

themselves and to love one another. The motto is designed to uplift and empower each other, it teaches that "A Sister Can't Fly With Just One Wing."

Caron Marie Martin Clovie was born on March 10, 1955 to Jessie and Lillie Martin. Her community roots begin in East New York Brooklyn, working for the neighborhood youth corps and the anti-poverty programs of East New York. Caron's focus was ensuring the safety and well being of the adolescents in the community. With a strong focus on females, she worked for the anti-poverty programs of East New York until called to work for the Health & Hospital Cooperation (HHC).

Health care became Caron's passion. In 1975 she worked for the East New York NFCC, a pilot program for a new way to administer health care to underprivileged families. After working hard at this facility she became a clerical supervisor in less than a year. The need for quality health care began to increase fast. A new site was built on Pitkin and Pennsylvania Avenue. The small facility became the East New York D&TC. Caron's career ride continued with HHC where she was hired to work for another new program called The Metro Plus Health Plan. This program was designed to ensure quality health care for all who needed it. Caron enjoyed this, her career met her passion as her job was to make sure that affordable quality care was available to the residents of East New York. Caron became field manager and was assigned to the Brooklyn North, where her team was responsible for the enrollment of more than 300 families in their first quarter.

In addition to planning Sister, Sister In-Law's annual 'Girls Summit' this May, Caron is currently working at Odyssey House in their adolescent facility for girls only. She is married to Robert Clovie and has raised two sons: Aaron and Jameek.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the work of Caron Marie Martin Clovie.

#### WHEN WILL AMERICA RECOVER?

### HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following.

#### WHEN WILL AMERICA RECOVER?

(By Hon. Nick Smith, former U.S. Representative (MI-07))

I just returned from speaking at several British universities on American politics and the economy. England, like the United States, has high unemployment and huge government debt. Many I spoke to believed that the current global economic mess is all our fault. In a sense, they are right. As the world's leading economy, our economic health affects everyone, especially trading partners like England. We are its largest trading and investment partners at \$400 billion last year.

The students were most interested in my opinion on how long it would take before America recovers economically. Some White House economists are predicting that we can fully recover from this recession in a year or two. As I told the students, however, it will take ten years or more to rebuild our economy—and then only if we can control spend-

ing. It's not just "the government" or even "the Democrats." All of us, government and consumers alike, have been living on borrowed money. Our national savings rate three years ago was a negative number. One bit of recent good news is that consumers have increased their estimated average individual savings rate to over five percent, which means less consumer spending in the short run but a stronger overall economy in the long run. The Government needs to do likewise.

But Congress not only continues to borrow, it is borrowing more than ever with no sign of stopping. Deficit spending, expected to hit \$1.5 trillion, is one third of the President's proposed budget. His budget projects huge deficits every year for the foreseeable future. Our debt, which is the sum of all historical deficits, now adds up to \$12 trillion. Interest on that debt consumes almost ten percent of federal spending. Without dramatic change the future will be much worse. Interest rates will be doubling and the unfunded liabilities (what we've promised to pay out in the future) for entitlements such as Medicare, Social Security, Medicaid and veteran's benefits adds up to another \$60 trillion debt—in today's dollars.

Reckless spending has mostly been driven by Congressmen currying favor with voters who demand ever more money and services from "the government" to solve their problems. But the government gets its money from current taxpayers and lenders. Who will repay these lenders? Future taxpayers. Each baby born in this country is instantly saddled with \$40,000 of government debt, not including interest.

And that does not include future deficit spending or the \$60 trillion in unfunded liabilities. We have ended up with a tax, borrow, and spend government that will handicap future generations. Ten years ago, our federal spending was 18% of GDP, 4 years ago it was 20%, and today it's over 24%. The dollar increase will have gone from \$1.8 trillion in 2000 to \$3.8 trillion in the President's budget. That is over 200 percent of spending ten years ago.

Washington's over-spending not only mortgages our children's future, it crowds out business and industry borrowing today, for research, expansion and ultimately jobs.

As alarming as these numbers are, even more worrisome is that our political and economic system is nearing a tipping point that, if reached, will change this country forever. Today 50% of voters pay less than 2% of the total income tax. These voters want the government to solve more of their problems, and why not? It's in their best interest to elect politicians who will spend more because they don't have to pay for it, and it's in politicians' best interest to vote for that spending to get reelected. Meanwhile, countries like Communist China, which has lent the United States nearly a trillion dollars, gains more and more influence in foreign affairs, literally at our expense.

The point is that we're close to losing our status as a strong economic power. That affects us, our children, England, and the rest of the world who rely on us for our leadership and for much of their own economic well being. It is in all of our interest to be more self sufficient, ask less of Washington and bring down government spending.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, on March 19, 2010, I inadvertently failed to vote on roll-

call No. 140. Had I worked, I would have voted "aye."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House floor during rollcall votes 141, 144, 145, 146 and 147. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on each rollcall vote.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, due to an immediate family health situation, I was absent from vote for the afternoon of March 18, and absent from votes for March 19 and 20, 2010. Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall Nos. 128—"yes"; 129—"yes"; 130—"yes"; 131—"present"; 132—"yes"; 133—"yes"; 134—"yes"; 135—"yes"; 136—"yes"; 137—"yes"; 138—"yes"; 139—"yes"; 140—"yes"; 141—"no"; 142—"yes"; 143—"yes"; 144—"yes"; 145—"yes"; 146—"yes"; 147—"yes"; 148—"no"; 149—"yes"; 150—"yes"; 151—"yes"; 152—"yes"; 153—"yes" and 154—"yes".

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, on March 20, 2010, I was absent but had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall Nos. 148 and 150; and I would have voted "yes" on rollcall Nos. 149, 151, 152, 153, and 154.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably delayed for votes in the House Chamber today. I would like the RECORD to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 155 through 159.

HONORING THE APPOINTMENT OF JUSTICE CHARLES T. CANADY AS CHIEF JUSTICE TO THE FLORIDA SUPREME COURT

### HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, March 21, 2010*

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a former member of this body,