

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TRIBUTE TO THE CHOPIN SINGING SOCIETY

#### HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an accomplished choral group, The Chopin Singing Society, that is celebrating its 100th anniversary of creating beautiful music and inspiring the Polish community of New Jersey and the surrounding area.

It is only fitting that The Chopin Singing Society be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, for the artistic musical group has done much to help Polish-Americans and the community at large understand the rich tradition of Polish music while also celebrating American classics. The deep reverence of the Society's members for their heritage helps to enrich the multicultural tapestry of the District I represent.

The Chopin Singing Society #182 Polish Singers Alliance of America of Passaic, NJ, is one of the oldest independent male choral groups active in the United States. The Society was officially organized on March 10, 1910, in honor of the 100th anniversary of Fryderyk Chopin's birth. The choral group's first Musical Director was Edmund A. Sennert.

The Society's first performance was a commemorative program honoring Polish patriots who fought and died in the 1830 revolt against Russian occupation. When World War I began, 75 percent of the chorus joined the newly organized American Legion of the Polish Army. After the Armistice, the chorus reorganized and one of its first accomplishments was to appear in the American performance of Giuseppe Verdi's opera, *eleven Trovatore*, starring Giovanni Martinelli.

In 1997 and 1998 the Society was the featured choir with the Jimmy Sturr Christmas Show tour appearing at Felician College, Lodi, New Jersey, and in theaters in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, Middletown, New York, Springfield, Massachusetts, Easton, Pennsylvania, and the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City. The choir has achieved the highest score at international choral competitions of the Polish Singers Alliance of America, PSAA. In doing so, the choir has been awarded the traveling Cardinal Hlond Trophy and maintains the distinction of being the only chorus to win the trophy three times, twice in succession.

The choir prides itself in having in its repertoire the ability to sing Polish, classical, folk and patriotic songs, a complete Latin Mass, as well as American classic and barber shop songs. The Society's busiest time of the year is the Christmas season, fulfilling requests to present its time-honored Polish Christmas concert and to appear as guest choir during the celebration of Mass at many churches throughout the Metropolitan area. The current musical director is Alicja Rusewicz-Pagorek.

The chorus has two recordings to its credit: *Polskie koledy* (Polish Christmas Carols) and

*Songs of Poland*, a mix of traditional Polish songs. This album (*Songs of Poland*) was remastered on to CD this year and is currently available. Also, this year, the chorus will introduce a new CD of traditional Polish Christmas carols. The success of the Chopin Singing Society stems from its members' dedication and desire to promote and maintain Polish culture through song.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing the efforts of wonderful, thriving cultural groups such as The Chopin Singing Society.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join the members of The Chopin Singing Society, all those whose lives have been culturally enriched throughout the years, and me in recognizing the outstanding contributions of The Chopin Singing Society to New Jersey's Eighth Congressional District community and beyond.

### HONORING CARLOS BEDOLLA

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Carlos Bedolla upon being awarded the "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. Mr. Bedolla was honored on Saturday, January 30, 2010, in Chowchilla, California.

Mr. Carlos Bedolla was born in Gilroy, California, and graduated from Gilroy High School. In 1965, shortly after graduation, Mr. Bedolla was enlisted into the United States Army. He completed basic training at Fort Hood, Texas, and was sent to Virginia for advanced training. Mr. Bedolla was designated as an infantryman and was assigned to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Meade, Maryland. For several months the regiment took part in advanced unit training and in 1966 he boarded a ship in Oakland, California, for a 23-day voyage to Southeast Asia.

Upon arriving in Vietnam, Mr. Bedolla was assigned to the 2nd Squadron of the 11th Cavalry Regiment, the "Blackhorse Regiment." The regiment's mission was to conduct "search and destroy" operations on all Viet Cong and North Vietnam regular forces in their area of operation. They provided reconnaissance and security for the 101st and 173rd Airborne and supported several other units. Mr. Bedolla participated in two major operations: Iron Triangle and Junction City. Both operations focused on eliminating enemy strongholds and jungle clearing. It was during these operations that tunnel complexes were found containing tons of rice and supplies for enemy troops.

Mr. Bedolla served as an infantry squad leader and an armored personnel carrier track commander during operations. He directly pro-

vided reconnaissance for his unit and employed tactics to ensure the safety of his men.

Upon completing his tour in Vietnam, Sergeant Bedolla returned to the United States and was honorably discharged in April of 1967. For his service he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal with device, the Republic of Vietnam Unit Gallantry Cross with frame and palm, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the Army Sharpshooter Badge.

After his discharge, Mr. Bedolla returned to Gilroy, where he met and married his wife, Jessica. He was employed in the retail grocery industry as a store director for 34 years. Mr. and Mrs. Bedolla have 2 sons, 1 daughter, 11 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. Mr. Bedolla is a Life Member of Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9896, the St. Columba Catholic Church and the Young Men's Institute.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Carlos Bedolla upon being named as a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Bedolla many years of continued success.

### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FRANK MCCOY

#### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the life and legacy of former Vernon, Connecticut, Mayor Frank J. McCoy. Frank passed away on Tuesday, April 6, 2010, at the age of 87.

Frank was a monumental figure in his beloved town of Vernon. His lifetime of public service began early, serving as an enlisted man in The U.S. Army for 3 years and attaining the rank of sergeant. As a medic, he saw combat in the European Theater of World War II and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. While this contribution alone would have enshrined him forever as a public hero, Frank chose to continue serving his community for decades.

After the war, Frank pursued his education. He graduated from Yale University in 1949 and the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1956. He practiced law for 54 years and served as attorney for the Vernon Fire District during its consolidation with the City of Rockville in forming the Town of Vernon. After two terms on the Vernon Town Council, Frank was first elected Mayor of Vernon in 1969, where he served three consecutive terms. In 1977, he was again elected to a fourth and final term and was the President of the Connecticut Conference of Mayors. Simultaneously, he somehow found time to work as a service officer for the Soldier Sailors Marine Fund for over 40 years helping wartime veterans who were in need of financial assistance.

• 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.

Frank often found ways to combine his love for his community with his love of team sports. In 1960, he formed the Vernon Midget Football League, which eventually led to the creation of the Rockville High School football team. For over 40 years, he coached recreational basketball, baseball, and football in Vernon. In 1965, he formed and sponsored the Vernon Orioles semi-pro baseball team, who won the Greater Hartford Twilight League playoff title in 1996. For Frank, it must have been a truly heartwarming achievement.

Frank has now joined his wife Jeanette, who passed away last year. He is survived by his five children and four grandchildren who, like the rest of us, remember him as an exceptional family man, patriot, public servant and sports enthusiast. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in celebrating Frank McCoy's life and offering condolences to his family.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I was absent from votes on April 15, 2010 due to official travel. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall 207 "nay"; Rollcall 208 "yea"; Rollcall 209 "nay"; Rollcall 210 "yea"; and Rollcall 211 "nay."

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#### HONORING MR. DONALD MICHALAK

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. Donald Michalak. Mr. Michalak served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as the Villenova Town Attorney.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Michalak served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Michalak is one of those people and that is why Madam Speaker I rise in tribute to him today.

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#### HONORING RAQUEL RUBIO GOLDSMITH

### HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, Raquel Rubio Goldsmith, honored teacher, researcher

and community activist, retires after 40 years of teaching at Pima Community College and the University of Arizona in Tucson, AZ. She coordinates the Binational Migration Institute housed in the Mexican-American Research and Studies Center at the University of Arizona, where she began teaching in 1983. She retired from Pima Community College in 1999 and has received many honors for her teaching and mentoring of students and younger faculty.

Born in the border community of Douglas, AZ, she is the oldest of a family of nine children. At the age of 16, Raquel graduated from high school in Douglas and was granted a scholarship to the Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). She had no choice in 1952 but to accept, since the opportunities in higher education were extremely limited for Mexican Americans, especially those from rural communities and working class backgrounds. Her father was a railroad worker.

In Mexico City she was fortunate to live with a great aunt who was a concert pianist and introduced her to a world of artists, intellectuals, and writers. She received undergraduate and advanced degrees in law and philosophy from UNAM. Upon returning to Douglas in 1961, she met, and later married, Charles Barclay Goldsmith. Barclay was a reporter and a recent graduate of Stanford University. He joined the United States Diplomatic Corps as a cultural attaché shortly thereafter and they were stationed in Merida, Mexico, and later in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Several years and two sons later, they moved to Pittsburgh, PA, where Raquel worked in a poverty program and Barclay completed a Masters in Fine Arts in directing from Carnegie Mellon University. In 1969 they moved to Tucson, where Raquel became a founding faculty member of Pima Community College. With others, she was charged with establishing the curriculum in an educational environment that followed a participatory democracy management model, from the janitor to the students to the faculty to the administration. All had a voice.

Professor Rubio Goldsmith flourished in this creative world, and she became a leader in institutionalizing diversity at all levels, instituting open-enrollment, establishing Mexican-American, African-American and Women's Studies, teaching Yaqui and Tohono O'odham histories and languages, and pioneering classes for credit in barrio community centers. She championed computer technology even before it had a widespread role in higher education. She fought tirelessly for hiring minorities at all levels, and became a master teacher and constant advocate for students. She was especially focused on older female students, and helped form an exemplary program for female bilingual aides in public education. With her support, many of those women went on to become bilingual teachers not only in Spanish but in the native languages of the borderlands.

Professor Goldsmith also established a long record of publication and centered her research on women of the borderlands. She researched the cultural impact of a community of Mexican nuns in Douglas and the importance of gardens for women in the isolation of the desert. She became a recognized specialist in women's studies, focusing on Chicana/Mexicana women. She pioneered surveys to document human rights violations suffered by migrants (and citizens) that offered the first important empirical evidence of the

impact that growing border militarization was having in border communities, and how those impacts were moving into the interior.

Recently, her research has centered on the post-1994 period that has led to a "funnel" effect of migrant movement that has caused so many deaths. Her cutting-edge scholarship is acknowledged by invitations to present at local, national and international forums and participate in academic, policy-making and community-based discussions. Professor Goldsmith has always made an effort to present academic research to the community by setting up presentations in neighborhood centers. At one time she conducted local radio programs on Spanish-language radio, teaching the history of Mexico and having on-air, call-in cultural discussions with the community. She believed that information should be shared with the community instead of isolated at educational institutions.

Professor Rubio Goldsmith has also devoted herself to working in promoting human rights. From her student years to the present, she has engaged in community-based activism. She worked on local issues with El Concilio Manzo in Tucson in the early 1970s and issues of immigration advocacy with them through the mid-1980s. She led the Zapatista movement in Tucson with Pueblo Por La Paz, participating in Chiapas with Zapatista convocations. She was the co-author of a play about the Zapatista uprising, "Tres Dias/Thirteen Days", performed by Borderlands Theater locally and the San Francisco Mime Troupe nationally. She is a member of Derechos Humanos and has been a board member of the Little Chapel of All Nations. She has been an active and tireless supporter of Raza Studies in high schools, and has served on the advisory council of the Institute of Mexicans Abroad (Instituto de los Mexicanos en el Exterior) of the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Relations.

Professor Raquel Rubio Goldsmith has been a wonderful mother to two sons, Chris and Pat. Christopher Goldsmith is a poet and has been a teacher of English for many years at Tucson High School. Patrick Goldsmith is a professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin. She has two grandchildren, who are the joy of her life, and is married to Barclay Goldsmith with whom she has shared a lifetime. Our community is very blessed for the service of Raquel Rubio Goldsmith, whose life's work continues to enrich us all.

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#### RECOGNITION OF THE BYRD POLAR RESEARCH CENTER

### HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor The Byrd Polar Research Center at The Ohio State University for fifty years of leadership in polar and alpine research. My staff and I had the pleasure of visiting this innovative research center on the campus of The Ohio State University where we met with Director Ellen Mosley-Thompson and Dr. Lonnie Thompson and saw some of their pioneering research first hand. We visited interactive classrooms, the cold lab, and cold storage facility, which houses the research center's impressive collection of ice cores.

Founded in 1960 as the Institute for Polar Studies, The Byrd Polar Research Center focuses on the history and evolution of global climate systems and the role of cold regions in climate change. In 1987 the facility was renamed for famous American Polar Explorer, Admiral Richard E. Byrd. The Research Center now includes eight research groups, a library, an archival program, and the U.S. Polar Rock Repository. Undergraduate and graduate students at The Ohio State University are able to participate in and learn from this cutting edge facility that organizes expeditions around the world. To reconstruct past climate trends The Byrd Polar Research Center uses a variety of methods, including the study of chemical records preserved in ice cores collected from glaciers in Greenland, Asia, North and South America, and Antarctica.

Our planet is in peril and during this critical time The Byrd Polar Research Center has advanced our knowledge of how cold regions play a role in our Earth's changes. The phenomenon of climate change has been well documented in the scientific community by groups like The Byrd Polar Research Center. Climate change demands immediate attention and action; for fifty years The Byrd Polar Research Center has contributed to our understanding of climate change and our ability to mitigate and adapt to its effects.

The Byrd Polar Research Center strives to improve our understanding of the environment and the changes that are occurring to it and provides central Ohioans with a world-class education and research facility. I am proud to recognize and honor The Byrd Polar Research Center and its hard working staff for fifty years of dedication to the advancement of scientific understanding of the world around us.

RECOGNIZING HOPE LEARNING ACADEMY

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a wonderful program operated by New Hope Community Church in Canyon Lake, California, that has set the standard for helping troubled youth by introducing a new concept to learning. Just this past weekend, Menifee Councilman Scott Mann and I had the pleasure to visit the Hope Learning Academy, seeing firsthand how this program's mentors steer at-risk youth onto a positive path and equip them with the tools they need to lead successful lives.

Regrettably, a substantial number of youth in our communities are failing school, struggling with behavioral issues in and out of the home, and many are "slipping through the cracks."

That is why Hope Learning Academy, which represents just one of the many ways that New Hope Community Church serves its community, is an outstanding example of providing at-risk youth with opportunities to grow. Their combination of guidance, encouragement and years of experience working with youth has proven successful in helping both students and parents implement a strategy of change in their lives during what are considered a teenager's most challenging years.

There is no question that the staff at Hope Learning Academy is committed to finding ways to help the youth in our community. They have effectively executed a niche program to put youth on a course for success while partnering with parents to give them the tools they need to effectively parent their child.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues please join me in recognizing the success of Hope Learning Academy and I look forward to hearing more about valuable programs such as this that make a positive difference in the lives of our local youth.

HONORING ERIC MICHAEL ROTHMIER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Eric Michael Rothmier, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 138, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Eric has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Eric has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Eric Michael Rothmier for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING UTICA POLICE OFFICERS SCOTT BERGER AND MICHAEL PETRIE

**HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, in the early morning on Sunday, September 20th 2009, a great tragedy occurred in my hometown of Utica, New York. A horrific fire in an apartment building claimed the lives of four people.

While this loss of life can never be replaced, the loss would have been much more severe had it not been for the courageous acts of two Utica Police Officers, Scott Berger and Michael Petrie.

When Officers Berger and Petrie arrived on scene, the apartment building was heavily engulfed in smoke and flames. Without regard to their safety, Officers Berger and Petrie ran into the building and pounded on the doors on the first, second and third floors, yelling to residents to evacuate the premise.

While trying to enter the back door, an explosion blew out the door, which sent Officers Berger and Petrie scrambling for safety.

Due to their honor, courage and dedication to protecting the public, Officers Berger and Petrie were named Police Officers of the Year by the American Legion's Utica Post 229.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Utica Police Depart-

ment, and specifically, Officers Berger and Petrie, for exemplifying the characteristics of true public servants. Our community and country is a better and safer place because of their efforts.

CONGRATULATING MR. DENNIS TICE

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Dennis Tice for his recognition as Bedford County's Historian of the Year for 2010. Mr. Tice will receive his award at the Bedford County Historical Society Annual Banquet on April 24, 2010.

Mr. Tice earned this award for his commitment to chronicle Bedford County's World War II veterans. Recognizing the importance of the Greatest Generation's legacy, Mr. Tice began working on a project that would bring its story to life. The result of his efforts was a feature-length film entitled "Bedford County Veterans WWII," which premiered at the Pitt Theatre in Bedford in December of 2009, with 2,100 tickets sold to the public and many subsequent DVD sales. Such a reception by the people of Bedford County is a testament to the accuracy, accessibility, and authenticity of Mr. Tice's work.

Our World War II veterans have many inspiring stories to tell, and Dennis Tice's dedication to ensuring these stories are told is truly admirable. I commend Mr. Tice for his contribution to the understanding of our past, which shall guide and encourage us in our future. May his work continue to enrich Bedford County now and for years into the future.

HONORING STEPHEN SMITH

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Stephen Smith upon his retirement as Stanislaus County Assistant Auditor-Controller. Mr. Smith will be honored by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors during a regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting to be held on March 26, 2010.

Mr. Stephen Smith was born in New York and was raised in Germany, Virginia and California. Upon graduating from Atwater High School, he attended California State University, Stanislaus. In 1979 he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in accounting.

After earning his license as a Certified Public Accountant in 1981, Mr. Smith started his career with Stanislaus County as a Controller at the Scenic General Hospital. In 1983, he was promoted to the Chief Internal Auditor and in 1987 he was promoted to Chief Deputy Auditor-Controller. In 2002, Mr. Smith became the Assistant Auditor-Controller for the County. Mr. Smith has been a vital member of the Auditor-Controller's Strategic Plan development team. He served on the WORKS Purchasing Card implementation team, the Oracle 11i upgrade team and the Travel and Purchasing Card policy revision team. Mr. Smith

has also served on the Deferred Compensation Committee, Accounting Standards and Procedures Committee, Audit Chief's Committee and Accounting Chief's Committee of the California Association of Auditor-Controllers.

Outside of the office, Mr. Smith has been involved with various non-profit organizations. He has participated in the annual American Heart Association's Heart Walk, Youth in Government Day, United Way campaign and the American Cancer Society's annual Walk-a-Thon. For twenty-eight years, Mr. Smith has provided dedicated service to Stanislaus County and its residents.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Stephen Smith upon his retirement from Stanislaus County after twenty-eight years of service. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Smith many years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH  
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF BOB  
AND KAY LORD

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a very special occasion. On April 23, 2010, Bob and Kay Lord will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

On April 23, 1960, Bobby Ray and Francis Kay Lord were united in holy matrimony in Beaumont, Texas. Bob and Kay have one daughter, Anieca, the joy of their lives. As they have worked and traveled throughout the world, their house was always open.

Whether you were a young person needing the love and structure of a solid home, or just a place to gather for good food and music, you were always welcomed. All were blessed to witness their faith, love and generosity.

To celebrate their anniversary, family and friends will gather in their honor in Colmesneil, Texas at Lake Amanda, to recognize Bob and Kay's life together and share the great memories over the years.

I salute this lovely couple on the 50th year of their life together and join their family and friends in honoring them on this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ARNOLD SPEERT

### HON. BILL PASCRELL, Jr.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding individual, Dr. Arnold Speert, who was recognized on Friday, April 16, 2010 upon his retirement as president of William Paterson University in Wayne, NJ, for his many years of dedicated service to not only the university, but the community at large as well.

It is only fitting that he be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, for he has been a true public servant and educator and someone whose commitment to excellence has helped to enhance countless lives.

Arnold began his journey in academia at the City College of the City University of New York. A Phi Beta Kappa, Dr. Speert graduated cum laude with honors in chemistry. He went on to earn a doctorate in chemistry from Princeton University where he was a National Institute of Health Fellow. He is a member of the American Chemical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Speert's career at William Paterson began in 1970 when he joined the university's teaching staff as an assistant professor of chemistry. Later that year he assumed his initial administrative responsibilities as assistant to the dean of graduate and research programs. Dr. Speert was named assistant to the vice president for academic affairs in 1971 and became associate dean for academic affairs in 1978. In July 1979, he was named vice president for academic affairs. During the same period he rose through the faculty ranks and attained full professor status in 1980. On September 1, 1985, he became the sixth president of William Paterson University, reaching the pinnacle of leadership.

Though the university has always been central to Dr. Speert, his reach has extended far beyond William Paterson's campus. He has been active in a wide variety of community service activities. He has served as chair of the New Jersey Presidents' Council and been a member of the Commission on Higher Education and the Board of Examiners for the New Jersey Department of Education. His spirit of volunteerism doesn't just focus on education—he currently serves on the board of the State Farm Indemnity Company. Throughout the years, he has also served on the boards of the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce, Barnert Hospital, the Ramapo Bank, the Better Business Bureau, the Jewish Federation of North Jersey, YM-YWHA of Northern New Jersey, and the Respiratory Health Association.

Founded in 1855, William Paterson University is one of the nine state colleges and universities in New Jersey. During Dr. Speert's time as president, the university has continued to grow, striving to meet the need to prepare a growing student body to succeed in our rapidly changing world. The institution offers 30 undergraduate and 19 graduate programs through five colleges: Arts and Communication, the Christos M. Cotsakos College of Business, Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Science and Health. Located on 370 hilltop acres in Wayne, the university enrolls more than 10,500 students and provides housing for nearly 2,300 students. The institution's 363 full-time faculty are highly distinguished and diverse scholars and teachers, many of whom are recipients of prestigious awards and grants from the Fulbright Program, the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and the American Philosophical Society.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing the impressive accomplishments of individuals like Dr. Arnold Speert.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Arnold's family and friends, all those whose lives have been touched by his work, and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service of Dr. Arnold Speert.

CONTINUING EXTENSION ACT OF  
2010

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 15, 2010*

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, the legislation before us would extend for another 2 months special Federal programs that today mean unemployed workers can collect up to 99 weeks of benefits in most States. This compares with a total of up to 26 weeks of benefits in almost all States during normal times. Other Members note the massive expense of all this spending, which would grow by another \$18 billion in just the next 2 months. None of it paid for, just as none of the more than \$100 billion in "emergency" Federal unemployment spending has been paid for since this program began in mid-2008.

But stepping back, what are those 73 weeks of additional benefits, at a cost now of \$7–8 billion per month, buying American workers and taxpayers? The answer is a whole lot of disincentives to work, according to recent articles.

The April 13 Wall Street Journal ("Incentives Not to Work: Larry Summers v. Senate Democrats on jobless benefits") put it this way, summarizing the effect of unemployment benefits on returns to work:

The second way government assistance programs contribute to long-term unemployment is by providing an incentive, and the means, not to work. Each unemployed person has a "reservation wage"—the minimum wage he or she insists on getting before accepting a job. Unemployment insurance and other social assistance programs increase [the] reservation wage, causing an unemployed person to remain unemployed longer." Any guess who wrote that? Milton Friedman, perhaps. Simon Legree? Sorry. Full credit goes to Lawrence H. Summers, the current White House economic adviser, who wrote those sensible words in his chapter on "Unemployment" in the Concise Encyclopedia of Economics, first published in 1999.

The experts at the Brookings Institution have reported that these unemployment extensions "correspond to between 0.7 and 1.8 percentage points of the 5.5 percentage point increase in the unemployment rate witnessed in the current recession." So even if you accept the low end of the estimate, unemployment would be 9 percent instead of today's 9.7 percent rate. At the other end, the unemployment rate might be below 8 percent but for the effect of extended unemployment benefit extending and thus increasing unemployment.

And in case my colleagues on the other side say these effects only matter when unemployment is low and jobs are plentiful, guess again. As noted by the scholar Amity Shines this past week, "Two scholars, Stepan Jurajda and Frederick Tannery, looked at Pittsburgh in the first half of the 1980s, a period when the Nation had two temporary increases in unemployment benefits. They determined that one third of those claiming unemployment found work within weeks of the expiration of their benefits, but not before." And that was when Pittsburgh had unemployment rates far above the US average today, suggesting that the

benefits and not the unemployment rate are reason behind extended and increased unemployment.

Mr. Speaker, we can do better than this. What unemployed workers really want are jobs and paychecks. We need to start over and do the things that really help create jobs for unemployed workers. That means repealing Democrats' government health care take-over law and scrapping their energy tax hike plans. It means extending expiring tax cuts on businesses and individuals and ending wasteful stimulus spending. And it means committing to not increase any tax until the economy has fully recovered.

HONORING RYAN A. FOLTZ

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan A. Foltz, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1433, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ryan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryan A. Foltz for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MARY ALICE ECKSTROM FOR HER DEVOTION TO HELPING OTHERS

**HON. ED PASTOR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to praise and reflect upon the life and career of an outstanding community leader and dear friend, Mary Alice Eckstrom.

Mary Alice Eckstrom was born in Tucson, Arizona on October 29, 1946. Throughout her lifetime she always made herself available to help others, especially the less fortunate. She did all of this very quietly, never seeking personal praise or recognition. It was her abiding faith in God, her devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe, and her dedication to St. Therese the Little Flower, which enabled her to effectively serve others.

Alice selflessly gave her time, talents, and resources to the community. She served for 20 years, including seven terms as President, with the League of Mexican American Women, which provided \$2 million in postsecondary educational scholarships. She served the Diocese of Tucson for ten years, at St. Ambrose School, also serving on the School Board. She served on the Board of Catholic Community Services of Southern Arizona, and as a volun-

teer for the Pio Decimo Center. In February 2010, LULAC and the NAACP honored her with the Rosa Parks Lifetime Community Advocacy Award.

Within her family, Alice was the solid foundation from which her two children acquired and developed their individual knowledge, skills and talents. She was the main driving force in making sure that each of them were carefully nurtured and trained to become sustaining and contributing community members. She always provided a special guiding hand focusing on how to live proper and acceptable lives. To her children and all that knew her, Alice was an exceptional mother, teacher, mentor, confidant, and friend.

For more than a year, Alice waged a valiant battle to overcome Lymphoma. Fighting cancer was nothing new to her, which she had done in 1985, when stricken with Breast Cancer. [After a year of chemotherapy and radiation, her cancer was in remission for 23 years and she lived every day of her life to the fullest.] In October 2008, to celebrate another annual survival milestone, she led a grassroots fundraising effort in support of Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation, by successfully raising \$2,500 in \$5 contributions. One month later, after a routine chest x-ray, she was diagnosed with Lymphoma. She received chemotherapy treatments for more than a year and underwent a bone marrow transplant. During each of these aggressive medical treatments, she never complained, but was always sustained by her strong faith. She possessed an amazing spirit of survival, and always maintained an ever-present and radiant smile. She was hospitalized for several weeks before Christmas, but this did not prevent her from helping others. As she had done for 37 years, Alice helped raise needed funds so that 6,000 disadvantaged children could receive a new toy at Christmas.

On March 29, 2010, surrounded by her loving family, Alice left our earthly presence to begin her promised journey of eternal life. On "Holy Thursday," Rites of a Christian Burial were celebrated at Saint Augustine Cathedral. Her celebration of life was attended by more than 1,200 mourners, and it was led by the most Reverend Gerald F. Kicanas, Bishop of Tucson, Father James Hobert, Father Patrick Crino and Deacon Oscar Bueno. She was eulogized by her daughter Jennifer and son Daniel, who shared many lifetime memories and remembrances. A special honor guard and escort were provided by the Pima County Sheriff's Department and the South Tucson Police Department led the funeral procession to Holy Hope Cemetery, her final resting place.

Alice is survived by Dan Eckstrom, her husband of more than 37 years, a retired Chairman of the Pima County Board of Supervisors and Mayor of the City of South Tucson; her devoted children-daughter Jennifer Eckstrom, who serves as Mayor of the City of South Tucson and son Daniel William Eckstrom II, a Staff Assistant for U.S. Congressman Ed Pastor. She is also survived by her mother Felicitia Rosales, her sisters Jenny and Grace; and her brothers Rudy, Robert, Julian and Louis. She is predeceased by her father Louis Rosales, her sister Anita Rosales and her beloved niece, Melissa Dian Gomez.

In keeping with her commitment to serving the less fortunate portion of our population, Alice's family, friends and supporters are continuing her legacy by establishing a memorial

fund that will provide scholarships for deserving students attending Pima Community College-Desert Vista Campus.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the leadership of Mary Alice Eckstrom and the friendship she has given me and my family.

RECOGNITION OF WORLD MALARIA DAY

**HON. LOIS CAPP**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mrs. CAPP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of World Malaria Day.

While anyone exposed to a malaria-causing parasite can be afflicted with the disease, pregnant women and children are malaria's most frequent victims.

Over ten percent of global maternal deaths are caused by malaria. Pregnant women are highly susceptible to malaria because their bodies' natural defense mechanisms are reduced during pregnancy. In these women, malaria causes high rates of miscarriage and severe anemia. Furthermore, malaria can cause low birth weight among newborn infants—a leading risk factor for infant mortality and impaired growth and development.

Malaria kills a child somewhere in the world every 30 seconds. In parts of the world where malaria is endemic, children are exposed repeatedly to the parasite, which is transmitted by mosquitoes. Although malaria is both preventable and treatable, if ineffective medicines are given or if treatment is delayed, the number of parasites in a child's body continues to increase. In these children, the disease can progress to a severe stage that is fatal in the majority of cases.

I have long been a supporter of U.S. programs to promote maternal and child health overseas, and malaria programming is a key aspect of that. We have proven, effective tools to prevent and treat malaria. But more must be done. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of scaled-up deployment of these tools to reduce soaring child and maternal mortality rates in the developing world.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ON THEIR SECOND CONSECUTIVE PERFECT SEASON

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise with enormous pride to congratulate the UConn women's basketball team on a season of unprecedented athletic achievement. Under Coach Geno Auriemma, the Huskies not only won their second consecutive NCAA title this month, they concluded their second consecutive perfect season.

In fact, the Huskies have now won 78 straight games in a row—only ten below the record set in men's basketball by the teams under UCLA's John Wooden in the 1970's—and have won every single one of them, with

the exception of their gritty 53–47 title defense against Stanford, by double digits. In so doing, the University of Connecticut Women's team has eclipsed the previous record of 70 wins in a row, held by the Huskies since 2003.

Winning 78 games in a row in any sport is no small feat, and it takes more than talent to accomplish. Such a record takes perseverance, sacrifice, and a commitment to the team ideal, and the women of UConn have shown each in surpassing measure.

These young athletes are not role models to generations of women because they are winners—they are winners because they are role models. They have shown that, through hard work and dedication to a common goal, anything is possible. I congratulate them on two years of amazing victories, and I look forward to seeing them in action again next season.

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HONORING PIEDAD AYALA

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Piedad Ayala upon receiving the "Member of the Year Award" by the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Ayala will be honored at the twenty-sixth annual State of the Hispanic Chamber Gala to be held on Friday, March 12, 2010 in Fresno, California.

Mr. Piedad Ayala has worked with the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce through his businesses and his newly formed organization, Water for All. Since 1976, Mr. Ayala has been working with the agriculture community and is currently the CEO of Ayala Enterprises, Ayala Corporation, Ayala Farm Inc. specializing in farm management, farm labor, agricultural farming and livestock. He is also the CEO of Big Daddy Portable Toilets Inc. and Azteca Furniture:

With a great passion for the farmers of the Central San Joaquin Valley, Mr. Ayala has always been involved with promoting legislation to support the area. Recently, Mr. Ayala created "Water for All", an organization that supports the development of additional water resources in California. With Mr. Ayala's strong leadership and partnership with the California Latino Water Coalition, the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Fresno County Farm Bureau, he has assisted in organizing multiple water rallies, including the March for Water held in 2009.

Mr. Ayala is a great supporter of business and education. Through his various businesses and the organizations that he works with, he has become a well known community activist, particularly in regard to water.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Piedad Ayala upon being awarded the "Member of the Year Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Ayala many years of continued success.

CONGRATULATING BEVERLY  
HISCOX, HONOREE OF THE  
WILKES UNIVERSITY ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION AND ITS SCHOLAR-  
SHIP FUND

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Beverly Blakeslee Hiscox, who is being honored by the Wilkes University Alumni Association and its Scholarship Fund for extraordinary service over many years.

Born in Hanover Township in 1932, Beverly graduated from E. L. Meyers High School in Wilkes-Barre and attended Wilkes College.

Mrs. Hiscox has served Wilkes University in many roles including as president of the Alumni Association, member of the Board of Trustees, an active member of the Advisory Board of the Creative Writing Program, and she continues as Trustee Emerita.

Her dedication to the Wilkes-Barre community does not stop with Wilkes University. Her commitments over the years have included 20 years as a member of the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital Auxiliary, an early organizer of the Lawyers' Wives, and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Wilkes-Barre YMCA.

She has been involved with the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic since its inception in 1972, serving on its Board of Directors and as president of the Board. She is also a member of the Westmoreland Club.

Ornained as an elder of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre, she was also active in the Women's Association of the church for many years. She has served on the Session of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre as an elder.

Mrs. Hiscox married attorney Harry Hiscox in 1956. They had five children: David, a lawyer in practice with his father; Richard, a family practice physician; Steven, president and CEO of Automotive Training Center, the top professional institution of its kind in the nation; Susan, a school psychologist in New York and Carol, an elementary school teacher in Wilkes-Barre.

Mr. and Mrs. Hiscox also have 10 grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mrs. Hiscox on this auspicious occasion. Her exemplary community service is inspirational and has earned her widespread respect and admiration throughout north-eastern Pennsylvania.

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HONORING CAPTAIN ROBERT R.  
O'BRIEN

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor CAPT Robert R. O'Brien, Commander of the United States Coast Guard Sector New York. On April 6th of this year Captain O'Brien celebrated the anniversary of his enlistment in the Coast Guard in 1970.

During Captain O'Brien's 40 consecutive years of brave service he rose from an enlisted member to commander of the Coast Guard's largest operations unit.

Captain O'Brien enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1970 at the rank of seaman apprentice. In 1976 he was assigned as Officer-in-Charge of the USCGC Blackberry at Oak Island, North Carolina. In 1978 he was assigned to St. Simon's Island, Georgia, and then in 1979 he was promoted again to Chief Boatswain's Mate on the largest Aids to Navigation Team in the Atlantic Area. In 1980 he was named Chief Warrant Officer of the Aids to Navigation Team on the Long Island Sound.

In 1983 Captain O'Brien continued his accelerated rise through the ranks, receiving his commission as a Lieutenant. Over the next several years he was assigned to various posts around the country including the Marine Safety Office in Galveston, Texas; Supervisor of the Marine Safety Detachment in Marietta, Ohio; the Marine Safety Office in Detroit, Michigan; the Fifth Coast Guard District Office in Portsmouth, Virginia, and the Marine Safety Office in Hampton Roads, Virginia. In 1999 Captain O'Brien was promoted to Commanding Officer of the Marine Safety Office in Memphis, Tennessee. In 2002 he left for Washington, DC, to serve as the Coast Guard Liaison to Navy's Military Sealift Command where he participated as an advisor in weekly senior staff meetings at Coast Guard headquarters. In 2003 he was promptly promoted again to Captain and assumed command of the Marine Safety Office in Hampton Roads. In July 2005 he was promoted one final time to his current position as Commander of the Sector Hampton Roads.

His rise from an enlisted service member at the lowest rank to his senior position is an increasingly rare and difficult feat in the United States armed services. Throughout his career Captain O'Brien has been recognized for his excellent service, receiving the Meritorious Service Medal, the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Coast Guard Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon, and three Coast Guard Good Conduct Medals. Captain O'Brien's dedication to service is an example for all Americans.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in honoring CAPT Robert O'Brien for his brave service to our country, as well as congratulate him for completing his 40th consecutive year in the United States Coast Guard, and wish him the best as Captain O'Brien will begin in October of this year a most well-deserved retirement.

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HONORING OLYMPIC SPEED-  
SKATERS JOHN ROBERT "J.R."  
CELSKI AND APOLO ANTON  
OHNO

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, this year's Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver were an incredible display of America's finest athletes representing our country. It is my great privilege to commend two of these athletes from the great State of Washington.

The Ninth District of Washington was honored to be represented by short track speedskater John Robert "J.R." Celski of Federal Way, Washington. Celski sustained a severe injury during the Olympic Trials in which his skate blade cut deeply into his left quadriceps muscle, barely missing his artery, only 5 months before the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Prior to his injury, he put up record performances in U.S. competitions against other world-class athletes.

Celski displayed an astonishing level of perseverance when he overcame this adversity to capture the bronze medal in the Men's 1500m and the Men's 5000m Relay. J.R. Celski embodied the spirit of this country with his resolve and determination.

Apolo Anton Ohno of Seattle, Washington, was another inspirational athlete at the Olympic Winter Games with ties to the Ninth District of Washington. Both Ohno and Celski grew up skating at Pattison's West Skating Center in Federal Way, Washington.

I am proud to represent a district that has significantly contributed to the success of U.S. speedskating. I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating both Apolo Anton Ohno and John Robert "J.R." Celski for their perseverance and determination to overcome adversity and give historic performances in short track speedskating at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

HONORING JOHN M. WILLIAMS, JR., ON HIS DISTINGUISHED CAREER

**HON. ED PASTOR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to praise and reflect upon the career of an outstanding community leader and a dear friend, John M. Williams, Jr. I would also like to congratulate John on his upcoming retirement.

John is the president of the Salt River Project (SRP), the nation's third-largest public power utility and the largest supplier of water to the greater Phoenix metropolitan area. John serves as president of both the Salt River Valley Water Users' Association, the water distribution side of the company, and the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District, the electricity-generating side of the company. He began serving on the SRP council in 1964 and has served 28 years with SRP, including 12 years as vice president. He was elected SRP's 16th president in 2007.

During his tenure as president, John signed the largest-ever Indian water rights settlement; helped SRP expand its sustainable-energy portfolio to approximately seven percent of the total energy generated, including partnering on the state's first commercial wind farm; and presided over a far-reaching settlement that will help ensure the future sustainability of Arizona's Verde River.

John is a member of the Groundwater Users' Advisory Council, the American Public Power Association, the National Water Resources Association, the Colorado River Water Users' Association and the Cowman's Club. In addition, President George W. Bush appointed

him to the National Infrastructure Advisory Council in 2008.

An Arizona native, John is active in numerous community-based efforts, including serving on the board of the Farmers Gin and as a committee member of the Maricopa County Farm Services Administration. He has been involved in many other community activities in the Laveen area. John, who owns John M. Williams Farms in Laveen, lives in the West Valley with his wife, Dawnetta.

I have been fortunate to have John as a friend for many years. I first became familiar with John's trademark black cowboy hat when he came to visit my office in Washington, DC. Since that time, I have seen him wear that same black cowboy hat twice a year at Corona Ranch, where we have enjoyed the music and good company together.

Madam speaker, I am honored to recognize the leadership of John Williams and the friendship he has given me and my family.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF PINE FORGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Pine Forge Athletic Association as it celebrates 40 years of providing and promoting baseball and softball for the youth in the Boyertown Area School District and neighboring communities.

The Association formed as a result of the vision and leadership of Merle Harner and Robert "Skip" Trainer, who wanted to create more opportunities for participating in youth sports. The Association has thrived since its first team began practicing and playing on a single, small field at Pine Forge Elementary School four decades ago. Today, more than 400 boys and girls play on more than 30 teams that have access to as many as 15 fields faithfully maintained by the Association.

While many things have changed since 1970, the Association remains committed to the core principles of teaching the fundamentals of the game, promoting good sportsmanship and helping youth learn the importance of team work, perseverance and hard work. The Association's tremendous success was made possible thanks to dedicated volunteers who generously give countless hours each year to serve as coaches, umpires, league officials and in various other roles.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the Pine Forge Athletic Association as it commemorates this very special milestone and offering best wishes for continued success in enriching the lives of our youth and strengthening the bonds within our community.

TRIBUTE TO BILL AND MAURA SCULLY

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of two

outstanding individuals, Bill and Maura Scully, who are being honored by the Frank McGovern Association on Sunday, April 18, 2010, for their lifetime of friendship and service.

It is only fitting that they be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, for they have brought joy and comfort to many others through their dedication to community service and the preservation of Irish-American culture.

Bill was born August 14, 1937, in Glenamaddy, Co. Galway. His family moved to Middleton, Co. Cork, in 1950 when he was 13 years old. He is a product of the C.B.S. where he learned his skills of Human Interaction. Bill came to America on February 14, 1958, and started work as a waiter in McGovern's. Bill has one brother, Edward and one sister, Breda. Maura McGovern was born in Kinawley, Co. Fermanagh. Her family moved to Swanlinbar, Co. Cavan, where she attended the National School. She came to America in April 1955. Maura is the oldest of seven children. She has two brothers, Eamon and Freddie, and four sisters, Geraldine, Theresa, Patricia and Carmel. Bill and Maura are the proud aunt and uncle of many nieces and nephews.

Bill worked for Prudential in Newark before marrying Maura on May 6, 1961. The U.S. Army called him into service in August of that year and he headed to Hawaii, where he was stationed for the next 18 months. When he was discharged he went to work for Crown Furs.

Upon his retirement, Frank McGovern offered Bill and Maura the tavern and on July 10, 1968, they became the proud owners of the most popular Irish Tavern on the East Coast of the U.S. In April 2001 they turned the reins over to Patrick and Sean McGovern and young Mike Nagle. The boys have made the Scullys proud by "Keeping the Tradition Alive."

The Scullys have long worked to help keep their community strong and to keep alive Irish-American culture. Bill has been honored by many organizations such as the Independent Irish, the Peter Smith School of Irish Dancing, The Giblin Association, The Cryan Association, The Shillelagh Club, The Irish American Association of the Oranges, Project Children, the Emerald Society, the F.O.P. Local #12, and the Sheriff's Department P.B.A. Maura was honored as the Deputy Grand Marshal of the Newark Saint Patrick's Day Parade in 1971.

Throughout their lives, Bill and Maura have not only given much of their own time and energy to community efforts, but have also inspired others through the example they set. Bill and Maura are the Standard Bearers of the Frank McGovern Association and members of many civic, social and charitable organizations. They welcome this tribute and thank everyone for all the love and support over the last 50 years. It's their sincere wish for Peace with Justice for all the people of Ireland, both North and South.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing individuals like Bill and Maura Scully.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the Scullys' family and friends, the members of the Frank McGovern Association, everyone who has enjoyed a visit to McGovern's, and me in recognizing the contributions of Bill and Maura Scully.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF  
MICHAEL P. SOKOLOWSKI

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Michael P. Sokolowski as he is named the recipient of the 2010 Cleveland Society of Poles "Good Joe" Polish Heritage Award.

Mr. Sokolowski was born the youngest of three children in Cleveland to parents Bernard and Marion Sokolowski. He graduated from Cleveland Central Catholic High School in 1979. In 1983, he graduated from Otterbein College where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications. After college, Mr. Sokolowski joined his sister Marylou and brother Bernie in running the family business—Sokolowski's University Inn. Mr. Sokolowski and his siblings are the third generation at the Inn, which was established in 1923. The Inn is a Cleveland landmark and has been featured several times on local TV, radio and the Food Network.

In addition to running the family business, Mr. Sokolowski is active in the community. He is a 20-year member of the Cleveland Society of Poles where he has volunteered as trustee, vice-president and president. He is a life-long parishioner at St. John Cantius Church where he sings and plays percussion in the choir. He also continues to support his alma mater, Cleveland Central Catholic. In 2004, he was awarded the Cleveland Central Catholic Alumni of the Year Award and for the past ten years he has served as coach for their football and baseball teams. Above all, Mr. Sokolowski is a dedicated husband, father and grandfather.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Michael P. Sokolowski, whose service to community and whose dedication to his Polish heritage continues to make a difference throughout our community.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT SEAN  
DURKIN, U.S. ARMY

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, there are many heroes from Colorado who have fought, and continue to fight, in the Global War on Terror. Today, I rise to pay tribute to one hero in particular: Army Sergeant Sean Durkin of Aurora, Colorado.

On March 27, 2010, Sergeant Sean Durkin and his fellow soldiers were on a mission near Forward Operating Base Wilson in Afghanistan, when their convoy was struck by an explosive device. Sergeant Sean Durkin and two other brave soldiers exited the vehicle to respond to the blast, but were all injured when a second improvised explosive device went off. Sergeant Sean Durkin was gravely wounded and ultimately succumbed to his injuries while recuperating at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

In 2004, Sergeant Sean Durkin graduated from Eaglecrest High School in Centennial,

Colorado and later attended Denver Auto Diesel College before enlisting in the United States Army in 2006. He is remembered as a fine young man who had always dreamed of becoming a soldier, and was also passionate about working on automobiles.

During his military service, Sergeant Sean Durkin was the recipient of numerous awards and qualifications, including the Expert Infantry Badge, Parachutist Badge and the Driver Mechanic Badge. Attached to the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team of the 4th Infantry Division, he was also a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sergeant Sean Durkin is a shining example of Army service and sacrifice. As a former member of the Army and retired Marine, my deepest sympathies go out to his family and to all who knew him.

CONGRATULATING THE NATIONAL  
DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT CLINICAL TRIALS NETWORK AT INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE, CENTERS OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH ON 10TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I, along with my colleagues Representative JOHN SULLIVAN, Representative MARY BONO MACK, and Representative CAROL SHEA-PORTER, rise today to congratulate the National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network at Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Centers of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) on their tenth anniversary. Ten years ago, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), one of the 27 Institutes and Centers of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) embarked upon a bold initiative by creating the National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network (CTN) to accelerate the process of transforming research findings into proven treatments for use in community practice settings. The CTN focuses directly on studies that can demonstrate the effectiveness of treatments for people whose lives are affected by drug abuse in communities and neighborhoods nationwide.

The CTN established an egalitarian, bidirectional relationship between the research scientists and the community treatment programs. The challenge, which was successfully addressed by NIDA's CTN, was to collaborate with community treatment programs to design and execute rigorous scientific studies that yield accurate and reliable information that can be transferred into the treatment practices of the drug treatment community. In 2010, there are over 240 such treatment sites, in 35 states and Puerto Rico, partnering with 16 distinguished academic research centers working together to produce important research findings.

By blending the skills of researchers and experts in treatment practice, the CTN, working with counterparts in NIDA, other Institutes of the NIH, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), is working to accelerate the process that moves effective science-based treatment findings into our nation's drug treatment communities. The

leadership of NIDA and the CTN are committed to accelerating the pace by which scientific evidence changes treatment practice.

The first cooperative agreements to carry out treatment research studies were awarded in October 1999. In just 10 short but highly productive years, the CTN enrolled more than 11,400 drug abusing patients in 25 protocols and 18 sub-studies as well as 5 secondary analyses arising from the primary protocols. These protocols have produced significant findings about medications, behavioral interventions and other important aspects of drug treatment, including methods to keep patients in treatment longer and drug-free. Clinical trials on HIV in the vulnerable drug user population, including rapid testing for HIV infection are also high priorities of the CTN.

The outgrowth of this prolific research has been remarkable. Results have been included in the publication of 96 papers in peer reviewed journals and seven Blending Conferences at which a total of 5,500 treatment providers have learned about cutting edge research findings from the CTN and other research programs supported by NIDA. The CTN work has also led to the establishment of a dissemination library that is available at no charge to the public, containing important findings and resource documents of the CTN and which has been accessed more than 35,000 times in the past 3.5 years. Additionally, research data from 21 CTN studies has been publicly posted in an effort to expedite the transfer of research results into knowledge, products and procedures to improve the public health. Most importantly, the treatment providers of the CTN and their scientific partners have become an army of change agents in their states and regions to advocate for the adoption of treatment interventions based upon proven, scientific evidence.

Madam Speaker, we congratulate the National Institute on Drug Abuse and its Clinical Trials Network on its important accomplishments over the past 10 years. Their work has lessened the suffering of many, and as Co-chairs and Vice Co-chairs of the Addiction, Treatment and Recovery Caucus, we look forward to continuing to work with NIDA and even greater achievements of the CTN the years to come.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF LECH  
ALEKSANDER KACZYNSKI,  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF POLAND, AND HIS WIFE,  
MARIA KACZYNSKI, FIRST LADY  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Lech Aleksander Kaczynski, President of the Republic of Poland, and his wife, Maria Kaczynski, First Lady of the Republic of Poland and a respected economist. President Kaczynski, his wife, and 95 others died suddenly and tragically in a plane crash while attempting to land at Smolensk-North airport in Russia on April 10, 2010.

President Kaczynski's legacy reflects his lifelong dedication to freedom for the people of

Poland. In 1980, President Kaczynski and his twin brother, Jaroslaw Kaczynski, who would later become the Prime Minister of Poland, were active participants in a workers' strike at Gdańsk Shipyard. The strike, led by Solidarity leader and future Polish President Lech Walesa, was supported around the world; it sparked the beginning of the Solidarity movement in Poland and marked the beginning of the end of communist rule in Central and Eastern Europe.

Following the workers' strike in Gdańsk, the Kaczynski brothers emerged as leaders in the Solidarity movement and built a strong national following. In 2002, President Kaczynski was elected Mayor of Warsaw by a large margin. In March of 2005, President Kaczynski declared his candidacy for president and won election in December of that year. As President, he worked to end government corruption, strengthen foreign partnerships, and empower the citizens of Poland.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor and remembrance of Lech Kaczynski, President of the Republic of Poland, his wife, Maria Kaczynski, and all those who perished with them. I offer my deep condolences to their daughter, Marta, their granddaughter, to President Kaczynski's brother, and to the people of Poland. My district in Northeast Ohio is home to several generations of Polish immigrants, and we maintain strong ties to the country of Poland. Those who lost their lives in tragedy on April 10, 2010 shall be remembered in the greater Cleveland area and around the world.

RECOGNIZING THE KENO MICRO-FUND

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Keno Micro-Fund for its role in promoting financial literacy.

IN the State of Georgia 69,980 businesses and non-businesses filed bankruptcy from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. This makes Georgia's bankruptcy rate one of the highest in the country.

The number of 18- to 24-year-olds declaring bankruptcy continues to grow at an alarming rate.

The average debt level for 2008 graduates from Georgia colleges was over \$17,000.

As the Nation recovers from one of the most devastating financial downturns in more than half a century, it is critical that we make a determined effort to promote financial literacy among America's youth. To that end, I offer my formal acknowledgement and deepest appreciation for organizations in the State of Georgia like the Keno Micro-Fund, which are dedicated to fostering a deeper understanding of financial principles and money management among young people.

HONORING THE GAY AND LESBIAN ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE OF WASHINGTON, DC (GLAA) ON ITS 39TH ANNIVERSARY, AND THE RECIPIENTS OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring America's oldest, continuously operational gay and lesbian rights organization: the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington, DC, GLAA, on its 39th anniversary, and the recipients of the Distinguished Service Award.

Since its founding in April 1971, GLAA has long been at the forefront of efforts to strengthen enforcement of the landmark D.C. Human Rights Act of 1977, and at the forefront of advocating for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered, GLBT, community. GLAA played a key role in winning marriage equality in the District, working with coalition partners, DC officials and the wider public to craft and implement a strategy for achieving a strong, sustainable victory.

GLAA has fought to ensure that, GLBT, citizens are treated fairly and respectfully by DC agencies from the Metropolitan Police and Fire/Emergency Medical Services Departments to the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, as well as the DC Public Schools. GLAA has also participated in lobbying efforts against arbitrary federal restrictions on the District's budget aimed at lesbians and gay men.

On April 20, GLAA will hold its 39th anniversary Reception honoring this year's recipients of its Distinguished Service Awards: Joan E. Biren, Sean Bugg, Lou Chibbaro Jr., David Mariner, Michael Crawford, Rev. Monique Ellison, Brian K. Flowers, Mark Levine, Nick McCoy, Brian Moore, Sultan Shakir, and the DC Clergy United for Marriage Equality. The recipients contributed toward GLAA's effervescent fight to receive equality for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered community in the District of Columbia.

GLAA's 39 year fight to secure inalienable American rights for the GLBT residents of Washington, DC is similar to the long struggle for full voting representation in Congress for U.S. citizens, living in our Nation's capital, who have served honorably in every American war, including the current conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, and are taxed without representation.

GLAA's open and forthright advocacy supports GLBT soldiers, who have sworn to protect our country with their lives and must serve in silence, without the open support of their families and communities.

I ask this House to join me in congratulating the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance on its 39th Anniversary, and the recipients of the Distinguished Service Award for their commitment to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered community in Washington, DC.

TRIBUTE TO CARL D. BOCCHICCHIO

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding individual, Carl D. Bocchicchio, who is being recognized on the occasion of his retirement from an accomplished 34-year law enforcement career. It is only fitting that he be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, because he is the embodiment of the patriotism that makes our nation so great.

Carl was born in Brooklyn, NY, and was active in the NYPD Police Athletic League. In 1972, while attending Midwood High School, he began his journey in law enforcement as an NYPD Auxiliary Police Officer in the 63rd Precinct. While in college, he became a seasonal U.S. park ranger at the Gateway National Recreation Area. Later he served as a park ranger at the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina and subsequently as a supervisory law enforcement park ranger at the Boston National Historical Park.

Along Carl's law enforcement journey he joined the U.S. Customs Service as a customs inspector on the Canadian border along New York State. Carl was later assigned as a customs patrol officer to the Office of Investigations, Special Agent in Charge office located in Newark, NJ. In 1984 he was selected and promoted as a customs special agent assigned to the Resident Agent in Charge, Fort Myers, FL, then became a customs agent in Miami, FL. During his tenure in Miami, he was assigned to open a U.S. Customs Service, Office of Internal Affairs, Resident Agent in Charge (RAC) office in Northern Virginia. The office was opened as a RAC Field Office servicing Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, DC. In 1989 he was selected to establish a U.S. Customs Service, Office of Internal Affairs (IA), Training Division at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), Brunswick, GA. From Miami he would regularly travel to FLETC to develop curriculum and instruct and deploy Police Ethics and Integrity Training programs to all U.S. customs special agents and customs personnel stationed worldwide.

Always seeking to learn and grow, Carl attended St. John's University and College of Staten Island earning a BS in Administration of Criminal Justice. Carl served as a captain with the Georgia Department of Defense, National Guard Bureau, Georgia State Defense Force. He attended the U.S. Army War College, Strategic Studies Institute, focusing on National Security Policy and Strategy, and earned a Graduate Certificate at the Institute of World Politics focusing on Intelligence and National Security Policy.

He is married to his wife Judy for 28 years and they have two sons, Matthew, 21 years old, and Christopher, 15 years old, and they reside in Peachtree City, GA.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to being able to acknowledge great Americans like Carl.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Carl's family and friends, all those whose lives have been touched by him, and

me in recognizing the outstanding contributions of Carl D. Bocchicchio to his profession and to this great nation.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. —, THE  
“FAIR PAYMENT OF COURT FEES  
ACT OF 2010”

**HON. HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. —, the Fair Payment of Court Fees Act of 2010. This legislation is vital to preserve democracy and fair access to the courts.

It has come to my attention that provisions in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, while well intentioned to discourage abuses to the appeal process and encourage settlement, have been shown in practice to unfairly and indiscriminately punish parties for declining an offer for settlement made before trial or seeking appellate review.

That policy quite simply goes too far, creating perverse results, and inevitably will prevent litigants from pursuing legitimate cases or appeals for fear of excessive penalties.

Recently, there was a national outcry when a Federal court ordered the family of a fallen soldier, Marine Lance Cpl. Matthew Synder of Westminster, Maryland, to pay \$16,000 to the people who picketed the funeral of this hero who died in service to his country in Iraq.

You heard me correctly, the dead soldier's family was ordered to pay thousands of dollars to the people who picketed their son's funeral and who shouted “You're going to Hell” and “Thank God for dead soldiers.”

This is not adding insult to injury; this is outrageous and cannot be allowed to stand.

The family of Matthew Synder's supposed “fault” was to defend the decision of the lower court when the picketers appealed.

Preposterous and outrageous. As Chairman of the Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Courts and Competition policy, I cannot wait for the multi-year process of the Rules Enabling Act to correct this injustice. This problem must be corrected now.

The rules, as they stand, are a blanket policy to discourage pursuit of justice through the appeals process. That policy quite simply goes too far, creating perverse results, and inevitably will prevent litigants from pursuing legitimate appeals or encourage the parties to settle when they want a court to hear the case for fear of excessive penalties.

The bill I have introduced today will stop this travesty and open the court house doors to parties who are acting in the interest of justice.

Specifically, the “Fair Payment of Court Fees Act of 2010” would amend two procedural rules to ensure access to the Federal courts. My bill would amend Rule 39 of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure and Rule 68 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, to give a court discretion to evaluate whether the payment should be waived in the interest of justice including instances where constitutional or other important precedent are at issue.

Strict application of the Rules has been detrimental to the public interest. So we would

allow our Judges to use their discretion to determine when these fees should be waived. Our courthouse doors must remain open to pursue legitimate claims.

I hope that my colleagues will support this legislation.

IN HONOR OF HARRIET BEEKMAN

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Harriet Beekman, a dedicated advocate on behalf of veterans and the founder of We Do Care.

In 1968, Ms. Beekman received a letter from U.S. Marine Pfc. Steve Sarossy who had expressed his concern that “no one seemed to care” about service personnel overseas. Ms. Beekman was so disturbed by the sentiment that she wrote back in bold letters: STEVE, WE DO CARE. Tragically, Pfc. Sarossy was killed in the Quang Tri Republic of Vietnam later that year, but his words were not forgotten. Harriet Beekman took it upon herself to set up We Do Care, a support organization for our troops worldwide. Since the Vietnam conflict, We Do Care has sent more than 60,000 letters and 21,000 packages to service personnel. For more than four decades Ms. Beekman has led the charge in collecting, organizing and shipping several hundred tons of donated items to service personnel all over the world. We Do Care has sent goods to service members in places such as Vietnam, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Haiti, Somalia, Afghanistan and Iraq.

We Do Care has brought communities together in support of the men and women who risk their lives everyday. People of all ages and backgrounds gather together at dances, talent shows, community collection drives, recycling projects, rummage sales and dinners in order to raise funds and collect item donations to send our troops. In response to her efforts, Ms. Beekman has received more than 5,000 letters of appreciation from service personnel around the world.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Harriet Beekman, often referred to as the “Florence Nightingale of Fairview Park.” She continues to show our troops that, indeed, we do care. Even as she approaches her ninetieth birthday this July, Ms. Beekman continues to show the indomitable spirit of youth in continuing her work. Her volunteer spirit and dedication to those who serve our country uplifts and inspires resolve to live a more peaceful life.

HONORING RUTH ARDEN

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Ruth Arden, a Toledoan, a pioneer, and tireless advocate for our most vulnerable people. Ruth passed away unexpectedly in December and her passing was noted by the well known and the unknown.

Today those she served with and among gather to honor her efforts, pay special tribute, and remember a very fine lady.

Ruth Arden was the executive director of St. Paul's Community Center for many years. St. Paul's serves people who are homeless and mentally ill, and under Ruth's extraordinary vision and leadership the shelter served hundreds of people with respect. She and her team gave people dignity and the tools to navigate a difficult life. Ruth was an advocate for people who are homeless and mentally ill, and challenged leaders at the local, State and National levels to see their need. Jesus Christ reminded all that “whatever you do to the least among you, that you do unto me.” Few people follow His words as did Ruth, and her work inspired all around her.

Ruth Arden was an ardent advocate for the poor and downtrodden, but she was also an advocate of the arts. She enjoyed music—especially jazz—and supported local artists. Her support, advice and wise counsel were most appreciated, and in her quiet way Ruth moved mountains. Her life leaves an imprimatur on our community which stands well past her leave-taking, and her voice still echoes among those with whom she worked. She had an unforgettable spirit of caring and drive that we are guided by her spirit to carry forth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I missed roll call Vote Nos. 204–211 on April 15, 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call Vote No. 204, Providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 4715, “nay.”

Roll Call Vote No. 205, Recognizing the Coast Guard Group Astoria's more than 60 years of service to the Pacific Northwest, “aye.”

Roll Call Vote No. 206, On Motion to Refer the Resolution, “aye.”

Roll Call Vote No. 207, On Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 4715, “nay.”

Roll Call Vote No. 208, On Motion to Recommit H.R. 4715 with Instructions, “aye.”

Roll Call Vote No. 209, Final passage of H.R. 4715, the Clean Estuaries Act of 2010, “nay.”

Roll Call Vote No. 210, Congratulating the Duke University men's basketball team for winning the 2010 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball National Championship, “aye.”

Roll Call Vote No. 211, On Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 4851, “nay.”

A TRIBUTE TO JIM SEELEY IN  
RECOGNITION OF HIS RETIREMENT  
AFTER 34 YEARS OF  
SERVICE TO THE CITY OF LOS  
ANGELES

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, on behalf of those of us who represent the great

City of Los Angeles, I rise to honor Jim Seeley for the 34 years of service he has given to the city as our Chief Federal Legislative Representative. As delegation Members and their staffs gather tonight to celebrate our friend and to wish him all the best in his retirement, we wanted to share with our colleagues in the House the wonderful legacy that this Los Angeles "institution" leaves behind.

Jim Seeley was born in the city he would one day represent, grew up in Los Angeles County, and made his way to Stanford University. He graduated in 1959, the same year he married the love of his life Jo Ann Browning. After a stint in Paris where Jo Ann studied at the Sorbonne, and then St. Louis where Jim did his six-month Army training, the couple settled in Washington, D.C. to build their successful careers and raise a large and wonderful family.

Following 8 years with the Department of Commerce, Jim accepted a position in the Washington Office of the State of Illinois. Assisting Illinois businesses in promoting their goods abroad at trade shows and on trade missions, Jim began to hone his government relations expertise as Deputy Director of the office serving under two Governors.

In 1976, after 7 years with the Illinois Washington Office, Jim returned to his roots when he accepted the position of Chief Federal Legislative Representative for the City of Los Angeles. Reporting first to the office of the Chief Legislative Analyst, and later directly to the Office of the Mayor, Jim has served the city and its residents with distinction under Mayors Tom Bradley, Richard Riordan, James Hahn, and Antonio Villaraigosa.

Over the years, he forged close working relationships with the Los Angeles Congressional Delegation Members and their staffs, as he led his own staff to further the federal legislative agenda of the Council and Mayor. Jim has flourished for more than three decades in his role as the city's "go to" guy in the nation's capital. Through changes in Mayors, Presidents, and Democratic and Republican House and Senate majorities, Jim has been a constant, adjusting the city's advocacy strategies to the changing times.

Jim guided the city's federal response to the Northridge earthquake in 1994, as city and county officials sought maximum federal relief to address the devastation caused by the quake. In the post 9/11 years, he has focused on homeland security and Los Angeles' efforts to improve airport security. He relished his work around the 1984 Olympics in his hometown, and has been an integral part of the effort to build our transportation infrastructure and move Angelinos out of their cars and onto subway and light rail.

For 34 years, LA congressional offices have benefited from Jim's deep knowledge of the city and the federal policies that impact Los Angeles and our constituents. We also have benefited from the pleasure of his company, as "Seeley" was always a welcome visitor. When he dropped by to touch base with staff, check up on the latest legislative rumor, or just banter with the congressional colleagues who had long since become friends, I think we all felt like City Hall was down the street—not 2700 miles away.

Jim officially retired from the City of Los Angeles at the end of March, but will continue to consult and share his vast institutional knowledge with the City of Los Angeles office. In

the meantime, he and Jo Ann, who retired last year, will no doubt devote much of their free time to their 11 children and their 14 beautiful grandchildren.

On behalf of the Los Angeles Congressional Delegation, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jim Seeley on his retirement, and in thanking this dedicated public servant for his 34 years of service to the City of Los Angeles. We send our very best wishes to Jim and Jo Ann for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

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CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CRESTMONT

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the First Baptist Church of Crestmont on its momentous 100th Anniversary. Just north of Philadelphia, First Baptist Church of Crestmont was the very first church to be established in the town of Crestmont over a century ago.

The congregation that founded the First Baptist Church of Crestmont originally met in the homes of two of its members. The group was formally organized into a Baptist church in October of 1910. Determined to build a meeting place for their new congregation, the members of the church worked together to begin digging the foundation with their own hands. Neighborhood children assisted with fundraising by performing concerts and organizing social events. In the early 1920's, the congregation developed plans to construct a new building for their church, which was a fortunate decision as the original building was destroyed in a fire shortly before the new church was completed. This new building housed the congregation for decades before construction began on an updated building.

As the congregation continued to grow, transitioning from one pastor to the next, the commitment to community was passed down from generation to generation. In 2008 the sanctuary was once again destroyed by a fire. The First Baptist Church of Crestmont turned to their neighbors for support as they worked to repair their church. Last September the congregation returned to worship in their newly renovated edifice and fellowship hall.

For decades, this community has provided a place for generations of children and adults alike to learn and worship together. The congregation has overcome great hardships over the past 100 years and has emerged even stronger. Although First Baptist is a small assembly, it has served as a significant, steadfast source of spiritual sustenance for its people while remaining committed to working hand in hand with the community to create a positive environment in which to raise our children and keep our seniors safe.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating First Baptist Church of Crestmont's 100th anniversary milestone and wishing the congregation many more years of community enrichment and service.

HONORING ROBERT ACREE

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Robert Acree upon being awarded with the "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. Mr. Acree was honored on Saturday, January 30, 2010 in Chowchilla, California.

Mr. Robert Acree was born and raised in Chowchilla, California. He attended Chowchilla High School, where he participated on the track team as a pole vaulter. He graduated from high school in 1965, and in 1967 enlisted in the United States Air Force.

Mr. Acree completed basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, and completed technical school as a Tactical Aircraft Maintenance Specialist at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas. His first assignment was at Davis-Montham Air Force Base in Arizona where he worked on the F-4C "Phantom." In September 1969, Mr. Acree received orders to deploy to Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam. He joined the 558th Tactical Fighter Squadron, 12th Combat Support Group. He and his squadron kept the F-4 "Phantoms" in the air as the 558th conducted close air support for ground forces fighting the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese. The squadron was also responsible for conducting interdiction and combat air patrol activities.

Mr. Acree was assigned to the 421st Tactical Fighter Squadron of the 366th Tactical Fighter Wing at Da Nang, Vietnam. With an aircraft landing or taking off every 52 seconds Da Nang Air Base is considered to be the busiest base in the world. The 421st, also known as the "Black Widows," flew thousands of close air support missions and conducted interdiction and combat air activities. Toward the end of his military career, Mr. Acree was rotated to the States for one of several assignments at George Air Force Base in California. In April 1971, Mr. Acree received an Honorable Discharge from the Air Force; after only 88 days he re-enlisted back into the Air Force for 2 additional years. He served at Beale Air Force Base where he worked on the top secret SR-71 "Blackbird" spy plane. He was cross-trained in Aircraft Weapon Systems at Lowery Air Force Base in Colorado and was then assigned to George Air Force Base. He completed his tour in Udorn, Thailand, working on F-4C's.

In 1976, Mr. Acree requested a tour in Korea and served at the Kunsan Air Base. He then spent 2 years at the Soesterberg Air Base in Holland, working on the F-4 Phantom and the F-15 Eagle. In 1979, he reported to Edwards Air Force Base. While at Edwards he met his soon to be wife, Amy. They spent 4 years at Hahn Air Base in Germany and finally landed back at George Air Force Base.

In July 1988, Master Sergeant Acree retired from the United States Air Force. During his twenty-one years of service, he earned an Associate of Science Degree in Aircraft Armament Systems Technology from the Community College of the Air Force. Upon his retirement, he was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Good Conduct Medal with five oak leaf

clusters, the Air Force Longevity Award with four oak leaf clusters, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, NCO Professional Military Education Ribbon with oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Service Long Tour Ribbon with oak leaf cluster, Air Force Overseas Service Short Tour Ribbon with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Training Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm and device, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Mr. Acree and his family returned to Chowchilla, California after he retired. He was employed as the Utility Systems Supervisor for the City of Chowchilla. Mr. and Mrs. Acree have four sons and six grandchildren. Their two youngest sons currently serve in the Air Force. Mr. Acree is a Life Member of Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9896. He is serving as the vice-president of the "Sons of Thunder" bike club and is a member of "This Ain't Your Mamma's Church" biker church.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Robert Acree upon being named as a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Acree many years of continued success.

#### HONORING COAL MINERS FROM UPPER BIG BRANCH MINE IN WEST VIRGINIA

SPEECH OF

#### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 14, 2010*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1236, which honors the coal miners who perished in the Upper Big Branch Mine—South in Raleigh County, West Virginia, extends condolences to their families, and recognizes the valiant efforts of emergency response workers at the mine disaster.

On April 5, America witnessed the worst coal mining disaster in 40 years when an explosion occurred at the Upper Big Branch—South Mine. Twenty-nine miners were killed in this tragedy, and my thoughts and prayers go out to their families, friends and colleagues during this difficult time.

I also would like to commend the rescue teams who bravely risked life and limb to search for missing miners after the disaster, and thank the volunteers who supported the community through this tragedy.

I feel strongly about the concerns of the mining industry because I was born and raised in West Virginia, where my father as a U.S. Senator, was known as one of the best friends a miner ever had. There is no question that mining has been a dangerous job. Today, coal mining is rated among the most dangerous jobs in America. It does not have to be that way.

Chairman MILLER has assured me that the Education and Labor Committee will be investigating any possible health and safety violations at the Upper Big Branch—South Mine to see if laws were circumvented and miners' lives were recklessly put at risk. If that was indeed the case, those responsible must be held accountable.

Too many families have suffered the loss of a loved one in a mining disaster. We in Congress need to fully investigate the factors that led to these tragedies. We need to investigate the deficiencies in laws, regulations and enforcement that may have contributed to these disasters.

We owe it to the families of miners lost in these disasters and the miners that work every day to take action to prevent these accidents from happening again. I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 1236.

#### HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN'S MEN'S GYMNASTICS TEAM ON WINNING FOURTH NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

#### HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Michigan's men's gymnastics team on winning the 2010 NCAA national championship.

Michigan won the championship with a score of 360.500, edging defending champion Stanford, 359.800, and Oklahoma, 357.050. This is the program's fourth national championship, and Michigan's first varsity team championship since 2005.

The national championship capped a successful season for the team, as well as individuals. Chris Cameron won the NCAA men's all-around championship and Mel Anton Santander finished third. Michigan swept the high bar, with Ryan McCarthy, Ian Makowske, and Mel Anton Santander finishing first, second, and third, respectively. In all, Michigan finished with the team championship, all-around championship, seven individuals earning all-America honors, and the Elite 88, an award given to the competing student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade point average, which went to Ben Baldus-Strauss, a chemistry honors student.

In addition to its considerable athletic achievements, the team serves as a model of community service and academic excellence. The 20-member team is comprised of individuals from 13 States and Singapore. Members study topics as diverse as American culture, English, economics, political science, biology, and aerospace, biomedical, and mechanical engineering. The program also consistently has one of the highest team grade point averages at the University and is a leader in community service and volunteerism.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the student-athletes and coaches of the 2010 NCAA national championship-winning Michigan men's gymnastics team: Ben Baldus-Strauss, Syque Caesar, Kent Caldwell, Chris Cameron, David Chan, Devan Cote, Steve Crabtree, Phillip Goldberg, Adam Hamers, Garrett Hamers, Evan Heiter, Douglass Johnson, Jr., Thomas Kelley, Torrance Laury, Joe Levine, Ian Makowske, Ryan McCarthy, Mel Anton Santander, Rohan Sebastian, Andrew Vance, and coaches Kurt Golder, Geoff Corrigan, Xiao Yuan, and Ralph Rosso.

#### 62ND ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE

#### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of the 62nd anniversary of Israel's independence. I have always been deeply moved by the duality of Israel's independence celebration, at once both sorrowful and triumphant.

On one day—Yom Hazikaron, Israel's Memorial Day—Israel honors those who gave their lives defending their families, their neighbors, their communities, their people, and their country. Israel today recognizes even those who died before the state was officially declared in 1948. This year Israel honors 22,684 soldiers killed in the line of duty, and another 1,750 civilian victims of terrorism. These brave men and women died in service to the foundational belief of Israel: That in their ancient homeland the Jewish people can live in freedom.

But by the dawn of the morning following Yom Hazikaron, Israel exchanges tears of sadness for tears of joy, celebrating their official day of independence—the declaration of the State of Israel by David Ben Gurion in 1948. I know of no other country that combines such deep sadness with such unrelenting delight.

For 62 years now, Israel has stood as a vibrant democracy and a symbol of hope for millions of people around the world. For 62 years Israel has modeled a society where determination and passion, and an emphasis on social progress and education, can build a productive nation.

Madam Speaker, I have been to Israel 14 times as a Member of Congress, and every time I go I encounter ordinary citizens and government officials alike who are genuinely dedicated to living up to the ideals of Israel's independence. I am always impressed by the Israelis' intense desire to persevere. Israel deserves to be secure and prosperous, to live in peace with its neighbors, and to live free from fear and violence.

I look forward to returning to Israel in the near future, and on congratulating Israel again on its 63rd birthday . . . and its 64th, and 65th, and all the years after that.

#### HONORING DARWIN CREQUE AND HIS BROTHER, DR. LAURITZ CLUDGEMANN CREQUE

#### HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of two distinguished native sons of my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands, who during their productive lives distinguished themselves in the fields of medicine, education, literature, history, and public service. It is my honor to remember the lives of Darwin Creque and his brother, Dr. Lauritz Cludgemann Creque who attended Morehouse College and who are being honored there this week with the establishment of a memorial

scholarship in their name that will help young men of color enter the health professions.

Mr. Darwin Creque distinguished himself as a literary scholar, historian, newspaper founder and editor, economist, business man, health administrator and a commissioner of housing. He was born on St. Thomas on August 30, 1912 and graduated in the Charlotte Amalie High School Class of '32. He then attained a Bachelor of Arts from Morehouse College in 1936 and a Masters of Arts in Economics from Atlanta University in 1938. Upon returning to the Virgin Islands, he became head of the social science department of Christiansted High School and later Assistant Price Economist, Office of Price Administration, Tax Assessor, Water Commissioner, and Territorial Director, Office of Price Stabilization.

He then pursued further education in the field of health care and attended Harvard University, where he received a Masters in Science in Public Health Administration in 1954. After an internship in Hospital Administration at Harvard University School of Medicine in 1956, he received a certificate in Business and Industrial Management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1955. He returned to St. Thomas and there served as Executive Health Administrator at the Department of Health. He then returned to his training as an economist, becoming Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Commerce where he organized and headed the Division of Trade and Industry. During the administration of the late Governor Melvin H. Evans, the first elected Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands, he served as the Commissioner of Housing and Community Renewal.

Darwin Creque led a multi-faceted life. He was at one time, the editor and co-owner of the St. Croix Avis and owner of a Main Street business called "The Smart Shop." He loved music and played the violin. He contributed to the historical and literary canon of the U.S. Virgin Islands, the most notable of which was The U.S. Virgin Islands and the Eastern Caribbean. He also prepared research papers for the Federal and local governments and served on many boards and commissions, including the V.I. Banking Board. He was a long time member of the Grand Lodge of England (Harmonic Lodge 356) and past president of St. Thomas Rotary II. For his years of dedicated service, he received many awards and citations including from his fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma, the Virgin Islands Legislature and the Federal Department of Commerce. He was named a Paul Harris Fellow by St. Thomas Rotary II for his commitment of service and to world harmony.

Madam Speaker, Darwin Creque's brother, Dr. Lauritz Cludgemann Creque lived an equally distinguished life. Born on St. Thomas in March of 1917, he too was a gifted musician, writer, and teacher who became a medical doctor after obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Physics from Morehouse College in 1948 and a medical degree from Meharry Medical College in 1952 with a specialty in general surgery. During his early career, he served as Chief of Staff of Kate Biting Memorial Hospital, an African American Hospital serving diverse populations. He also served as Medical Examiner and County Coroner as well. He was a Member of the American Medical Association, the President of the North State Medical Association, the Twin City Med-

ical Society and induction into the American College of Physicians and Surgeons. He worked to keep hospitals that served the African American community open after many of them were being absorbed into mainstream institutions. Dr. Creque went on to complete his training in pathology at Columbia University in New York and remained on the clinical faculty at Columbia University for almost 20 years. Fluent in three languages, he served diverse populations to include being the Director of the Blood Bank of Harlem Hospital and operating an independent clinic for Hispanics in Hunts Point, Bronx, New York.

Madam Speaker, with their scholarship, professionalism and service to others, the Creque brothers exemplify the best of what it means to be a Virgin Islander. I ask my colleagues to join me in this salute to their contributions.

HONORING ALMA POWELL AS RECIPIENT OF THE 10TH ANNUAL COMMONWEALTH ACADEMY CARE AWARD

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Alma Powell as recipient of the Commonwealth Academy's 10th Annual CARE Award. The Commonwealth Academy is a college preparatory day school in Alexandria, Virginia. As a recipient of the CARE Award, Mrs. Powell has demonstrated outstanding leadership in efforts to empower young people, including those who struggle with learning differences and AD/HD, to discover and reach achievement levels commensurate with their abilities.

Alma Powell sits on the boards of several educational, cultural, charitable and civic organizations. She is the chairman of the board of America's Promise Alliance, whose mission is to mobilize people from every sector of American life to build the character and competence of youth. Mrs. Powell also chairs the advisory board for the Pew Center for Civic Change. From 1989 to 2000, she has served as the chairman of the National Council of the Best Friends Foundation, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of young girls.

Mrs. Powell is the recipient of an Honorary Doctor of Human Letters from Emerson College, an Honorary Doctor of Humanities from Shenandoah University and the Civic Change Award from the Pew Partnership for Civic Change. She has also been honored by Washingtonian magazine as Washingtonian of the Year and is the recipient of the Leadership Award from the Women's Center in Virginia. In addition to her many service-minded activities, Mrs. Powell has added "author" to her list of credits. In 2003, her two children's books, *My Little Wagon*, and *America's Promise* were launched with great success.

Mrs. Powell was born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama. She graduated from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, and went on to study speech pathology and audiology at Emerson College in Boston. She worked as the staff audiologist for the Boston Guild for the Hard of Hearing.

Alma married Colin Powell in 1962. Mrs. Powell spent the next 33 years raising a family

and accompanying her husband on his various military assignments in the United States and overseas. While her husband was stationed at the Pentagon, she served as the Army liaison to the National Red Cross as part of a team of volunteer consultants from the military services. During General Powell's tenure as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, she was the Advisor to the Red Cross of the Military District of Washington. Most recently, during her husband's tenure as the 65th Secretary of State, Mrs. Powell served as the honorary president of the Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide. She also sat on the advisory board of the Hospitality and Information Service and was an honorary member of the Department of State Fine Arts Committee.

It is my pleasure to congratulate Mrs. Powell on this prestigious award. I wish her the best in all of her future endeavors.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,831,193,383,690.69.

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

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,224,623,668,922.50 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF JOSE MANUEL CASANOVA

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, recently, a greatly respected Cuban-American presidential appointee, community leader, and beloved husband and father, passed away. Jose Manuel Casanova, a true inspiration to all Americans, dedicated his life's work to serving our Nation.

A presidential appointee of Ronald Reagan, he served as the Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank. Through the Inter-American Development Bank Jose helped contribute to economic development in Latin America, promoting free market policies.

During his tenure at the Inter-American Development Bank, Jose was appointed by Secretary of the Treasury James A. Baker III to serve as U.S. Executive Director for the Inter-American Investment Corporation. There he worked to develop private enterprises in Latin America, providing expertise he gained through years of experience in banking and commerce.

Born in Cuba in 1930, Jose fled his homeland due to the despotic regime of Fidel Castro. Jose devoted his energies and talents to

providing a better life for his family and contributing to his adopted country that had given his family refuge from tyranny. Jose also dedicated his time to fundraising for important causes, including the United Way, the Cuban Refugee Fund, and Club de las Americas.

Although he was proud of his public and civic service, what meant the most to Jose was his dearly loved family.

Jose is survived by his wife of 50 years Alicia, seven children, seven grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and his sister. He was a dedicated husband and father and a wonderful role-model for his family.

Jose's father was a great source of inspiration for him as he also worked in public service.

Those who knew Jose know that we mourn the passing of a committed leader, loyal friend, and a true pioneer for the Cuban-American community. Jose's story is a uniquely American story.

IN HONOR OF DR. DOROTHY  
HEIGHT

**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of the life, and great works of Dr. Dorothy Height.

Widely recognized as one of the founding members of the Civil Rights movement, Dr. Height served as the president of the National Council of Negro Women for four decades, stepping down from the position in 1997. In her position with the Council, which connected nearly 4 million women worldwide, she tackled issues that affected women, including child care for working mothers, health and nutrition, education and adequate housing for families in need.

While I did not personally know Dr. Height, I have seen her good works embodied through the National Council of Negro Women Section in Co-op City, in the Bronx, New York.

Less than two weeks ago, I was visiting the National Council of Negro Women Co-op City Section to honor their work in the weekend mentoring of students between 2nd and 6th grades in the community.

Since 1972, the National Council of Negro Women Co-op City Section has provided after-school educational support for elementary school students. They have licensed teachers who work in small groups with children on strengthening their language and computational skills.

They meet on Saturday mornings, and the passion showed by the educators, administrators, students and parents is electric.

I have worked with several of the leaders of the Co-op City Section, including past presidents Maxine Sullivan and Joyce Howard, as well as the current President of the Co-op City Section of NCNW, Judith Roberson. These women embody the work of Dr. Dorothy Height every day in my community.

Dr. Dorothy Height's vision and her legacy are hard at work in Co-op City, New York—just as it is in the communities of many of my colleagues.

While her family and friends—as well as our country—mourn her passing today, we also

honor her for the contributions she made to our great nation.

Her legacy will live on for decades to come, and I hope her family and friends realize that her life's work will continue to benefit many more generations to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF BILL STANLEY

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart today to honor the life and legacy of Bill Stanley, an icon in eastern Connecticut, who passed away Sunday, April 18, 2010, at the age of 80.

Stanley was a graduate of Norwich Free Academy and attended the New York School of Modern Photography before joining the United States Marine Corps. He returned to civilian life and joined with his brother Jim to co-host the WICH morning radio program. Later he became a stockbroker and published author.

The impact that Bill Stanley had on Norwich, Connecticut and its residents was profound. He delighted readers with his newspaper columns titled, "Once Upon A Time" which related countless stories of local lore and history to generations of readers in our area. No one individual had a better grasp on the issues and shared history that defined our region than Bill Stanley. He was also one of the most dedicated public servants of his time. He served two terms in the Connecticut State Senate and ran, albeit unsuccessfully, for the Congressional seat I am honored to hold today. While his career as an elected politician may have ended early on, his service to his fellow man continued until the day he died. Bill was active in a number of causes, raising money and supporting William Backus Hospital, Norwich Free Academy, St. Jude's Common, the Norwich Diocese and his beloved Norwich Historical Society which he founded. As everyone in Norwich knows, there wasn't a single major event in recent memory in which Bill was not involved.

Along with his love of Norwich, it was his love of history that perhaps motivated Bill most of all. He would regale countless schoolchildren and adults alike with tales of Benedict Arnold and Samuel Huntington. Stanley even gained national attention with his efforts to preserve the legacy of Huntington, who served as President of the Continental Congress. While Stanley may have been ultimately unsuccessful in the effort to establish Huntington as our Nation's first President, he was able to raise more than a \$100,000 and public awareness about the importance of Huntington's role in American history.

Bill Stanley was an institution in the State of Connecticut and his memory will live on in the hearts and minds of the people he touched. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his beloved wife Margaret, his children William, Carol, and Mary, as well as his grandchildren. Madam Speaker, I ask that all Members of the House join me in honoring the life and legacy of Bill Stanley.

HONORING THE HANNA BOYS  
CENTER

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Hanna Boys Center, who has been providing a home and education to students in Northern California for 60 years.

The school began as an experimental program for neglected and troubled boys in 1944 in Menlo Park, south of San Francisco. The 25 original students were referred to the new school by social service agencies and parish priests. The demand quickly outweighed the physical resources of the small school and after a very successful speaking tour, enough funds were raised to purchase 157 acres in the Sonoma Valley, the school's home today.

By 1949, classrooms, an administration building, a chapel, gymnasium, swimming pool and one residence hall had been completed. The first students entered the Sonoma Valley campus by the end of that year. Today 109 boys ages 13 to 18 call the campus home.

Although Hanna students come to the school from throughout the country, many are from my Congressional district. Many are from troubled homes.

There is a fully accredited high school on campus and all students can participate in woodshop, choir, soccer, baseball, track and basketball. Football is provided at nearby Sonoma Valley High School.

Thirty-four Hanna graduates are currently serving in the military. Graduates include very successful businessmen and civic leaders or simply men who live quiet lives of contribution and contentment.

Only three directors have piloted the school in its 60 year history, founder Monsignor O'Connor for 23 years, Father James Pulskamp for 12 years and Father John Crews for the past 25 years, a testament itself to the loyalty the school inspires.

Madam Speaker, Hanna Boys Center changes lives. It has been a stabilizing influence on hundreds of young men who have passed through its doors. It is therefore appropriate to honor the school for 60 years of dedicated service to our community.

U.S.-ISRAEL FRIENDSHIP IMPOR-  
TANT ON ISRAEL'S INDEPEND-  
ENCE DAY

**HON. JERRY MORAN**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, Today is Yom Ha'atzmaut—Israel's Independence Day. On this day, Israelis celebrate the establishment of the State of Israel as a place of refuge and national homeland for the Jewish people.

Although Jews have maintained a continuous presence in the Land of Israel for more than 3,000 years, it was not until 1948 that they reestablished a state in their traditional land. Since that time, Israel has faced many challenges to its existence. Neighboring Arab

nations have launched wars against Israel and attempted to cripple its economy through boycotts. Terrorists have attacked repeatedly, killing civilians and soldiers alike. Iranian leaders have threatened to “wipe Israel off the map” and are steadily moving toward acquiring the means to do so. Israel’s enemies are engaged in a campaign to delegitimize the Jewish state.

Even in the face of continual efforts to defeat and destroy Israel, the Jewish state has been successful in establishing more peaceful relations with its neighbors and making its people more secure. Israel has signed peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan. Its efforts to combat terrorism have resulted in a reduction in terrorist attacks—cutting that number in half since 2006. Israel also continues to seek peace with the Palestinians.

Despite overwhelming odds, Israel has not only survived, but it has flourished for the past 62 years. Israel has established a representative democracy with an independent judicial system and strong rule of law. Its citizens are free to worship and speak as they wish.

Israel has also established itself as a world leader in technological innovation. Despite more than half its land being desert, Israelis have “made the desert bloom,” growing food for consumption and export. Its universities are first-rate, producing new generations of artists, entrepreneurs, scientists and doctors. And, despite its size, Israel produces more start ups than many larger nations. In fact, there are more Israeli companies than European companies listed on the NASDAQ exchange.

Israel is also a nation that cares about the fate of others. Immediately after learning of the devastating earthquake in Haiti this January, Israel sent hundreds of its citizens to treat the injured and search for survivors. The Israeli newspaper Haaretz reported after the earthquake that only an estimated 25 Jews lived in Haiti. But, that didn’t stop Israel from committing manpower and money to do everything it could to save and preserve all life in Haiti.

Through struggles and achievements both, the United States has stood by Israel’s side. Our nations share many of the same values and are partners in an effort to build a better world.

There are those that argue, however, that the United States would be better off if we distanced ourselves from Israel, if we weakened our alliance. I am here to say that this would be the worst thing we could do. The United States and Israel are both stronger when we work together against common threats. Economic and cultural ties between our two nations enrich the lives of Americans and Israelis. Our friendship is important and must remain strong.

Today, on Israel’s Independence Day, I commend the people of Israel for their many remarkable achievements, congratulate them as they celebrate their 62nd anniversary of independence, and look forward to many more years of friendship and cooperation between our two nations.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT  
MICHAEL CARDENAZ

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a hero from my congressional district, Staff Sergeant Michael Cardenaz, United States Army. Today I ask that the House of Representatives honor and remember this incredible young man who died in service to our country.

SSG Cardenaz was born in Corona, California in 1980. He attended local schools in Corona and loved his hometown. He joined the Army after high school and had been previously deployed twice to both Kosovo and Iraq. On February 20, 2010, SSG Cardenaz had been serving nine months with the 2–12 Infantry, 4th BCT, 4th Infantry Division in Afghanistan when he was killed by a rocket propelled grenade (RPG) in Kunar. He was 29 years old.

SSG Cardenaz is remembered fondly by friends and family as an avid Dodger fan who loved fishing, listening to music, visiting new places and making people laugh. He was also an exemplary soldier and had been awarded the Soldier’s Medal which is awarded to an Army soldier of the United States who has distinguished himself by an act of heroism involving personal hazard and the voluntary risk of life under conditions not involving actual conflict with an enemy. A fellow service member wrote about an occurrence for which SSG Cardenaz received the Soldier’s Medal in Baqubah, Iraq which said:

Cardenaz and his platoon leader . . . risked their lives numerous times underwater trying to save a rolled over humvee with four trapped men inside. At times, both men ingested filthy canal water. They choked, gagged and vomited, only to go back under in attempts to get those men out. It was cold, they were in full kit, neither quit until the bodies were recovered. They were too late, but words can not begin to describe their sense of loyalty to their own. Every soldier should be lucky enough to be around men who never quit to bring them back.

In addition to the Soldier’s Medal, SSG Cardenaz also was awarded the Bronze Star and the Army Commendation with Valor. SSG Cardenaz is survived by his wife of seven years, Macarena; five children, Jason, Jasmine, Mariella, Mariliz and Marianna; parents, Miguel and Rosellen Cardenaz; three sisters, Priscilla, Sandra and Monica; brother, Steven; many aunts, uncles, and cousins; one niece and one nephew.

As we look at the incredibly rich military history of our country we realize that this history is comprised of men, just like SSG Cardenaz, who bravely fought for the ideals of freedom and democracy. Each story is unique and humbling for those of us who, far from the dangers they have faced, live our lives in relative comfort and ease. The day the Cardenaz family learned of their husband, father, son and brother’s death was probably the hardest day they have ever faced and our thoughts, prayers and deepest gratitude for SSG Cardenaz’s sacrifice goes out to them. There are no words that can relieve their pain and what words we can offer only begin to convey our deep respect and highest appreciation.

SSG Cardenaz’s family have all given a part of themselves in the loss of their loved one and I hope they know that the goodness he brought to this world and the sacrifice he has made will never be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING THE HOWARD COLLEGE MEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM 2010 DIVISION I NJCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

**HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I proudly congratulate the Howard College Men’s basketball team in Big Spring, Texas, for winning the NJCAA Division I Men’s National Championship in 2010.

Led by the Division I Coach of the Year, Mark Adams, the Hawks finished the 2009–2010 season bringing home a National Championship. The championship squad includes Lamont Austin, Moses Sundufu, Dante Menter, Prince Obasi, Shaad O’Garro, Josh Watkins, Jordan Kinneer, Carlos Emory, Virgil Cissoko, Stefan Tica, Joe Bright, Damion McGee, and the Division I Player of the Year, Jae Crowder.

The Howard College Hawks provided NJCAA basketball fans with a memorable comeback in the title game as the Hawks clawed back from a nine point deficit with five minutes to play, forcing an overtime battle against Three Rivers Community College. The Hawks then never trailed, hanging on for the 85–80 victory and the opportunity to be called the NJCAA 2010 National Champions.

I applaud the Hawks’ hard work and success. With great support from the community, the team proved itself as the best men’s basketball team in the NJCAA Division I. The Howard College Hawks continue to exemplify the principles of competitive spirit and success on and off the court. Congratulations, Hawks!

RECOGNIZING REP. JACK BROWN

**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rep. Jack Brown of St. Johns, an exemplary public servant and an Arizona icon who is retiring from the Arizona State Legislature after a distinguished career that has spanned four decades.

Rep. Brown was elected to his first stint in the Legislature in 1962, during the Kennedy Administration. A rancher and an Arizona native, Jack Brown has worked tirelessly as an advocate for rural interests. But his leadership and influence—particularly on issues of private property rights, education and parks funding—will be felt across the entire State for generations to come.

Rep. Brown is respected and admired by his colleagues and constituents for his calm manner, good humor, and common sense. Among the many notable examples: Rep. Brown, a lifelong Democrat, worked across party lines with the late Senator Jake Flake and Rep. Bill

Konopnicki, both Republicans, to obtain funding for Northland Pioneer College. The college now has a strong campus presence serving Apache and Navajo counties.

Rep. Brown has held numerous leadership roles in both the Arizona House and the Senate. Currently, he is the Assistant House Minority Leader and previously served eight years in the Senate, where he served as Minority Leader and Floor Leader.

Rep. Brown has been honored numerous times over the years including being named one of the "Modern Arizona Legislature's Shining Stars" by The Arizona Republic in 2008 for his ability to build coalitions and bridge partisan differences.

I take particular pride in honoring Rep. Brown's accomplishments because I had the privilege of working alongside him in the Arizona Senate for eight years. Please join me in congratulating Rep. Brown on his many achievements, on his upcoming retirement, and on the lasting legacy that he leaves the people of Arizona.

RECOGNIZING RECIPIENTS OF THE  
19TH ANNUAL BEST OF RESTON  
AWARDS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today, joined by my colleague, Congressman JAMES MORAN, to recognize the recipients of the 19th Annual Best of Reston Awards for Community Service. The Best of Reston Awards are presented to individuals, organizations and businesses that have put forth tremendous effort in their commitment to community service and improving the lives of others. Local businesses, organizations, and individuals are recognized at this event for their contributions enriching our community. The Best of Reston Awards are the result of collaboration between Reston Interfaith and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce.

Reston Interfaith is a volunteer organization dedicated to providing social services to vulnerable individuals in Reston, Herndon and the surrounding area. Their mission is to "promote self-sufficiency through direct support and advocacy for our neighbors in need of food, immediate shelter, affordable housing, quality child care, and other human services." Founded in 1970 with the goal of making housing affordable, Reston Interfaith has grown to serve 13,000 residents and has expanded its service areas to include programs in housing, child care, food services and nutrition, social services, and other critical areas.

Recipients of the 2010 Best of Reston Awards for Community Service are:

Individual Community Members: Imam Mohamed Magid and Rabbi Robert Nosanchuk, Holly Norris, and Emily Ward.

Civic/Community Organization: Reston Historic Trust.

Small Business Leaders: The Virginia Spine Institute and Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc.

Corporate Business Leaders: Reston Heights Hotels: The Sheraton Reston Hotel and The Westin Reston Heights.

Fairfax County 2009 First Responder Officers of the Year: Officer Eric R. Glueckert of the Fairfax County Police Department, and Ronald A. McNew and Craig S. Furneisen, Jr. of the Fairfax County Fire Department.

We congratulate the recipients of the 2010 Best of Reston Awards for Community Service as well as Reston Interfaith for its 40 years of work to better the lives of residents throughout the Reston area.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join Rep. MORAN and me in paying tribute to Reston Interfaith and its 2010 honorees for their demonstrated commitment to our community. I also would like to express my sincere gratitude to these individuals for contributing their time and energy to make our community a better place for us all.

WORLD MALARIA DAY 2010

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of World Malaria Day, which will be commemorated this year on April 25th.

Recently, there has been significant progress in the fight against malaria. The U.S. government provided 15.6 million artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs) to treat acute malarial illnesses in 2008 alone. As a result of increased efforts to provide life-saving treatment and prevention efforts, countries like Rwanda and Zambia have achieved great success. In fact, the prevalence of malaria fell by 53 percent in Zambia from 2006 to 2008.

But we cannot afford to stop the fight now. Malaria still causes 350–500 million infections, and kills nearly one million people throughout the world each year, most of whom are young African children.

Malaria also affects families, communities, and countries as a whole. It is estimated that Africa spends nearly 40 percent of all health expenditures on malaria and that the continent loses \$12 billion a year due to the disease; however, no loss is as great as the loss of a loved one. The cultural and socio-economic devastation are incomparable to the grief borne by families who must deal with this terrible disease.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing World Malaria Day and in raising awareness about this disease, so that together we can win the fight against malaria.

RECOGNIZING THE 62ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

**HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the 62-year history of the State of Israel.

Officially established as an independent nation on May 14, 1948, Israel has grown into a thriving society guided by the philosophy of in-

dividual freedom and remains a shining example of a stable democracy in a volatile region.

Israel's story is much like ours. It is a story of hope, perseverance and a desire for independence. Its people struggled to overcome thousands of years of hardship, and suffered the most horrendous of atrocities to create a proud and vibrant free society in an area of the world where, historically, freedom is all too elusive.

It is our shared belief and dedication to peace and liberty that has solidified our alliance with the most successful democracy in the Middle East. Our nation was the first to recognize the State of Israel, and for more than half a century, Israel and the United States have been strong partners, bound by common values and committed to ensuring freedom throughout the world.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to offer my ongoing support and friendship to the people of Israel, as they celebrate their independence. I am confident that Israel will continue to flourish and that together, our two nations will continue to be strong allies and partners in promoting peace and individual freedom.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the following Rollcall votes because I was attending to important matters in my Congressional District:

1. Rollcall Vote No. 199, Honoring the coal miners who perished in the Upper Big Branch Mine-South in Raleigh County, West Virginia, extending condolences to their families and recognizing the valiant efforts of emergency response workers at the mine disaster. If present, I would have voted "aye."

2. Rollcall Vote No. 200, To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce taxpayer burdens and enhance taxpayer protections, and for other purposes. If present, I would have voted "aye."

3. Rollcall Vote No. 201, To require an inventory of radio spectrum bands managed by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Federal Communications Commission. If present, I would have voted "aye."

4. Rollcall Vote No. 202, On Motion to Refer the Resolution. If present, I would have voted "aye."

5. Rollcall Vote No. 203, Expressing sympathy to the people of Poland in the aftermath of the tragic plane crash that killed the country's President, First Lady, and 94 others on April 10, 2010. If present, I would have voted "aye."

6. Rollcall Vote No. 204, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4715), Clean Estuaries Act of 2010 and waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules. If present, I would have voted "aye."

7. Rollcall Vote No. 205, Recognizing the Coast Guard Group Astoria's more than 60 years of service to the Pacific Northwest, and for other purposes. If present, I would have voted "aye."

8. Rollcall Vote No. 206, Raising a question of the privileges of the House. If present, I would have voted "aye."

9. Rollcall Vote No. 207, On Agreeing to the Shea-Porter of New Hampshire Amendment. If present, I would have voted "aye."

10. Rollcall Vote No. 208, On Motion to Re-commit with Instructions. If present, I would have voted "nay."

11. Rollcall Vote No. 209, On Passage of the Clean Estuaries Act of 2010. If present, I would have voted "aye."

12. Rollcall Vote No. 210, Congratulating the Duke University men's basketball team for winning the 2010 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball National Championship. If present, I would have voted "aye."

13. Rollcall Vote No. 211, On Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendment of Continuing Extensions Act. If present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING COLONEL DAVID F. EVERETT

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Colonel David F. Everett whose commitment to military and civilian service will be honored at the Jewish Board of Family and Community Services in New York on April 21, 2010.

Col. Everett's decorated military career includes Operation Desert Storm in 1991, where, as a Major, he volunteered for active duty and served in Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait. In 2005, as a Colonel, he volunteered for service in Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he was assigned to the Civilian Police Assistance Training Team. While in Iraq, Mr. Everett was the principal Coalition Forces advisor to the Director of International Affairs of Iraq's Ministry of Interior. In 2009, David again volunteered for service in Operation Enduring Freedom and was deployed to Afghanistan as a Senior Military Advisor to the Chief of Police of Kabul.

Col. Everett was twice awarded the Bronze Star for his service in Operations Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom as well as the Department of Defense Meritorious Service Medal for his service in Afghanistan. Col. Everett serves on the Service Academy Review Board for my congressional office where he works with young people in the 18th congressional district of New York who apply for nominations to the U.S. service academies. He has helped enrich the lives of countless youth seeking the opportunity to serve their country and become active citizens.

In 1981, Col. Everett became a Big Brother with the Jewish Board of Family and Community Services, dedicating his time to mentoring youth. Now, Col. Everett is Vice President of the Board and has been a trustee for nearly 20 years.

I urge you to join me in honoring this man who truly embodies the kind of service that makes our country great.

HONORING DELFINO LOZANO III

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Delfino Lozano III. Mr. Lozano passed away recently, but will be remembered and honored for his kindness and contributions to the people of South Texas.

Mr. Lozano was born in 1939 in Laredo, Texas, and spent the majority of his life in South Texas. He graduated from St. Joseph's Academy in 1958 and went on to St. Mary's University in San Antonio. Later, he joined the Air Force Reserves. During his time in the Air Force, he was on active duty during the Pueblo crisis for more than a year. Aside from serving his country, he co-founded Med-Loz Lease Service Inc., which is based in Zapata, Texas. He held an active role in the operations of the business, which placed as one of the Nation's top 500 Hispanic-owned businesses in the "Hispanic Business" publication. Prior to his co-founding, he worked at the Texas Employment Commission and was also an avid rancher.

While spending time with family and friends, Mr. Lozano was also deeply committed to community volunteer work. His service included the Zapata County Fair Association as past president and director, as well as the Zapata County Little League Organization as president. In 1989, the Lozano family was honored as Grand Marshals of Zapata County Fair Parade. Mr. Lozano's kindness and generosity touched many people in the form of scholarships, financial assistance for home acquisitions, and financial assistance for medical problems.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize the contributions of Mr. Delfino Lozano III. I thank you for this time.

IN RECOGNITION OF HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize two milestones for Hot Springs National Park located in my home state of Arkansas. This day not only marks the 178th anniversary of Hot Springs Reservation—which later became Hot Springs National Park—but it also marks the release date of the Hot Springs National Park quarter, the first installment of the U.S. Mint's America the Beautiful Quarters program.

On April 20, 1832, Hot Springs Reservation was the first piece of federal land set aside for preservation primarily because of the area's natural hot springs, which people have used for more than two hundred years for recreation and for their therapeutic qualities. The Reservation—eventually becoming known as "The American Spa"—became Hot Springs National Park in 1921.

Because of its important place in American history, the U.S. Mint also released the Hot Springs National Quarter today as the first of

56 quarters in the America the Beautiful Quarters program, which Congress established in 2008. The U.S. Mint will subsequently release five new coins per year and one in 2021 honoring the rest of our Nation's many national parks, forests and wildlife refuges in the order they were first preserved by the federal government.

It is also fitting that we reach these two milestones during National Park Week, a time to celebrate and recognize national and state parks, national monuments, and historic sites in the United States.

I stand today proud to represent Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas. This truly is a great honor and will draw much-deserved recognition and unprecedented attention to one of our nation's most beautiful and unique national parks. God has blessed Arkansas with many natural wonders and Hot Springs National Park is just the beginning. I invite all Americans and their families to come to Arkansas and see what makes these hot springs and our state so special.

HONORING DONNA BEDNARSKI

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Donna Bednarski of Canton, Michigan at the culmination of her term as President of the American Nephrology Nurses' Association.

Throughout her career, Donna has served our community through her work as a nurse practitioner and clinical nurse specialist at Harper University Hospital in Detroit. She is well respected in the health care profession and has been published in Nursing 2008 Critical Care, the Journal of Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing, and OstomyWound Management.

For the past 20 years, Donna has been an active member of the American Nephrology Nurses' Association and has served in various leadership roles. Notably, since May 2009, she has served as President and worked to implement initiatives which will improve care for patients dependent on dialysis and other kidney replacement treatments.

Madam Speaker, Donna Bednarski is a committed advocate for nephrology patients in Michigan and across the country. As she concludes her term as President of the American Nephrology Nurses' Association, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her dedication and recognizing her years of devoted service to our community and our country.

HONORING THE CITY OF KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride I rise today in honor of the City of Kalamazoo, Michigan on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

First settled in 1829 upon the Kalamazoo River, the city's namesake, the city was incorporated in 1885, midway between Detroit and Chicago.

Over the past 125 years, Kalamazoo has made a name for itself as a pioneer in the health sciences, industry, and higher education. The city is the birthplace of many classic American icons, such as Gibson Guitars, Shakespeare fishing rods, and Checker taxi cabs. As a leader in the medical field, Kalamazoo is also home to the Upjohn Company, the longtime pharmaceutical manufacturer, and Stryker Corporation, a global leader in the development of medical implants, equipment, and technologies. While many changes have come to the region over the years, hard work and innovation remain hallmarks of the local economy.

More recently, Kalamazoo attracted national recognition for the groundbreaking "Kalamazoo Promise," a pledge made by a group of anonymous area donors to pay the tuition for graduates of Kalamazoo's public schools to attend any of the state's public colleges or universities. This philanthropic model has since been adopted in states across the country with great success.

Kalamazoo is home to Western Michigan University, the fourth largest higher education institution in our state as well as Kalamazoo College, one of the nation's oldest and most respected higher education institutions dedicated to the liberal arts. Kalamazoo Valley Community College has distinguished itself as a national leader in the development of alternative energy and other important technologies.

Over the years, Kalamazoo has also earned a reputation as a community passionately dedicated to the arts, a reflection of its cultural diversity and exceptional level of community engagement. Kalamazoo has also produced and attracted its share of national celebrities, including New York Yankees' Derek Jeter, Green Bay Packers' Greg Jennings, Seattle Seahawks' T.J. Duckett, and American Idol favorite Matt Giraud.

Despite the great economic challenges faced by our state, the people of Kalamazoo have continued to work together, as they always have, for the benefit of their entire community. This has been the secret to the city's long success and an example for other communities to replicate.

Again, it is my honor to stand today in recognition of the City of Kalamazoo for its rich 125 year history. Here is to the next 125 years.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY  
BUXTON WARD

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mary Buxton Ward, a woman of valor and commitment who died on Tuesday, March 2nd in Princeton, New Jersey. She is mourned by her daughters, Shelley Rhodes and Heather Ward, her two grandsons, Justin and Shane Rhodes, and all who knew her and admired her life of service.

After serving with the State Department in Libya, Panama and Hong Kong, Mary returned

to the United States and eventually settled in Princeton in the 1960's. For 16 years she served as the Executive Director of the Princeton Art Association, before leaving to work with the Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament as Secretary and Assistant Director for six years. She retired in 2004 from the University Medical Center at Princeton after 20 years of service in various capacities.

But it was for her role as a volunteer and activist that Mary Ward deserves to be remembered. Never one to sit back and watch, Mary made her presence and her ideals felt. She was arrested several times for demonstrating in support of civil rights, withdrawal from Vietnam, and nuclear disarmament. Her protest against nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site in 1986 resulted in a 5-day jail sentence. She was never afraid to fight for what she believed was right.

Mary Ward was a life-long advocate for justice. During her years in Princeton, she served on the boards of Nuclear Dialogue, Coalition for Peace Action, Federated Art Associations of New Jersey, Teamwork Dance, and as a volunteer member of the court-appointed Child Placement Review Board of Mercer County. She also volunteered with Centurion Ministries, an advocacy group for those unjustly imprisoned.

Mary Ward was not a famous woman, but she was the kind of principled, committed citizen that makes America stronger. The world is a better place because of her.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF BERTEL  
WACHTER HERZ

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Bertel Wachter Herz, an extraordinary woman who overcame war and the death of loved ones to become a successful entrepreneur in Memphis, Tennessee. She was born to Pepi and Bernhard Wachter on January 4, 1907 in Stolberg, Germany.

Bertel Wachter Herz was the eldest of seven children, and the first to emigrate to the United States. Mrs. Herz first arrived in New York in April of 1939, and subsequently moved to Memphis with her husband, Arthur Sauerbrunn, at the request of Arthur's cousin, Phillip Belz. After settling in Memphis, Bertel worked to bring four of her siblings to the United States, providing refuge from the destruction of World War II and, thus, preventing the tragic fate that had already taken her parents and eldest brother.

Mrs. Herz, being accustomed to the working realm, found life for women in 1940's America unsatisfying. Realizing she had a natural talent for retail, Bertel opened a shop on Union Avenue called Trousseau, a shop that still continues to provide sophisticated, European-style lingerie and linens. Her elegant pieces appealed to many brides, mothers and families, which furthered Bertel's reputation for her exquisite taste and distinguished vision. Devoted employees and loyal customers alike always had nothing but the best to say about Mrs. Herz, who worked tirelessly until her retirement at age 95.

Bertel Herz was known as a woman who lived by a code of integrity, loyalty and love for

her family. Her persistence and indomitable spirit served as an inspiration to her daughter and granddaughters to be strong, independent, assertive women. Even today, the third generation of women in her family continues to manage Trousseau, which will be celebrating its 61st anniversary this year.

On March 14, 2010, Mrs. Herz passed away at 103 years of age. She is survived by her daughter, Eden, two granddaughters, Amy Friedman and Pasha Izenberg, and her sister, Regina Farber. Mrs. Herz will be remembered by her fellow Memphians for her hard work, dedication and service to Memphis.

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RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS AND THEIR 18TH ANNUAL "STAMP OUT HUNGER" FOOD DRIVE

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lone Star Branch No. 132 of the National Association of Letter Carriers as they prepare for their 18th annual "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive.

During the "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive, letter carriers collect nonperishable food donations along their routes for the North Texas Food Bank and food pantries. Last year they collected more than 73 million pounds of food in one day, and by so doing, they helped to feed some of the neediest people in North Texas. Their hard work is greatly appreciated, and I extend my sincere thanks for their efforts.

Often considered America's "hidden" epidemic, hunger is a problem that affects numerous individuals across the country. In 2008, roughly 49 million Americans were food insecure, meaning that they were unsure as to whether or not they would have access to food. Additionally, it is important to note that African-American and Hispanic households experience food insecurity at a much higher rate than the national average. For this reason, events like the "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive are incredibly important in helping end this tragic problem.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my fellow colleagues to join me today in recognizing the efforts of Lone Star Branch No. 132 of the National Association of Letter Carriers for their efforts in helping to end hunger in North Texas and across the country.

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A TRIBUTE TO LANCE CORPORAL  
TYLER OWEN GRIFFIN

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, today I rise in tribute to an American patriot and fallen Connecticut son. A native of Voluntown, Lance Corporal Tyler Owen Griffin was killed on April 1, 2010 while supporting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He was 19 years old.

Tyler attended Griswold High School where he played on the football team. Shortly after graduating with the Class of 2008, he achieved what he considered his lifelong goal of becoming a Marine, joining the Marine Corps the following August. After completing boot camp, Tyler was assigned as a rifleman to 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 7, Marine Expeditionary Brigade—Afghanistan. In March 2010 he deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

To appreciate the impact that Tyler had on his community, one only had to point to his funeral service in Voluntown. Flags and banners of support lined the streets as thousands gathered to pay their final respects. All who knew him spoke both of his pride in fulfilling his dream of becoming a Marine and of his respect and compassion for others. Clearly, Tyler was a young man of exceptional character who touched many lives.

I had the honor of meeting Tyler's mother Susan and stepfather John last Tuesday and was moved by the courage they showed in the face of their tragic loss. His mother emphasized to me that he died doing what he always wanted to do, and that they were able to gain some degree of comfort from that fact. It is clear to see how such a fine family could raise such an honorable son.

In a manner befitting a true American hero, Tyler was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery yesterday in a moving ceremony attended by his family, his friends and his fellow Marines. My wife, Audrey, was honored to attend and join in honoring this young man. There, he has taken his place alongside so many others who paid the ultimate price for the freedom and security we enjoy as United States citizens. Tyler was a remarkable young man, eager to accept the noble task of protecting his Nation on its frontlines, wherever they may be. While his smile may no longer brighten the lives of those around him, the memory of his life shall always endure.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Lance Corporal Tyler Griffin and his service to our great Nation. Tyler and his sacrifice will forever be remembered by me, a mourning Connecticut, a grateful Nation, and family members who will never forget him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, a personal matter prevented my presence in the House this past Thursday, April 15, 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" during Rollcall vote 211 on final passage of the Continuing Extension Act of 2010 (H.R. 4851).

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF COLUMBIA PIKE

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I am on the floor today to acknowledge the

200th anniversary of the creation of Columbia Pike and commend the Columbia Pike community for its achievements as a vibrant and visionary community.

"The Pike," as it is known more commonly to the citizens of Arlington, dates back to April 20, 1810, when Congress chartered a company to begin construction on the toll road. This legislation, which was signed into law by President James Madison, allowed the incorporation of a company for making certain turnpike roads in the District of Columbia.

Columbia Pike began as a privately owned toll road providing westward access from Long Bridge, situated near the current 14th Street Bridge, into Northern Virginia. The road was not paved, however, until 1928.

Columbia Pike has seen significant change in its two centuries of existence. In fact, the road became essential for military purposes during the Civil War. Several forts were built in Arlington to protect the federal city from attacks, and the Pike served as a means of transportation between the forts and district. It is likely that President Lincoln travelled on the Pike to Bailey's Crossroads in 1861 to attend the historic review of federal troops. I feel the road has had great historical significance not only for transportation, but also for communication and housing. The first cross-Atlantic radio broadcast was sent in 1915 from towers in the Penrose neighborhood, in the eastern Columbia Pike community, to the Eiffel Tower in France. In addition, during periods of rapid growth, such as the New Deal era and after World War II, the Pike became home to thousands of Federal employees. To accommodate the influx, garden and low-rise apartment buildings were constructed along Columbia Pike.

Today, the road continues to be of great importance and several organizations, including the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, have dedicated themselves to improving and revitalizing the Pike area. Currently, Arlington County is working to establish a new transit system along Columbia Pike to improve the area surrounding the Pike through advancing redevelopment and increasing and improving local land use.

Columbia Pike has a long and rich history. I wish Columbia Pike and its residents a heartfelt 200th anniversary.

THANKING DONNA OLIVER FOR HER SERVICE TO THE CLINTON REGION

**HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise to thank Donna Oliver for her service as CEO of Mercy Medical Center in Clinton, Iowa. Donna has led Mercy for the past 5 years. She is a passionate advocate for her community and her contributions to the Clinton region will be appreciated for years to come.

During Donna's tenure, the Mercy team has fulfilled its mission to assure excellent, cost effective health care services accessible to all persons. Donna has strengthened partnerships with other health care providers and schools training future caregivers. She has made the health and wellness of her cowork-

ers and the broader community a top priority. And despite unprecedented economic hardships, Donna has maintained Mercy's support for programs that enhance the cultural and economic vitality of the Clinton community.

Donna has been a principled and effective advocate for health care reform, especially during the recent months of debate. She has consistently spoken publicly about the urgent need for Medicare reimbursement reform so physicians and hospitals in places like Clinton can meet the health and wellness needs of their community.

Madam Speaker, please allow me in thanking Donna Oliver and her team at Mercy Medical Center.

HONORING WALTER "MISSISSIPPI SLIM" HORN BLUES LEGEND

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the life of Walter "Mississippi Slim" Horn, a Mississippi Blues legend.

Known for his trademark bright colorful hair and extravagant costumes, in addition to his popular performances and contributions to the blues genre, bluesman Walter "Mississippi Slim" Horn was born in Shelby, Mississippi, August 13, 1943 and grew up in Greenville, Mississippi.

Mississippi Slim, worked on a plantation during the day and sang the blues at night in local juke joints. Eventually, he decided to pursue performing full time and left the Mississippi Delta and joined other blues musicians for the "big city lights" of Chicago, Illinois. In 1974, "Mississippi Slim", also known as the "8th Wonder of the World," recorded *Crying In The Arms of Another Love* on Sunflower label.

Having traveled all over the United States, Mississippi Slim returned home in 1994, to be with his ailing mother. Upon his return, he teamed up with musical forces John Horton, Ricky Taliadro, Albert Folks and Kenny Morris and continued to perform in and around the Mississippi Delta. "Mississippi Slim" performed at southern festivals and played on the Mississippi Blues and Heritage festival. A main attraction, he partnered with festival organizers to participate in the Arts In Education: "Blues in Schools" project to promote and enhance learning about the culture of the blues.

After releasing a few singles throughout the 1970s, Mississippi Slim recorded a CD, *Miracles* in 1998, *You Cant Loose the Blues* in 2008 and recently recorded *Cotton Candy Love*.

Although we mourn the loss of a prominent Mississippi blues figure, his legacy will live on through his music and legendary performances."

Please join me in saluting the life and legacy of Mississippi bluesman, Walter "Mississippi Slim" Horn.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.  
CHARLIE VERGOS

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Charlie Vergos, founder of the world-famous Rendezvous restaurant in downtown Memphis, Tennessee. He was known by Memphians as the dean of Memphis barbecuers. The son of Greek immigrants, Charlie Vergos was a World War II Army veteran who fought in the European theater. He was later transferred to the Philippines in preparation for the planned invasion of Japan when the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki ended the war.

Charlie Vergos was the definition of an entrepreneur. After returning from war, Mr. Vergos married Tasia and opened a tavern and sandwich shop in a downtown alley of Memphis in 1948. Mr. Vergos started out by selling ham and cheese sandwiches and beer until he discovered a coal chute in the basement of his diner. The chute gave him a vent for grilling which allowed him to expand from ham and cheese sandwiches to ribs. He specialized in dry rubbed ribs, a unique blend of seasonings and an acidic base that dries in the cooking process leaving the ribs impregnated with seasoning. Charlie Vergos built his business from selling about a box of ribs a week to what the Rendezvous cooks now—about a ton of ribs every day.

Since Charlie Vergos founded Rendezvous in 1948, the barbecue restaurant has served guests such as former Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush and former Vice President Al Gore, along with entertainers such as Bill Cosby, Justin Timberlake, Kirk Catron, Eric Brown, Luke Laird, Travis Morris, Trevor McFarlin and Mick Jagger.

The Rendezvous was recently designated one of 50 All American Icons by Nation's Restaurant News magazine for its entrepreneurial spirit, its concept and its impact on the Memphis community. Rendezvous has catered events at the American Embassy in Ottawa Canada, meals on Air Force One and Air Force Two, President Bill Clinton's inaugural gala in 1992 and a Fourth of July celebration at the U.S. Embassy in Canberra, Australia.

Charleie Vergos loved Memphis and was a major force in the resurgence of downtown Memphis in the decades following the 1968 assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He not only refused to relocate to the suburbs, but was active in the community through donations and sponsorships that increased the beauty and viability of Memphis, TN. His son, once my classmate and still my close friend,

John Vergos, gave up his law practice and political career to join the family business. John explained that his father was always grateful to the citizens of Memphis who supported the business. The feeling is mutual and, around the world, Rendezvous Ribs are inextricably linked to the city of Memphis.

Charlie Vergos passed away on Saturday morning, March 27, 2010, at the age of 84. Charlie Vergos' legacy lives on through his wife, two sons and their wives, John and Ellen Vergos and Nick and Jenny Vergos, his daughter Tina Jennings—co-owners of Rendezvous—his brothers Pete, George and Nick Vergos, and eight grandchildren. We are truly honored for his dedication to Memphis, Tennessee and his contributions to Memphis barbecue.

HONORING JEAN TELEP

**HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Ms. Jean Telep, upon her receipt of the 2010 Suburban Republican Women's Tribute to Women Award.

A registered nurse employed by Providence Hospital Senior Wellness Center, Jean holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing, a Master of Science in Administration and a Business Certificate in dementia care, all from Madonna University.

Jean has been actively involved in promoting the conservative principles of the Republican Party in Michigan. She has supported and worked diligently on several campaigns of conservative candidates and as a poll worker during the November 2008 election.

More than 3 years ago, Jean became a member of the Suburban Republican Women's Club where she serves as Americanism Chairman. Actively recruiting for and reporting regularly to the general membership, Jean is a deserving recipient of the Suburban Republican Women's Club's highest honor, the 2010 Tribute to Women Award. Importantly, Jean is one of the founding members of Martha & Caty Tea Ladies, a group dedicated to providing a meeting place for conservative women to network while learning about the foundation of our country and empowering them to actively promote the conservative agenda to all levels of elected officials. Jean is also in the process of applying for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Madam Speaker, Jean's leadership and courage of convictions are an inspiration to her peers in the Suburban Republican Wom-

en's Club and our entire community. Thus, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Jean Telep for her selfless service to our community and our country.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AUXILIARY SERVICE FOR INOVA FAIRFAX HOSPITAL

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the members of the Auxiliary of Inova Fairfax Hospital, a group of volunteers dedicated to quality support to the hospital, patients and community, and commend them as they celebrate their 50th anniversary.

The Auxiliary of Inova Fairfax Hospital is the largest corps of volunteers serving the hospital. A small group of local women got together while the hospital was still in the planning stages, as a way for interested citizens to help make the hospital a reality. The first formal meeting of the Executive Board of the Auxiliary was in the fall of 1960, when the Auxiliary numbered fewer than 100 active members. Today, when you join the Auxiliary, you are joining an organization of about 1,200 volunteer members whose mission is to provide quality volunteer services, support and financial resources to the hospital, its patients and the community. The excellent health care services our community enjoys today are a result of their hard work.

In the organization's first year, volunteers logged more than 14,000 service hours. Since then, volunteers at Fairfax have contributed millions of hours of service to assist patients and allow hospital staff to focus on patient care.

Among the many successful results of the volunteers' fundraising efforts was a \$3 million contribution—the largest gift in the Inova Health System's history at that time—to help build the Inova Heart and Vascular Institute, a 156-bed state-of-the-art cardiac facility that opened in 2004. The volunteers also raised money to contribute \$1 million each to the Inova Fairfax Hospital Women's and Children's Center and the Physician's Conference Center.

Madam Speaker and my esteemed colleagues, I ask you to join me in congratulating the Auxiliary of Inova Fairfax Hospital on 50 years of extraordinary dedication for the betterment of Inova Fairfax Hospital and the greater Fairfax community.