest regional construction association in the United States.

This historic occasion is even more impressive when considering the Association's modest beginnings. The Association was originally founded by 21 prominent Detroit-area construction industry leaders as the Builders and Traders Exchange in 1885. Their vision was to create an organization to provide assistance, information and service to the Michigan construction industry as well as foster opportunities for industry growth and development of relationships between the Michigan construction industry and their clients.

That spark of a vision 125 years ago of what could be has grown into an organization of over 3400 members, which acts as a critical element in creating, perpetuating, and strengthening profitability, efficiency and integrity within the Michigan construction industry. The services that CAM offers to their members now extends to providing leadership and guidance in such significant issues as economic development, continuing education, complete safety training programs and ongoing legislative relations and public awareness efforts.

Madam Speaker, in these tough economic times it is the work of organizations such as CAM that is critical in helping to shepherd their members and our men and women in the construction industry through the perils of economic instability. The 125th anniversary of CAM's founding is indeed a historic milestone for Michigan's construction industry. I would again like to offer my heartiest congratulations to the executive board for achieving such an impressive milestone and I look forward to CAM's continued success in its future endeavors, as well as many many more years of productive service to the State of Michigan.

**GROW AMERICA'S SMALL BUSINESSES ACT**

**HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 3, 2010*

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, last fall, after eight years of the previous administration looking the other way while Wall Street and the big banks gambled, we faced a near collapse of our financial system.

Now, while we pick up the pieces, small businesses in Rhode Island and across the country are struggling to find credit.

The lifeblood of our economy can't afford to wait until the banks are ready to lend again.

Instead of waving fees, guaranteeing loans and doing cartwheels to make banks lend to small businesses, it's time we cut out the middle-man.

It's time we let the SBA lend directly to small businesses, so that our local economies aren't dependent on the decisions of Wall Street.

We don't need Wall Street middle-men slowing down lending to small businesses and skimming profits at the same time.

By lending 20 billion dollars directly to small businesses, the SBA can provide cost-effective help to struggling communities.

There's another way to cut out the middle-man. Let's let small business owners lend to themselves by passing the GROW America's Small Businesses Act.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. STEVE KAGEN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 3, 2010*

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, I was detained in Wisconsin due to weather and missed votes on Tuesday, February 2, 2010. Had I been present for votes on that day, I would have voted "yes" on Rollcall 26, on H.R. 4495—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 North Taylor Lane in Patagonia, Arizona, as the "Jim Kolbe Post Office"; "yes" on Rollcall 27, on H. Res. 957—Honoring Jimmie Johnson, 2009 NASCAR Sprint Cup Champion; and "yes" on Rollcall 28, on H. Res. 1014—Recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of North American Inclusion Month.

**IN HONOR OF THE LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE SEAFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 3, 2010*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Seaford Volunteer Fire Department as they celebrate their 75th anniversary in the state of Delaware on February 6, 2010.

The Ladies Auxiliary was formed on February 18, 1935, after Mrs. William B. Huston called a group of firemen's wives and friends together with the purpose of forming an organization to support the Seaford Volunteer firemen. Originally known as the 'Seaford Ladies' Volunteer Auxiliary, the women chose Mrs. Huston as their first president, with Mrs. Sallie Robinson, Mrs. Malcolm Orr, Mrs. Norris Tull, Miss Florence Culver, and Mrs. Charles Marvel supporting the Ladies Auxiliary in other officer positions. The first years saw the women making do with limited means. Without a formal kitchen until 1942, the Ladies Auxiliary used Mary and Charlie Marvel's kitchen to prepare coffee and refreshments for fire scenes.

While the main reason for organizing was to provide refreshments for the firemen during emergency situations, the Ladies Auxiliary of

the Seaford Volunteer Fire Department has taken on a great deal more since its formation. Over the last 75 years, they have raised funds to benefit the fire company as well as the town of Seaford, hosting numerous events and fundraisers such as fashion shows, concession stands, banquets, and annual bake sales, craft shows and penny parties. And since the dedication of the new fire house in 1950, the Ladies Auxiliary and the Seaford Volunteer Fire Department have hosted the Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Association State Convention three times. In 2001, the Ladies Auxiliary began a 'junior' members program for students age 13 and over. Though the Ladies Auxiliary has experienced change over the years, their goal has always remained the same—to serve the volunteer firemen and community of Seaford in any way that they can.

On this 75th anniversary, I would like to recognize the unequalled devotion of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Seaford Volunteer Fire Department. Since 1935, the women of the Ladies Auxiliary have volunteered their time, their energy, and their hearts in support of the Seaford Volunteer Fire Department and its surrounding community. I commend them for their tireless dedication and immeasurable contributions, and I wish them all the best on this momentous occasion.

**IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF ANN KILBANE WING**

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 3, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Ann Kilbane Wing, beloved wife of the late George C. Wing; and cherished mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend to many. Mrs. Kilbane Wing's life centered around her family, faith and her community.

Mrs. Kilbane Wing was a graduate of St. Joseph Academy. Shortly after WWII, she married the love of her life, George Wing. Together, they raised their son, Patrick J. Wing. In 1948, the same year Patrick was born, Mrs. Kilbane Wing became a member of the Federated Democratic Women of Ohio. She was a life-long member, and served as President. Mrs. Kilbane Wing also served as member and President of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary 7th District. Her involvement in politics, particularly in the Democratic Party, extended from Greater Cleveland to throughout the State of Ohio, where she held several key political positions. Mrs. Kilbane Wing was elected as a member of the State Democratic Central Committee, representing the 23rd District of Ohio and also served as a Cuyahoga County Democratic Executive Committee Member and Democratic Precinct Committeeperson. She also held the role of Parma Heights Democratic Club City Leader for more than fifty years.

Mrs. Kilbane Wing brought energy, warmth, integrity and a great sense of humor to all of her endeavors. She was a devoted wife and mother, a passionate volunteer, and a dedicated employee. For ten years, she worked as the Administrative Assistant to the Treasurer at St. Ignatius High School. She also worked at the IRS for nearly ten years, and worked for

many years at the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office. Her keen business sense, strong interpersonal skills and unwavering work ethic was noted by many. She was appointed by the Cuyahoga County Commissioners to the position of Business Manager for Cuyahoga County Social Services. In addition, her Catholic faith was a life-long source of strength and comfort. She was an active member and volunteer at Holy Family Parish for more than sixty years.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join with me to honor and remember Ann Kilbane Wing, whose joyous life, dedication to family, faith and community, will always be cherished. I honor the memory of her husband, the late George Wing; and I offer my deepest condolences to her son, Patrick J.; to her granddaughter, Trini; to her great-grandchildren, Hayley, Aaron, Chloe and Joseph; and to her extended family members and many friends. Those who know her will remember her love for family, her commitment to community, and her warm smile and compassionate heart.

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RECOGNIZING SENATOR CAROLYN ALLEN—PLANNED PARENTHOOD AWARD RECIPIENT

**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 3, 2010*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud the tireless work of Arizona State Senator Carolyn Allen on behalf of women's reproductive rights. This week, Planned Parenthood will honor Senator Allen's commitment to ensuring all Arizona women have the right to seek reproductive services.

In her 16 years of public service at the Arizona Legislature, Senator Allen has continuously displayed tenacity in promoting women's rights. Despite facing loud opposition and political pressure, Senator Allen has never shied away from separating from party lines to support reproductive freedom. A staunch believer in woman's right to choose, Senator Allen opposed legislation that would hinder a woman's ability to seek these vital services. Again and again, Senator Allen stood up against her party and stood with the women of Arizona. Her unwavering dedication has earned Senator Allen the respect and admiration of many of her peers.

As the quest for reproductive freedom continues, Senator Allen's exhaustive efforts remind us of all the dedicated individuals who diligently work behind the scenes to promote and protect a woman's right to choose. I am humbled to have such a charismatic advocate as a colleague and a friend.

Madam Speaker, please join me once more in congratulating Senator Carolyn Allen as she is honored with this well-deserved recognition.

HONORING THE LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY COMMEMORATION

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 3, 2010*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration. The celebration was organized by the Lithuanian American Council of Chicago and will take place at the Lithuanian Center in Chicago, Illinois on February 14, 2010.

The Lithuanian American Council has a proud legacy of action in the Lithuanian American community. Lithuanian Americans have a presence in Chicago, Illinois lasting more than a century. Chicago is home to the greatest concentration of Lithuanian Americans, and I am proud to have so many people of Lithuanian descent in my district. The organization of this event pays due respect to the courageous act of proclaiming a newly independent Lithuanian state in 1918. Although true independence was put on hold until after World War I and the fall of Germany, this single rebellious act paved the way for what has become a free and democratically governed state. Lithuanian Americans have reason to celebrate their heritage proudly, and to remember with great pride the signing of the Act of Independence of Lithuania on February 16, 1918.

I ask you to join me in honoring the Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration on this important occasion.

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HONORING THE HEROES OF THE COOPER UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL UPON THEIR RETURN FROM HAITI

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 3, 2010*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cooper University Hospital for their heroic response to the Haiti Earthquake disaster. The staff of Cooper University Hospital has shown incredible compassion for the victims of the tragedy and for this they deserve great praise.

When the 7.0 earthquake devastated Haiti on January 12, Cooper University Hospital did not hesitate to mobilize an 18-member medical relief team. This team of 18 doctors, nurses, and technicians worked at the Haitian-Dominican Republic border, providing life-saving care under harrowing circumstances. They provided anesthesia, set broken bones, performed surgery and worked to significantly reduce the local mortality rate.

The team has returned home, but their efforts continue. Cooper University Hospital is making plans to bring two Haitian children to Camden for surgery. Even now, the hospital is preparing to send 6,000 sets of canes, crutches, and walkers to Haiti.

Madam Speaker, the service of these 18 people should not go unrecognized. I want to personally thank them for the humanitarian assistance they have provided and I am grateful Cooper University Hospital has continued their long tradition of caring for those in need.

HONORING TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 3, 2010*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to acknowledge my home state of Delaware for its promotion of February as Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month (TDVAPM).

Dating violence amongst adolescents is a serious and sobering matter. In the U.S., one in three adolescent girls is a victim of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner. In fact, females between the ages of 16 and 24 are the most vulnerable to intimate partner violence, experiencing abuse at almost triple the national average; a resonating two-thirds of teens who experience abuse never tell anyone. These statistics underscore the vital importance of TDVAPM—an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to raising awareness and promoting prevention.

Combating the serious and often overlooked issue of teen dating violence begins with us. We have the power to educate and empower the young people in our communities and in our states. They must be given examples of healthy relationships. They must be taught that speaking out against physical and emotional abuse is crucial and necessary. Their attitudes must be changed away from supporting violence to embracing mutual respect. This is our responsibility—as elected officials and as parents and teachers and mentors—and these are the goals of TDVAPM.

In Delaware, the Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Initiative has, since its inception, been recognized as the full month of February, and this year marks the first time it will be recognized as such on a national level. Since 2006, Delaware schools and organizations have been partnering together for this worthy cause, demonstrating a commitment to ending teen dating violence and supporting the victims and survivors among us.

Delaware's Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month Planning Committee, along with Child, Inc., the Delaware Coalition against Domestic Violence and the Delaware Victims' Rights Task Force, work diligently to not only raise public awareness, but provide young people with the resources they need to receive help and to break the cycle of violence. Today, I wish to thank and recognize these groups and the many other organizations and individuals involved in this initiative. They are proof that prevention is possible—through empowerment and education.

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HONORING ANDY KYLE, WWII VETERAN

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 3, 2010*

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, the city of Liberty in the Second District of Texas is proud to honor one of its oldest and bravest