

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING RUSSELL VOUGHT

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Russell Vought, currently the policy director for the House Republican Conference, who will leave the House after more than twelve years of service. Losing such a committed conservative and long-serving congressional staff member is a bittersweet moment for many House Republican Members, staff, and the conservative cause here on Capitol Hill.

It is written in the Good Book, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." Russell Vought embodies these words.

A native of Trumbull, Connecticut, Russell Thurlow Vought is the youngest of seven children and a die-hard Yankees fan. The son of an electrician and a schoolteacher, he graduated from Wheaton College in Illinois in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in history and political science. He came to Capitol Hill soon thereafter.

Mr. Vought began his career in public policy in the United States Senate. He first worked under retiring Senator Dan Coats of Indiana and soon moved to the staff of Senator Phil Gramm of Texas. During that time, he completed a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree at George Washington University Law School.

Mr. Vought later joined the staff of Representative JEB HENSARLING of Texas, where he was instrumental in helping craft the Family Budget Protection Act, a comprehensive piece of legislation to reform the federal budget process and limit government spending.

I became acquainted with Mr. Vought when I was privileged to serve as the chairman of the Republican Study Committee during the 109th Congress. He was the policy director and later served as the executive director of that conservative caucus.

After being elected Republican Conference Chairman last year, I asked Mr. Vought to join the Conference staff at the start of the 111th Congress. As Policy Director, he has superbly led the Conference policy team, which serves as the main hub of legislative information for Republican Members and their staff. His expertise in areas such as the federal budget, appropriations, entitlements and legislative procedure have been invaluable in promoting conservative solutions to the issues that face our nation.

As Members of Congress, we are constantly reminded of the important role played by reliable, like-minded staff members like Russell Vought. While we are sorry to lose one of the strongest advocates for the principles that guide us, Mr. Vought's infectious passion for the principles of life, liberty and limited government will long outlive his tenure here on Capitol Hill. On behalf of the House Republican

Conference, I wish him continued success as he begins a new chapter in his professional life.

TRIBUTE TO AMYRA FAISAL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amyra Faisal of Ames, Iowa on the occasion of being named the 2010 Iowa Shrine Bowl Queen.

Amyra enjoys makeup, animals, hula-hooping and figure skating. Despite being an active eight year old, Amyra has a degenerative bone condition called osteogenesis imperfecta, which results in brittle bones. She has been treated by the Shriners Hospital in Montreal, Canada since she was born. Amyra is able live an active life due to the donations of the Za-Ga-Zig Shrine in Altoona, Iowa. The Za-Ga-Zig Shrine pays for around 80 percent of the costs related to travelling and staying near the Montreal hospital. Since Amyra is a longtime Shriner patient, she was chosen to be the 2010 Iowa Shrine Bowl Queen. By being the Shrine Bowl queen, she will be participating in the parade and will be recognized at the football game. I have been informed that Amyra has already been practicing her parade wave and has picked out a white dress to wear.

I congratulate Amyra on being named the 2010 Iowa Shrine Bowl queen. I am honored to represent Amyra and her family in Congress and wish her the best in the future.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5822) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Chair, we have a moral obligation to fully fund our veteran programs. The liberties we enjoy today were earned through the bravery and sacrifice of patriotic Americans. Congress must ensure that these honorable men and women have access to benefits and top-notch healthcare. We can never turn our back on our veterans.

As such, I am pleased to support H.R. 5822, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Military Construction/Department of Veterans Affairs Ap-

propriations bill. This legislation continues the goal set by the Republican majority to prioritize veteran programs. H.R. 5822 provides \$56.8 billion in discretionary funding for the VA and \$64.0 billion for mandatory VA programs. The legislation also makes available \$37.1 billion to improve access to medical services for all veterans, \$2.4 billion above last year's level.

Among some of its most significant provisions, H.R. 5822 provides \$50.6 billion in advance appropriations for VA medical accounts to ensure stable and uninterrupted services. It also provides new family caregiver benefits for disabled veterans as well as additional VA workers to address the continuing claims backlogs and to process new educational benefits. To address the needs of rural veterans, the legislation provides \$250 million for innovative practices to improve access to care for veterans in rural areas. This is particularly important to many Kansas veterans.

In addition to supporting this legislation, I applaud the work of all the Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs) who contributed to the bill. From the Veterans of Foreign Wars to the American Legion, VSOs provide the appropriations committee invaluable information on the needs of the veteran community. They are tremendous advocates for all veterans.

H.R. 5822 is a good bill worthy of strong bipartisan support. I encourage my colleagues to join with me in voting for this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO GERALD WILLIAM BEARD

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Gerald William Beard, a small business pioneer who helped shape the history and economy of San Bernardino County, California.

In 1973, San Bernardino County wasn't much more than tumbleweeds, sleepy farm towns and seemingly endless, desolate highways that connected Los Angeles to the rest of the country. To the casual observer at the time, much of this vast track of arid land could be considered inhospitable and worthless.

But Mr. Beard saw something different when he arrived. He understood the economic potential San Bernardino County had to offer as the gateway to Southern California and the Pacific Ocean. He knew this inexpensive land—nestled along the snow covered caps of the San Bernardino Mountains—was a great opportunity for countless families to realize the American dream of homeownership.

So in 1973, Mr. Beard founded Gerald W. Beard Realty, Incorporated and with it pinned his own hopes and dreams on changing this forgotten, barren land into the economic powerhouse and success it is today.

Because of Mr. Beard's hard work and true American entrepreneurial spirit, thousands of

• 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.

homeowners and business owners have benefited. And this once mostly desert land has given way to a vibrant community and a place millions call home.

As Mr. Beard enters the sunset of his life with his loving wife, Cherrell, at his side and reflects on his enormous accomplishments, his legacy continues with his children, Bradley, Scott G., Scott C., Kimberly and Michael, and the countless people he has helped.

Madam Speaker, I ask that we all stand to recognize the service, passion and dedication of a great American—Gerald William Beard—and wish him many more years of health and happiness.

NATIONAL MANUFACTURING
STRATEGY ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4692, the National Manufacturing Strategy Act of 2010. I would like to thank Representative LIPINSKI for introducing this bill which put in place a plan to invigorate our nation's manufacturing sector.

It is no secret that our nation's manufacturers are struggling, and have been for a long time. In this globalized economy, it is now time to develop a strategy for the proper management of our manufacturing sector. Every day, manufacturing jobs move overseas. This outsourcing is hurting American families and shifting our economy from manufacturing to service. The plan developed through this legislation will improve our domestic manufacturing competitiveness in these new emerging markets so that we can keep our jobs at home. Moreover, there must be an established minimum domestic manufacturing capability in order to rapidly respond in times of national emergencies. This plan takes this important measure into account by further emphasizing the key role of continued domestic manufacturing to our national security.

Mr. Speaker, I also support the provisions of this bill that provide the necessary oversight for these improvements to be properly implemented. I think that the creation of a Manufacturing Strategy Board for the President is a tremendous idea. It enables a more focused body to narrow in on the needs and opportunities for the manufacturing sector and then report back to the President for action. This will enable budgeting requests to be in line with the recommendations and goals included in the strategy of this new board.

Overall, a unified, definitive plan is what the manufacturing sector needs in order to continue to grow and flourish. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

NO ENFORCEMENT MEANS LOWER
WAGES, HIGHER UNEMPLOYMENT

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, Arizona's pleadings in support of their immigra-

tion enforcement law include an important declaration by Harvard Economics Professor George Borjas.

In his analysis of interstate wage trends from 1960 through 2006, Borjas found: "that the presence of unauthorized aliens in the Arizona workforce reduced the earnings of low-skilled authorized workers in Arizona by 4.7 percent.

Borjas says, "The overall wage depression for all Arizona workers is approximately \$1.4 billion.

"The evidence further indicates that the presence of unauthorized aliens in the Arizona workforce reduced the employment rate of Arizona's low-skilled authorized workers by 1.6 percent . . ."

This reinforces what we already know: the Obama administration's failure to secure the border and enforce our immigration laws means citizens and legal immigrants face higher unemployment and lower wages.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID WILLIAMSON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Williamson of Ogden, Iowa and his work with Project AWARE (A Watershed Awareness River Expedition), which is a volunteer river clean-up project organized by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

David utilizes metals collected from local rivers to create sculptures and other artwork to promote Project AWARE. He travels to the Iowa State Fair every summer and creates a metal sculpture to help increase the awareness and the importance of cleaning and maintaining Iowa's rivers.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in commending David Williamson for his dedicated work with Project AWARE. I consider it an honor to represent David in Congress and I wish him continued success in supporting Project AWARE through his artwork.

IN RECOGNITION OF CELIA G.
KUPERSMITH

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Celia Kupersmith, who is resigning after 11 years of service as General Manager of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway, and Transportation District in Northern California.

A native Texan, Celia Kupersmith attended Southwest Texas State University where she earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geography and Planning, followed by a Master's Degree in Urban Planning at Texas A&M University. Prior to joining the Bridge District in 1999, Ms. Kupersmith served as Executive Director of the Regional Transportation Commission in Reno, Nevada.

As General Manager, Celia Kupersmith has led an organization that comprises the land-

mark Golden Gate Bridge and two public transit systems, including a network of almost 200 buses and five ferries serving the North Bay Area and San Francisco County. Under her direction, approximately 825 employees serve more than 50 million Bridge and transit customers, as well as six million tourists each year.

During her tenure, Ms. Kupersmith moved the Bridge District forward in many ways, including leading efforts to seismically retrofit the Bridge, now two-thirds complete; enhance overall security of the Bridge; transform Golden Gate Ferry services into an expeditious 30 minute crossing; lead the introduction of new technology including FasTrak and TransLink; and improve internal business operations and long-term financial stability.

Celia Kupersmith has also been active in various professional organizations including serving as Chair of the American Public Transportation Association and on various committees of the International Bridge, Tunnel, and Turnpike Association. She has been a member of the Mineta Transportation Institute's Board of Directors, the Transit Cooperative Research Project Selection Committee, and the National Transportation Institute's Advisory Board.

Ms. Kupersmith leaves the Bridge District to pursue a new career as Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Sound Transit in the Seattle, Washington area where she will oversee the construction and operation of commuter and light rail systems, as well as a regional commuter bus service.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor Celia Kupersmith for her extraordinary contributions to the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway, and Transportation District. I thank Ms. Kupersmith for her service and join her colleagues in wishing her continued success in her new career.

EMERGENCY BORDER SECURITY
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5875, but am disappointed the bill does not contain critical spending for the overwhelmed district courts along our Nation's Southwest border.

During the last several years, stepped up enforcement and prosecution efforts in Southwest border jurisdictions have resulted in a significant increase in the number of drug, immigration, and weapons cases being filed in courts along the border. Consequently, the current workload experienced by the five district courts along the Southwest border is staggering. When combined, border districts handled nearly 75 percent of criminal immigration cases in the Nation's 94 districts in fiscal year 2009 and almost 40 percent of all the Nation's federal criminal case filings.

Here's a brief snapshot of the district court in Arizona:

Last year in the Tucson division of the district court for Arizona, felony cases and defendants increased by more than 65 percent

from the previous year. Ninety percent of those cases were drug and immigration related. In addition, there were 300,000 apprehensions during the first six months of 2009, and 1.2 million pounds of marijuana were seized. Although the court facility is sized to handle no more than 120 detainees a day, at one point the Tucson court processed 323 detainees in a single day.

It is clear that the Judiciary's resources must continue to keep pace with these workload increases.

As written, the Border Security Emergency Supplemental provides a total of \$701 million for border security. Spending in the bill includes critical funding for border patrol agents, Department of Justice programs, Customs and Border Protection, among other items.

While this spending is needed to secure our border and protect our communities from the escalating drug-related violence, it must be coupled with adequate resources to the Judiciary in order to keep pace with the anticipated growth in workload. As it stands now, the district courts along the Southwest border are already overwhelmed and understaffed.

In June, the Judicial Conference of the United States wrote to the Office of Management and Budget Director, Peter Orszag, requesting \$40 million for the Judiciary. To ensure the federal government's stepped-up border security plan is full-circle, several of my colleagues and I have urged Congressional Appropriators to make these funds available to the Judiciary.

Unfortunately, the \$40 million requested for the Judiciary is not included in this emergency spending bill. Without these resources, a bottleneck in the judicial system will occur because the courts will lack the resources necessary to process the additional criminal cases brought by the Department of Justice.

As Congress continues to debate a comprehensive border security strategy, we must consider the Judiciary. It would be a shame to spend so much money on border security and then fail to provide the Judiciary the resources necessary to ensure justice is met along the border.

IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL MANUFACTURING STRATEGY ACT OF 2010 (H.R. 4692), THE CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY MANUFACTURING AND EXPORT ASSISTANCE ACT (H.R. 5156), THE END THE TRADE DEFICIT ACT (H.R. 1875), AND H. RES. 1558

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of today's manufacturing legislation and strongly endorse the "Make It In America" agenda it represents. Given the erosion of our manufacturing base in an increasingly global economy, a deliberate and comprehensive "Make It In America" strategy is long overdue.

In that regard, the National Manufacturing Strategy Act of 2010 (H.R. 4692) will kick start this effort by directing the President to establish a Manufacturing Strategy Task Force charged with thoroughly analyzing the nation's manufacturing sector and developing a com-

prehensive national manufacturing action plan by February 28, 2011—and every four years thereafter. Standardizing this process will help drive economic growth, increase employment and promote American exports.

As Co-Chair of the House Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus, I am especially pleased to support the Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing and Export Assistance Act (H.R. 5156). This legislation directs the Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration to develop a National Clean Energy Technology Export Strategy aimed at increasing exports in our clean energy sector while promoting policies that reduce production costs and encourage innovation in the clean energy sector here at home. We can and must be a world leader in the 21st century clean energy revolution.

Finally, I urge a "yes" vote on today's End The Trade Deficit Act (H.R. 1875), which will establish an Emergency Trade Deficit Commission to examine the causes and potential solutions for reducing our current trade imbalance. Since growing trade deficits both reflect and exacerbate the erosion of our manufacturing base, this initiative—along with Mr. CARDOZA's resolution encouraging America's fruit, vegetable and commodity producers to display the American flag on the labels of products grown in the United States—are an important part of the Make It In America agenda.

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN GEIS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kevin Geis of Ames, Iowa, who is currently in the process of riding his bike to Wyoming to raise money for charity.

Kevin usually rides his bicycle as an escape from work and to stay in shape but is now utilizing cycling as a philanthropic tool. Kevin has embarked on a 1,200 mile journey from Iowa to Wyoming to raise money for the Matthew 25 House located in Ames, Iowa. The Matthew 25 House is a faith-based halfway house for former prison inmates. Kevin began his adventure on July 23, 2010 and plans on arriving at his final destination of Wheatland, Wyoming on August 3, 2010.

I commend Kevin for putting forth a tremendous effort for the Matthew 25 House. Kevin should be admired for literally going a great distance for a cause he believes in and supports. Kevin is an inspiration to all for doing such a selfless act to help, not only the Matthew 25 House but also the community as a whole. I am honored to represent Kevin and his family in the United States Congress, and I wish him the best of luck in this ride and in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF EMILIO "MIM" DADDARIO

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Emilio "Mim" Daddario,

a Connecticut statesman and member of this body who passed away earlier this month, and to honor his exemplary career of service to our nation.

A graduate of Wesleyan University and the University of Connecticut School of Law, Mim enlisted in the Army during World War II and was sent to Italy as part of the Office of Strategic Services, a precursor to the CIA. For his courageous service in that theater, which included capturing Benito Mussolini's Chief of Staff in 1945, he was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, and the Italian Medaglia d'Argento.

After terms as mayor of Middletown, Connecticut, and as a judge on the Middletown Municipal Court, he once again heard the call of service overseas. During the Korean War, he defended our nation as a member of the National Guard in Korea and Japan.

In 1958, Mim Daddario was elected to Congress from the First District, and he served in these halls ably for six terms. As a member of the House Science Committee, he was a forceful advocate for enhancing our technological capacity and harnessing American innovation.

Mim chaired the subcommittees on science R&D and patents, and he helped to plan the Apollo missions that took our nation to the moon. After his congressional service and a gubernatorial run, Mim continued his commitment to promoting technology and innovation, as director of the Office of Technology Assessment and president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

As we mourn his loss today, we can take solace that Mim has rejoined Bernice, his wife of 66 years, who passed in 2007. And we know that his legacy of service lives on—in America's continued commitment to the scientific inquiry and space exploration that he held dear, and in the love and service of his sons Anthony, Stephen, and Richard, his sister Laura, and his seven grandchildren. I offer condolences to the Daddario family on their loss, as I thank them for Mim's lifelong commitment to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, on July 28th, 2010, I was absent for three Rollcall votes because I was attending a wake in New York. If I had been here, I would have voted: no on rollcall vote 480, no on rollcall vote 481, and yes on rollcall vote 482.

HONORING STEVE LAMANTIA

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Mr. Steve LaMantia, the award recipient for the 2010 Laredo Business Person of the Year. Mr. LaMantia is currently Vice-President and general manager of L&F Distributors in Laredo.

Mr. LaMantia has contributed to the community of south Texas as a savvy businessman and plays an active role in many nonprofit organizations to benefit students and education. He is recognized as the Laredo Business Person of the Year at the Distinguished Business Awards Ceremony hosted by the Laredo Chamber of Commerce. Annually, the Laredo Chamber of Commerce awards and commemorates an individual that upholds characteristics of strong work ethic, integrity, a substantiated history as an established business, growth in number of employees, and philanthropy. Mr. LaMantia's business and presence of community-orientated projects have impacted the development and growth of Laredo and south Texas.

Along with a profitable and successful business of L&F Distributors, he serves on several boards and civic organizations, such as Chairman of the Board of Laredo Medical Center, former President of the Washington's Birthday Celebration, Wholesale Beer Distributors of Texas, Mr. South Texas Selection Committee, Border Olympics, and Cola Blanca, to name a few. He has volunteered his time at Saint Augustine High School, Boys and Girls Club, and coached the Gateway Girls Softball organization.

His contributions to the area have impacted students and the education community greatly. In 1991, he formed a partnership with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, which raised over \$5 million and awarded over 2,600 scholarships to students in south Texas over an eleven-year period. In 2003, LaMantia also helped to establish a nonprofit organization, South Texas Academic Rising Scholars (STARS), which provides scholarships to students to attend the college of their choice. STARS has raised over \$9 million and have awarded scholarships to 4,100 students from south Texas. He has also been an extremely active member of the Laredo Chamber of Commerce Cola Blanca Big Buck Contest. Mr. LaMantia also dedicates his time with his wife of 27 years, Linda and his five daughters.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize Mr. Steve LaMantia, the 2010 Laredo Business Person of the Year. He has truly impacted the business community and dedicated his time for many nonprofit organizations in south Texas and Laredo.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ELMER
LEON DAGENAIS OF ESCANABA,
MICHIGAN

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and achievements of Elmer Leon Dagenais of Escanaba, Michigan. Elmer was beloved by his large family, countless friends and was an Escanaba legend. He was an entrepreneur, philanthropist and an active member of the community throughout his 93 years.

Born on January 30, 1917, just blocks from where his store Elmer's County Market currently stands, Elmer was the son of John and Alexina (Benoit) Dagenais. Elmer started working for his father as a young boy, running moonshine and working at the family gas sta-

tion in Brimley. When Elmer was 17 he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), leading to his involvement in a peace time army program with the goal of protecting the nation's natural resources. Elmer attributed his lifelong belief in hard work and respect for others to his time in the CCC.

After taking on several jobs outside the Upper Peninsula, including a year working for General Motors, Elmer returned to Escanaba and opened a grocery store. The store, still operating today, is now 100,000 square feet and is one of the largest stores in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

As a young boy Elmer attended St. Anne's School and later transferred to public school, dropping out at the seventh grade to help support his family. Last year, his family and Escanaba High School came together to present Elmer with an honorary high school diploma and, at age 92, he walked alongside his great-grandson as a graduating member of the class of 2009.

Elmer was a member of St. Anne and St. Thomas Catholic Church, the Elks, the Eagles, Knights of Columbus and the Lions Club. In addition to Elmer's County Market, Elmer's many successful business ventures included Elmer's Diner, Mel & Elmer's and Elmer's Restaurant. Over the years, Elmer was named Citizen of the Year by Escanaba Elks Lodge 354, received a Lifetime Achievement Award, the Good News Award and a Business of the Year award. From 1957 on, Elmer also purchased livestock at the U.P. State Fair from 4-H youth and sponsored local sports teams including baseball, bowling and hockey.

Elmer was not one for sitting idly by, whether at work or at home. He took special pride in keeping his lawn green and well maintained atop his John Deere tractor, was an avid bowler and a devoted Green Bay Packers Fan.

Elmer was a good friend of mine and my family and our prayers go out to his family. His spirit and enthusiasm were contagious and his commitment to his family and community was inspiring.

Madam Speaker, Elmer was a lifelong Yooper who knew the value of a hard day's work, the significance of a hand shake and the difference a smile and a helping hand can make in a person's life. A family man first and foremost, Elmer was a loving husband and proud father and grandfather, who devoted his life to improving the lives of those around him. Therefore Madam Speaker, I ask that you, and all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives, join me in honoring the life and accomplishments of Elmer Leon Dagenais.

TRIBUTE TO LYLE MARTIN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lyle Martin of Huxley, Iowa on the occasion of his retirement as the owner of Blumsters on Main in Huxley.

Lyle had been making handcrafted furniture as a hobby until he bought a building on Main Street in Huxley. Lyle bought the Blumster Flower Shop, and he decided to combine it with his furniture-making endeavor, which is

now a fixture in Huxley. Over the years, Blumsters on Main expanded and now sells a variety of items including children's books, women's jewelry, and Iowa wine. Lyle would like to see the store continue to operate after his retirement. He has enjoyed meeting and talking with his customers about the store and labels it a great experience.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in recognizing Lyle Martin's service to the town of Huxley, and I wish him much happiness and health during his retirement.

PROTECTING GUN OWNERS IN
BANKRUPTCY ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to Protecting Gun Owners in Bankruptcy Act of 2010.

This legislation, as it was drafted and brought to this floor, would exempt one firearm of any value or a combination of firearms not to exceed \$1,500 from creditors' claims during bankruptcy proceedings. That's right—this bill would allow an unlimited exemption for a single firearm. Despite claims from supporters that this bill is intended to protect firearms used primarily for personal, family, or household use, there is absolutely no reference to this requirement in the bill.

This means someone could claim an exemption for an antique firearm worth tens of thousands of dollars. In essence, Congress is incentivizing individuals to game the system by purchasing an expensive firearm prior to filing for bankruptcy. While I understand language will be added to correct this glaring loophole, this just goes to show why this bill should have been vetted first by the Judiciary Committee.

In addition, supporters of this bill claim that it is a Second Amendment issue and that it will allow individuals going through bankruptcy to continue to protect their households. While I sympathize with those facing bankruptcy, the Second Amendment protects the right to bear arms. It is not intended to protect an individual's property from legitimate claims during bankruptcy anymore than the First Amendment protects an author's novels or other works during those same proceedings.

Finally, this bill was introduced 5 days ago and has a total of 21 cosponsors. Yet, here it is on the suspension calendar—a process that is supposed to be reserved for non-controversial legislation, particularly when that legislation has evaded the normal Committee process. By contrast, the Gun Show Loophole Closing Act, a bill introduced 446 days ago and supported by 109 cosponsors, languishes in committee. Closing that loophole, which we know puts guns into the hands of criminals and the mentally ill, is something worthy of this Chamber's attention. Instead, we are spending floor time on this.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this flawed and unnecessary bill.

HONORING PATHFINDER VILLAGE

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today in honor of Pathfinder Village, an independent residential community located in my congressional district that has greatly enhanced the lives of individuals with Down syndrome.

On this date, 30 years ago, Pathfinder Village opened its doors, consisting of 7 houses and 1 school, with the purpose of providing a full and productive life for individuals with Down syndrome. This purpose was inspired by the dream and life's work of Pathfinder Village's founder, Marian Mullet.

From its humble beginnings on a 23-acre cornfield, Pathfinder Village has become a vibrant community of 19 buildings located on 187 acres. Today, Pathfinder Village serves as the home of 87 residents, who, because of Pathfinder Village, have the resources and opportunity to achieve their absolute potential and pursue their dreams.

Due to the hard work and dedication of its staff, Pathfinder Village has been tremendously successful in fulfilling the purpose and promise of its founding.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pathfinder Village and its staff for its 30 years of service to our community, and for inspiring countless numbers of individuals with Down syndrome by staying true to its motto ". . . that each life may find meaning."

HONORING LAURA ALLEN

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Laura Allen, a dedicated and invaluable member of my office for the past two years. While working in my office, Laura has proven herself to be a wonderful colleague and a thoughtful, dedicated staff member. I could not be more grateful for or appreciative of her hard work.

While in my office, Laura served as a primary liaison between my congressional office and the residents of the 3rd District of Colorado. She was responsible for effectively communicating my positions to my constituents, while conveying their opinions to myself and my staff. For almost two years, she has been the reliable, considerate and friendly "face" of my office, greeting visitors, managing interns, facilitating meetings and handling stressful situations with ease and poise.

Laura was also responsible for legislative work concerning drug policy, specifically methamphetamines. While handling this portfolio, she conducted legislative research, composed and introduced legislation, and participated in regular conference calls with a coalition of stakeholders. Her work was diligent and thoughtful.

In addition to her professional responsibilities, Laura was a pleasure to work with. Her positive attitude and sense of humor will serve her well into the future.

Laura Allen will always have a special place in my heart. My entire staff joins me in wishing her the best of luck as she begins her studies at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, and with all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO NICK LACINA

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nick Lacina of Marshalltown, Iowa, who will be serving as the honorary chair of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of Marshall County, Iowa, which will take place on Saturday, July 31 until Sunday, August 1, 2010.

Nick is currently undergoing three years of treatment for leukemia. Nick continues to pursue his dreams by studying to become a civil engineer at Iowa State University. It is expected that Nick will make a full recovery once the treatments are complete. He has shown great strength throughout the period of his treatment.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in recognizing Nick Lacina and all of the volunteers and supporters of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of Marshall County, Iowa. I consider it an honor to represent Nick in Congress and wish him a healthy recovery.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4899, the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2010. As long as our troops are in harm's way, it's important that they have the tools and resources they need to do their jobs safely and effectively. In the meantime, we need to be sure that we continue to have the right policy.

I am pleased that President Obama has been asking the right questions about what our exit strategy will be. While I supported the War Supplemental, I have a number of concerns with how this effort is proceeding. We know that our success depends on having a credible, responsible Afghan government. Unfortunately, Afghan President Hamid Karzai has not demonstrated that he is willing or able to seriously tackle corruption in his government.

Furthermore, nearly nine years after combat in Afghanistan first began we continue to see only limited progress in training Afghan security forces and developing the capability for Afghans to take full responsibility for the safety and security of their people.

Of course, even if we have our policy right, we still need full cooperation from Pakistan, particularly in preventing Afghanistan's western provinces from becoming a safe haven for al Qaeda and allowing the Taliban to operate with impunity.

We must, however, carefully consider the consequences of simply cutting and running, which would likely result in the Taliban taking over the country and providing a sanctuary to al Qaeda, which continues to threaten terrorist attacks on America and other countries.

I will work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to hold both the Afghanistan and Pakistan governments' feet to the fire and closely review the effectiveness of our efforts to stand up competent and capable Afghan security forces. I support the War Supplemental because we have to give our troops the resources they need to carry out their mission and because abandoning the Afghan people now would only strengthen those who seek to do us harm. It also endangers the many Afghans who have worked with coalition forces to help stabilize their country.

Throughout this difficult war, our troops have performed bravely and I am deeply honored by the sacrifices they and their families make. Wisconsin families have provided more than their fair share of troops to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Recently, the 32nd "Red Arrow" Brigade returned to Wisconsin after being deployed for one year in Iraq. I was privileged to take part in a ceremony to welcome them back and thank them for their exemplary service. Their experience shows that with appropriate training, our troops can adapt to any situation in order to achieve their mission. We must work to ensure that we can bring our troops back home in a responsible way that protects America's security.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, on July 28, 2010, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall votes 480, 481, and 482.

Had I been present, I would have voted yes on rollcall 480, yes on rollcall 481, and yes on rollcall 482.

RECOGNIZING THE BAY DEFENSE ALLIANCE

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. BOYD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of the Bay Defense Alliance of Bay County, Florida, whose members have selflessly dedicated both time and service on behalf of the citizens of North Florida in support of the United States Armed Forces. More specifically, the Bay Defense Alliance has been critical throughout the years in protecting the futures of both the Naval Support Activity—Panama City and Tyndall Air Force Base both located in the Congressional District that I represent.

The accomplishments of the Bay Defense Alliance can be seen in countless projects throughout our region. They have been responsible for having more than \$4.5 million in grants awarded to our local bases; they have

improved community awareness of defense and training issues; and they have facilitated direct interaction between members of the community and senior military service leaders. The accomplishments of the Bay Defense Alliance have helped ensure that the military facilities in North Florida remain a cornerstone of the local communities for many years to come. The most recent triumph has been the addition of a squadron of F-22s to Tyndall Air Force Base. Without their constant dedication, vigilance and support, the Air Force surely would not have looked so favorably on our region.

Madam Speaker, when anyone needs an example of true patriotism, they need look no further than to this organization of Floridians who achieved remarkable success while in humble service to their fellow citizens. On behalf of the Congress, I applaud the accomplishments of the Bay Defense Alliance and thank its members for their continued support for the United States Armed Forces and the citizens of North Florida.

RECOGNIZING MR. DENNY FLYNN'S
INDUCTION INTO THE PRORODEO
HALL OF FAME

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Denny Flynn, a rodeo legend from Charleston, Arkansas who was recently inducted into the ProRodeo Hall of Fame in Colorado Springs, Colorado, for lifetime achievement.

Flynn, a three-time National Finals Rodeo bull riding champion, began his professional career in 1974 after getting his start riding horses and bulls when he was a teenager.

He qualified for the National Finals Rodeo 10 times and set a record for most bull riding average titles won at the NFR.

Hall of Fame inductees are selected by a committee of former contestants, Professional Rodeo Cowboys association officials and rodeo experts. His induction is undoubtedly an added honor to his professional career.

I congratulate Mr. Flynn for his induction and wish him continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on July 28, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 476. Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 476: "yes"—Providing for consideration of H.R. 5822, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE SUPPLE-
MENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support, H.R. 5874. The purpose of H.R. 5874 is simple: it would allow the USPTO to access more of the fees that it will collect in FY2010.

This year, the United States Patent and Trademark Office, also known as the USPTO, is expected to collect more in user fees than they are permitted to retain. As everyone in the patent community is aware, I, with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, have worked to ensure that the USPTO has the resources it needs. Part of that equation is for the USPTO to retain the user fees that they collect from patent and trademark applicants.

While not perfect, H.R. 5874 significantly moves the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the right direction by enabling the USPTO to continue the progress they have made already in reducing the backlog and shortening pendency.

I would have liked to see the President requested buffer of \$150 million also included in this legislation because that is the only way to ensure that ALL user fees collected in FY2010 will be retained; however, H.R. 5874 is a big step forward and is undeniably better than the current situation.

I thank the Appropriators for working with us on this Presidential request and for honoring the spirit of the gentlemen's agreement.

I urge my colleagues to join IPO, AIPLA, ABA IP Section, ACT, the Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association, the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Treasury Employees Union, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, among others, and support this important legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KAGEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, due to an illness in my family I was not able to be present for votes on July 13th through July 15th.

Had I been present for rollcall 434 on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 4514 Colonel Charles Young Home Study Act.

Had I been present for rollcall 435 on motion to suspend the rules and pass as amended, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 4438 San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2010.

Had I been present for rollcall 436 on motion to suspend the rules and pass, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 4773 Fort Pulaski National Monument Lease Authorization Act.

Had I been present for rollcall 438 on agreeing to the resolution, I would have voted in favor of providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1722) to improve teleworking in executive agencies by developing a telework pro-

gram that allows employees to telework at least 20 percent of the hours worked in every 2 administrative workweeks, and for other purposes.

Had I been present for rollcall 439 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, I would have voted in favor of amending the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 to authorize funds to acquire hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services specific to the Arctic for safe navigation, delineating the United States extend continental shelf, and the monitoring and description of costal changes.

Had I been present for rollcall 441 on passage, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1722 Telework Improvements Act.

Had I been present for rollcall 442 on motion to suspend the rules and pass, I would have voted in favor of S. 1508 Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act.

Had I been present for rollcall 443 on agreeing to the resolution, I would have voted in favor of providing for consideration of H.R. 5114 Flood Insurance Reform Priorities Act.

Had I been present for rollcall 444 on agreeing to the amendment, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 5114 Murphy of New York Amendment No. 11.

Had I been present for rollcall 447 on passage, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1722 the Telework Improvements Act.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL OF
THE DEDICATION OF THE PIL-
GRIM MONUMENT IN PROVINCE-
TOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. BILL DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the centennial of the dedication of the Pilgrim Monument in Provincetown, Massachusetts.

One hundred years ago, on the fifth of August, 1910, United States President William H. Taft and Eben Draper, then-Governor of Massachusetts, joined scores of visitors as they congregated around the base of the 252-foot tower in celebration of the newly constructed memorial honoring the 102 brave passengers of the Mayflower and its historic journey.

It was there on the tip of Cape Cod in 1620, among harsh gusts of a November wind, that forty-one men drafted the first democratic covenant of the New World—the Mayflower Compact. It was their dreams of self-governance that instilled in us the strongest of our political and ethical morals; and it was their perseverance that would soon bring them to establish Plymouth Plantation.

Today, one hundred years later, the steady climb up a winding staircase will lead you to a panoramic vista with strained glimpses of a Boston sky-line far in the distance. Although the immediate view beneath High Pole Hill has been much altered in the century since, the fog rolling across Cape Cod bay, the tranquil waters momentarily broken by the distant breach of a humpback whale, and the sting of the salt breeze, are reminiscent of our Pilgrims' experiences of this wonderful new land.

Elevated on High Pole Hill, this granite tower is emblematic of much more than the sacrifices of the Mayflower passengers and the values they brought to the new land. The Monument is a memorial to the story of each American—for we are a unique country of immigrants, carrying with us our own passion for freedom, self determination and justice.

Since the first inception in 1892, the dramatic significance of the Cape Cod Pilgrim Memorial Association and the Monument they were dedicated to build was well-understood. President Theodore Roosevelt insisted on participating in the ceremonies associated with the laying the cornerstone of the Monument's foundation in an elaborate Masonic ceremony. The President sailed into Provincetown Harbor on his presidential yacht—named the Mayflower—and spoke of the significance of the First Landing to all Americans.

And now, nearly four hundred years after their cross-seas journey led them to the shores of Provincetown, we gather once again in celebration of the passengers of the Mayflower and the Monument constructed one century ago in their honor.

A TRIBUTE TO ANNETTE YOUNG

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Annette Young for her service to the Brooklyn community.

Annette Young received degree from the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University and earned her Bachelor's Degree at the College of New Rochelle.

She worked in business as an Executive Assistant to the Vice President of International Banking of JP Morgan Chase.

Annette is a long time member of the Democratic Party and has worked on numerous campaigns. She has received recognition from the Vanguard Political Club, Brooklyn CORE, and the Brooklyn Chapter of the National Organization for Women. Additionally, she was presented the Unity Music and Arts Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement as an actress by the Unity Democratic Club.

She has contributed countless hours of community service work throughout the borough of Brooklyn. She has been a leader in block associations for many years, and is involved in numerous local civic associations. Additionally, she currently enjoys working as a jewelry maker.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Annette Young.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R.—, THE “VOLUNTARY INCENTIVE AUCTIONS ACT OF 2010”

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today on the occasion of the introduction of

the “Voluntary Incentive Auctions Act of 2010.” This measure will give the Federal Communications Commission the authority to implement a crucial aspect of the National Broadband Plan. It will help ensure that new spectrum can be made available for commercial wireless services by permitting the Commission to conduct incentive-based spectrum auctions in which a spectrum holder voluntarily relinquishes its spectrum in return for a portion of the auction proceeds.

Wireless communications services are rapidly growing. Each year, millions of users graduate from basic cell phones to smart phones that employ a range of data services. Those services require far greater bandwidth than traditional cell phones. And the data services offered through smart phones are becoming ever more sophisticated, often employing full motion video.

The combination of greater smart phone use and far more elaborate applications is placing unprecedented demands on our limited wireless spectrum availability. To meet these growing demands, the National Broadband Plan calls for making 500 MHz of spectrum newly available for broadband use within the next 10 years.

That is a worthy goal, though attaining it may not be easy. The National Broadband Plan identifies some potential spectrum candidates, including spectrum in the Wireless Communications Service (WCS) band, the Advanced Wireless Services (AWS) bands and the Mobile Satellite Spectrum (MSS).

The National Broadband Plan also suggests that the Federal Communications Commission initiate a rulemaking to reallocate 120 MHz of spectrum currently in the hands of television stations from television broadcast to wireless broadband use. The Plan suggests that the Commission, among other things:

Update its rules on television service areas and distance separations to ensure the most efficient allocation of channels to broadcasters, including packing broadcast channels more tightly together.

Increase the efficiency of spectrum use in the television broadcast bands, including by setting a deadline for low-power stations to transition to digital and addressing poor VHF-reception issues.

Establish a licensing framework that would allow two or more stations to share a single 6 MHz broadcast channel.

Determine rules for auctioning broadcast spectrum reclaimed through repacking and voluntary channel sharing or channel surrender, including a way for stations to receive a share of the proceeds for spectrum they contribute to the auction.

The National Broadband Plan's recommendation concerning incentive-based auctions, with broadcasters sharing in the proceeds from the auction of spectrum they voluntarily return to the Federal Communications Commission, requires legislation. Today, my colleague CLIFF STEARNS, Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, and I are introducing the requisite legislative measure.

Our goal is to ensure that any incentive auctions the Federal Communications Commission conducts are truly voluntary. Only in instances in which television broadcasters or other spectrum holders willingly enter into agreements with the FCC for the surrender of their spectrum in return for a portion of the

auction revenues would the transaction be deemed to be voluntary. And “truly voluntary” means neither directly nor constructively involuntary. For example, an effort by the FCC to impose a spectrum fee that would make some licensees financially unable to keep their spectrum would make the spectrum surrender constructively involuntary and would be impermissible under the terms of our legislation.

The Voluntary Incentive Auctions Act takes the right approach to incentive-based spectrum auctions. The right approach is for the FCC to work with television broadcasters and other licensees to identify the spectrum they now hold that on a purely consensual basis could be repurposed for commercial wireless use. Licensees who surrender spectrum would receive compensation in exchange for a voluntary spectrum transfer. I do not support, nor would the Voluntary Incentive Auctions Act of 2010 permit, any action by the FCC requiring broadcast stations or others to give up spectrum involuntarily.

The right approach is the one specified in this legislation—enter into conversations with broadcasters and others about surrendering a portion of their spectrum on a voluntary basis, determine rules for incentive-based auctions that are truly voluntary and conduct the auctions in accordance with the agreement.

It is also important that the Commission treat broadcasters that are required to relocate due to repacking fairly. Broadcasters just over one year ago completed the highly successful transition to digital television. That transition freed up substantial amounts of spectrum in the 700 MHz band for commercial wireless use.

To complete the digital television transition successfully, many broadcasters made significant investments in new equipment, including antennas and other items that are tailored to their current channel assignments. Therefore, broadcasters that are required to relocate as part of a repacking plan deserve fair compensation for the costs of that relocation. It is also important that the Commission ensure that broadcasters that relocate due to repacking do not lose over-the-air viewers as a result of that move.

Madam Speaker, again, I am pleased to join with my colleague Mr. STEARNS in offering this important measure to make available more spectrum for innovative wireless broadband services while assuring fair treatment for existing spectrum holders that facilitate that process by voluntarily returning some or all of their spectrum.

A TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BURBANK

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th anniversary of the First United Methodist Church of Burbank, California.

In 1883, when Burbank was a rural area with a population of a few scattered families, the community needed a place for worship, so a Sunday School was organized in the Providencia School House. One year later, on September 14, 1884, a church, located at Empire Avenue and Lincoln Street, was dedicated. After four years of use, the church was

sold to a congregation member and a new church was erected in 1888, one year after the establishment of the City of Burbank. The church was established as the Providencia Church, and eventually merged with the First Methodist Episcopal Church, taking the latter's name. In 1919, construction began on a new church at Olive Avenue and Third Street, which was completed and dedicated in October of 1922.

After World War II, the church membership grew to 1,000 parishioners, signaling the need for a new church building. In 1944, a building fund campaign began and property was purchased on Glenoaks Boulevard. In 1949, another fundraising campaign was launched to construct a new church on the Glenoaks property, and one year later, construction began on the new church, which became known as the First Methodist Church of Burbank. On May 25, 1952, the first official services were held in the First Methodist Church of Burbank and Consecration Sunday was held on September 14 later that year. The full construction plan was realized in 1956 with the completion of the Education Building. In 1968, when the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church merged, and the entire denomination changed its name, First Methodist Church of Burbank became known as the First United Methodist Church of Burbank.

First United Methodist Church of Burbank offers a wide variety of programs and ministries to the Burbank community. The church hosts multiple Girl Scout troops, Boy Scout Troop #209, Cub Scout Pack #225, and offers opportunities for youth that include the Partners with the Parents Program and the Youth in Performing Arts Ministry. Other programs include the We Care Committee, which supports members of the congregation when they need assistance with meals, transportation and other services, as well as active chapters of the United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men organizations. In addition, members of the congregation volunteer on a regular basis at Burbank Temporary Aid Center and actively support our military by periodically sending care packages of personal items, telephone cards, books and other items to our troops overseas.

I consider it a great privilege to recognize First United Methodist Church of Burbank and I invite all Members to join me in congratulating the congregation for 125 years of service to the community.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
BRING JOBS BACK TO AMERICA
ACT

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I am introducing today the Bring Jobs Back to America Act, which would start the process of bringing real jobs back to America that have gone overseas during the last two decades.

My legislation will build on language I included earlier this year in the fiscal year 2011 Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations bill directing the Commerce Department to launch a job repatriation initiative to bring those jobs back home.

I believe that a strong manufacturing and technology development base is critical to job creation and the economic competitiveness of the United States.

Something has happened in our country. We're making fewer and fewer things. Today, everything seems to be labeled: "Made in China."

If you have ever taken the train from Washington, DC, to New York and looked out the window, you can see our empty factories. You pass through my old neighborhood in Philadelphia.

GE's switchgear factory used to be one block from my home. Now there's nothing there but an empty, littered field.

You pass through Trenton, New Jersey, and can see the famous bridge sign that reads: "Trenton Makes, the World Takes." Trenton doesn't make anything anymore.

Last year, General Electric CEO Jeffrey Immelt noted that in recent years in the United States, "Real engineering was traded for financial engineering." Immelt called on the U.S. to grow manufacturing jobs to comprise at least 20 percent of American jobs—nearly double the current level.

In this era of intense global competition, we must work aggressively to bring jobs that have gone overseas back home to the U.S. to immediately start growing the percentage of these jobs, as Immelt called for.

It's not enough to talk about creating jobs. We have to take immediate steps to create jobs.

I have been, and remain, a staunch supporter of free trade. Free trade has yielded benefits to the American people and our economy.

However, we have been far too slow in responding to our international economic competitors in this era of global markets and competition.

The irony is that as much as American firms have offshored manufacturing and development jobs, they remain reliant on America for support. And with American unemployment hovering around 10 percent, it's time for some of these American firms to come home.

When an American plant manager in Mexico is kidnapped, the firm doesn't call the Mexican Federal Police, they call the FBI.

When the Chinese steal an American firm's intellectual property, the firm calls the U.S. Commerce Department.

It's time to bring some of these jobs home because America can be competitive in this global economy and it's the right thing to do. My legislation will start this process.

Overall, I believe that my bill helps to refocus the United States to be more proactive and a smarter competitor in the global economy—both in the short term and long term.

Specifically, this bill requires the Secretary of Commerce to set targets for job repatriation and creates multi-agency "Repatriation Task Forces" to identify American companies manufacturing abroad and work with states to bring jobs back to the U.S.

The goal is to bring back real jobs from overseas to the United States—jobs that are already created and an American could immediately fill.

This bill would require the Commerce Department to survey all American firms with significant manufacturing facilities in foreign countries, allowing the Repatriation Task Forces to proactively identify all firms inter-

ested in working with state and local governments to facilitate a mutually beneficial repatriation of jobs.

The bill would also comprehensively align federal resources in support of repatriation efforts. It allows state and local governments to use a variety of federal funding—at no new cost—to support job repatriation initiatives by state and local governments.

For example, my bill aligns Economic Development Agency (EDA) and National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) grants to allow state and local governments to use this funding for repatriation.

It would also direct the Secretary of Commerce and the IRS to quickly study and report on the merits of a new federal tax incentive to encourage repatriation.

In addition to repatriating jobs today, we must redouble our efforts to foster emerging technologies to create our manufacturing base of tomorrow.

For too long, the U.S. has failed to strategically monitor emerging opportunities and threats in our competitive global economy. We are starting to see the ramifications of this failure in the rise of China as an economic power.

My bill would reconstitute President Reagan's "Project Socrates" as an independent "American Economic Security Commission" to identify and monitor emerging technologies and global economic threats.

Project Socrates was initiated during the Reagan Administration to address America's competitiveness challenge and determine the source of the nation's declining competitiveness and develop programs to address the source of the problem.

Our Commission—composed of 12 business leaders and economists appointed by the majority and minority leaders—will similarly take a comprehensive and unbiased look at all of our global economic competitors—both strengths and weaknesses—and help inform the Congress on how to bolster American economic security.

This will ensure that we have an independent mechanism to monitor new opportunities and threats to ensure that America can capitalize on revolutionary technologies and create new jobs in the U.S.

The bill also provides stronger protections for American intellectual property and helps to expedite the patent process for cutting-edge new technologies developed by universities.

The faster we can secure our innovations and move them to market, the more jobs we can create in this country.

We can no longer afford to ride the coattails of yesterday's innovations; we have to identify and support the emerging technologies of tomorrow that will create American jobs.

The Chinese, Indians and other international competitors are actively monitoring new technologies and trends to support their firms. To date, we have not.

Are Americans willing to continue to sit idly by and allow the Chinese to dominate new industries at our expense?

Norm Augustine, the former chairman and CEO of Lockheed Martin, best captured the situation we now find ourselves in when he said:

In the technology-driven economy in which we live, Americans have come to accept leadership as the natural and enduring state of affairs. But leadership is highly perishable. It must be constantly re-earned.

In the 16th century the citizens of Spain no doubt thought they would remain the world leader. In the 17th century it was France. In the 19th century, Great Britain. And in the 20th century it was the United States.

Unless we do things dramatically different, including strengthening our investments in research and education, the 21st century will belong to China and India.

Author Richard McGregor wrote in his new book, *The Party*, that the Chinese government, "still runs on Soviet hardware." It uses the full resources of the state to advance the interests of Chinese firms.

The Chinese are spying on us. They are launching millions of cyber attacks against American companies and the federal government every day.

The Chinese are funding the genocide in Darfur. They have Catholic bishops in jail, Protestant pastors in jail, and they have plundered Tibet.

If the U.S. is to be truly competitive in the global economy, we must be vigilant and proactive—in a manner that is consistent with our national interest and international treaties.

Madam Speaker, I urge swift passage of this legislation to help bring jobs back to the United States today and to lay the groundwork for tomorrow's manufacturing and technology base. We cannot afford to wait. Our international competitors aren't.

KEEPING A LONG-TERM FOCUS ON
THE OIL SPILL RESPONSE AND
RECOVERY

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, 101 days have passed, and the devastating impact of the BP Deepwater Horizon catastrophe continues to grow daily. As we continue to consider specific legislation in the House to address the problems we have identified that led to this unmitigated disaster, I rise today to express my concern over the environmental impact on the Gulf of Mexico and express my support for all the impacted residents, who deserve better from the federal government.

Our immediate focus is not only on ensuring that the flow of oil from the Deepwater Horizon spill continues to be stopped, but also on addressing the future environmental and economic effects of the spill. The House has already unanimously passed legislation to fund oil pollution research and we must continue to support the important work in this area being done throughout the United States. One of the centers for this research is in St. Petersburg, which I have the privilege to represent. The College of Marine Science at the University of South Florida has become an international center for the study of our nation's and our world's waters and of our coastal lands. Together with the Florida Institute of Oceanography, also in St. Petersburg, which is drawing together all the state of Florida's marine research expertise, and a variety of other local, state and federal organizations, our community has provided key information to our nation's decision makers about the movement of the oil, the impact it is having on our environment and the development of long-term strategies to clean it up. Even with all of this work

in St. Petersburg and throughout our state, the long-term effects of the oil spill itself, as well as those of the response and clean-up efforts, are still unclear and continued monitoring of the Gulf will ensure that we are prepared to quickly respond to the future consequences of this spill.

Further, we must draw on our knowledge and experience to ensure that this disaster is never repeated. In representing the Tampa Bay area, which has been at the center of some previous disasters, I have experience in responding to these crises. While serving as a Florida State Senator in 1970, the tanker *Delian Apollon* spilled more than 20,000 gallons of crude oil into Tampa Bay. In response, I introduced and the legislature quickly passed my landmark legislation to set in place emergency response plans for oil spills in the waterways surrounding Florida. The oil and shipping industry challenged my legislation, which was called our nation's toughest oil spill response law, all the way to the United States Supreme Court, where it was upheld in a unanimous decision.

When the oil industry proposed drilling off the Gulf coast of Florida, I offered an amendment to a 1983 supplemental appropriations bill to create the first buffer zone to protect Florida's west coast from offshore oil drilling. Because my amendment was carried on an appropriations bill, I had to negotiate with my colleagues to protect it year after year, sometimes fighting off challenges from my own party and leadership. We finally were able to negotiate more permanent protection against drilling in 2006 when we wrote into law a buffer zone that extends 234 miles off the coast of the Pinellas County beaches I represent.

In an effort to respond to the lessons learned from this year's disaster, I introduced the SAFEGUARDS Act earlier this month, which provides some commonsense solutions to prevent and respond to future disastrous oil spills. Drafted following a series of meetings and regular phone calls with the on-the-ground incident commanders, local research teams and community emergency response personnel, it is my hope that the solutions put forth in this measure will be included in the wider legislative response that we consider later this year to ensure that we impose rigorous safety standards on any off-shore platforms, while also establishing a fully thought out plan to respond to future disasters. We can and must do better. We cannot allow any more waivers of safety standards or response plans, and the SAFEGUARDS Act ensures that.

Our work on oil spill response legislation is just the beginning, and we have much more work to do in the coming weeks, months and years. The future environmental health and economic viability of the Gulf of Mexico depends on us, and we must do all we can to respond to the largest spill in United States history. We owe the American people and the entire Gulf Coast a comprehensive response that addresses both the causes and effects of this spill. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to work together to ensure the complete recovery of the Gulf of Mexico, while also addressing the systematic breakdowns which led to the BP Deepwater Horizon catastrophe.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION
HONORING AND SALUTING
AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS ON
ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of Americans for the Arts. As the leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in the United States, Americans for the Arts continues to be dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for participation and enjoyment of all forms of the arts.

Founded in 1960 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the original mission of Americans for the Arts was and continues to be to enhance support for the nonprofit arts. In 1965 Americans for the Arts played a key role in the establishment of the National Endowment for the Arts. A half century later Americans for the Arts continues to foster the arts at the local, state, and national level.

Under the remarkable stewardship of Robert Lynch for the last 25 years, Americans for the Arts has provided leadership and training to local public and nonprofit agencies through a national network of Arts and Business Councils, Business Committees for the Arts, local and state arts agencies, state arts advocacy organizations, and community-based cultural organizations across the country serving 5,000 local arts agencies and their communities.

Research by Americans for the Arts measured the economic impact of the arts, which showed that approximately 100,000 nonprofit cultural organizations generate \$166.2 billion in economic activity every year supporting 5.7 million jobs. In my congressional district alone, there are over 1,200 arts-related businesses employing nearly 16,000 people.

In addition to fostering arts jobs in our local communities, Americans for the Arts has worked to promote the importance of Arts Education in our public schools. Young people who regularly participate in arts programming are more likely to have better attendance records, be involved in their school government, excel in their academics, and develop the creative and innovative skills necessary to compete in the 21st century global workforce.

Through national events like Arts Advocacy Day, Americans for the Arts brings national attention to the importance of arts throughout our nation. The arts define our culture and instill unique character in the communities across our nation. Art transcends barriers of language, time, and generation, translating cultural differences, breathing life into history, and bridging experiences across cultures. They accomplish the seemingly impossible task of both revealing our differences across the globe, while managing to illuminate all that connects us.

I thank Americans for the Arts for their fine achievements over the past 50 years. I know that the next 50 will be filled with even more accomplishments, and that we will continue to enjoy the richness that the arts provide to each of our lives.

PROTECTING GUN OWNERS IN
BANKRUPTCY ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer clarification for my vote in favor of H.R. 5827, the Protecting Gun Owners in Bankruptcy Act of 2010.

I have tremendous respect for our nation's Constitution. In 12 other states around the country, including my own state of Wisconsin, there are already State protections for gun ownership during bankruptcy proceedings. When the Federal Government, and other States, already give basic protections for personal property like jewelry and musical instruments, I believe that it is fundamentally unfair to deny a second amendment protected item from being included in this list.

I do, however, want to be clear that I remain steadfast in my support for the ability of the Federal Government, States, and cities to regulate firearms. There have been too many times that we have seen preventable deaths from guns that end up in the wrong person's hands. Representing the City of Milwaukee, I know first hand how important it is to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and others that cause harm and undermine safety in our communities. Within the last few years, six police officers were shot in my district using guns that were traced back to a single store. How did this one store seemingly sell so many guns to straw buyers—people purchasing the guns not for themselves, but on behalf of other people who are prohibited from buying, like convicted domestic abusers, felons, and people with outstanding warrants? Had Federal gun laws been adequate to properly regulate stores like this, and others around the country, I sincerely believe that much of the gun violence could be prevented.

My record for reducing gun violence in our communities is clear. This year I have sent a letter to the director of the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms asking what resources they might need to more efficiently enforce Federal firearm legislation. I have also sent a letter requesting that the Attorney General revitalize and expand upon an existing "demand letter" program that can give the BATFE essential information on potential problem Federal Firearm Licensees. Current firearm regulation at the Federal level is simply inefficient and I will continue to work hard with my colleagues to make our streets a safer place.

HONORING BRIAN MORTON AS THE
RECIPIENT OF THIS YEAR'S ANGELS
IN ADOPTION AWARD FOR
OREGON'S SECOND CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker and colleagues, you may be familiar with the Angels in Adoption program that provides Members of Congress an opportunity to recognize individ-

uals, couples or organizations that have made and extraordinary contribution on behalf of children in need of adoption and foster care. This year I am proud to select Brian Morton as the recipient of this year's Angels in Adoption Award for Oregon's Second Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, the people of southern Oregon hold a deep appreciation for Brian Morton. As a well-known and respected news anchor at Medford's ABC television affiliate, KDRV, Brian has developed a special program dedicated to raising awareness about the community need to find adoptive and foster families.

During the monthly feature, "Wednesday's Child," Brian and KDRV produce personalized segments on children who are eligible for adoption. Normally, potential adoptive families have little more than one photo and a minimal amount of text description on children available for adoption. But in "Wednesday's Child," the children are featured in poignant everyday activities where their stories are shared in a sensitive and heartfelt manner.

Madam Speaker, the response to "Wednesday's Child" has been so overwhelmingly positive that potential families from all over the United States have sought to adopt the featured children. In some cases, relatives, who were previously unknown, were able to get in contact with the children.

Because of Brian's dedication, adoptive children throughout southern Oregon now have a better possibility of finding loving families and a brighter future. Yet Brian's dedication to the cause of adoptive children does not wane when the cameras are turned off. With his wife, Laurie, they have remained involved in the community at large. Brian has served on the board of directors at CASA, the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Jackson County.

The work of Brian, Laurie, and Angels in Adoption helps raise public awareness about the need for adoptive and foster families. Every child deserves an opportunity to have a loving and supportive family, and Brian and Laurie are making sure that occurs one family at a time. For that, Madam Speaker, they deserve our deep appreciation.

It is an honor to have the privilege to recognize Brian Morton before the United States House of Representatives. I salute Brian for his selfless deeds and great acts of charity, and believe that all Americans can learn from his benevolence and commitment to adoption.

TRIBUTE TO THE BOY SCOUTS
FROM TEXAS' 1ST DISTRICT AT-
TENDING THE JAMBOREE

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, this is in tribute to and in honor of the Boy Scouts of America Troops 1524 and 1525 along with other Scouts and Scout leaders, located in my District in East Texas. This week they are participating in the National Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia. This year's Jamboree carries on a long tradition, where just steps from the Capitol Building, the first ever Jamboree was held on the National Mall in 1937. Over the years, the Jamboree has become the pinnacle of all Scouting camps.

Every 4 years or so, Troops descend from all over America to celebrate the tenets they all hold dear and to develop even further the life lessons Scouting is so effective in teaching. The entire process has traditionally done an outstanding job in molding boys into outstanding young men, while building character and instilling notions of personal responsibility, all of which have helped make America the envy of civilized nations.

This year's Jamboree also holds special significance because 2010 marks the 100 year anniversary of Scouting in America. Over this period they have grown into a premier youth organization and had very positive effects on millions of young males.

Individual Boy Scouts throughout Scouting's 100 year history have gone on to do great things and serve our country in manners that have brought great honor and credit to the United States. More than 50 percent of all NASA Astronauts were Boy Scouts. More than 30 percent of graduates from the Military, Air Force and Naval Academies were involved in Scouting in their youth and five of our Presidents were once Boy Scouts. Even within Congress, 199 of our current Members once participated in Scouting, with 22 achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. America is truly a better nation because of Scouting.

As an Eagle Scout and Member of Congress, I can truly say that the wisdom and leadership I gained in Boy Scouts still benefit me every day. All those who take up the mantle of effective Scouting can be identified by the traits named in the Scout Law as "trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent." If America is going to continue to be great then, in the paraphrased words of Alex de Tocqueville, America must continue to be good. The Scouting doctrines clearly assist in making America "good."

If we continue to see the young people in America living a morally sound life following the tenets supported by 100 years of Boy Scouting while dedicated to family values and country, then surely God will continue to bless America as He has during the last 100 years. To that end, the words from the Scout's Oath are as meaningful today as they were throughout Scouting's rich history:

On my honor, I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country;
To obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.

Participating in this, the historic Boy Scout Jamboree of the United States during the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts, are the following Boy Scouts from the 1st Congressional District of Texas: Thomas Alberts, Brian Allen, Beathan Andersen, William Arnold, Alex Baker, Peter Ball, Rusty Bell, Zachariah Brown, Nate Cargile, Christopher Carlin, Hartley Coker, Paul Cook, Robert Cooper, Brian Cousineau, Carter Crump, Charlie Cullen, Myles Elbel, Michael Fedell, Michael Fedun, Joshua Fields, Chris Finlay, Danny Fisher, Garrett Froats, Bryan Gilliland, Jacob Gage, Kyle Gage, Wyatt Gay, David Gean, Thomas Gunn, Rielly Hassell, Clint Hearn, Stratton Hibbs, Kaleb Hively, Trent Hood, Jacob Houck, Luke Hughes, Brian Humphreys, Andrew Kazlow, Kerrigan Keele, Nicholas Kottwitz, Francis Gene Lewis, Trevor Ligon, Garrett Manning, Noah Morrill, Koehler Munoz,

Payton Myers, Kacee Newman, Taylor O'Bryant, Richard Olds, James Olson, James Pike, Lyle Potter, Tyler Reed, Blake Richey, John Hunter Sattler, Jack Schaeffer, Brady Schuh, Colbert Sheard, Jeremiah Slaughter, Spencer Smith, Brandon Spears, James Tyler Stricklin, Connor Tate, Travis Tate, John Timaeus, Andrew Walker, Jeffrey Dylan Watson, Elliot West, John West, Robert Westmoreland, Mason Wheeler, Zach Ziegelgrube.

In addition, these Scouts of which their U.S. Representative LOUIE GOHMERT is immensely proud, as should be the Nation itself, the following outstanding leaders have participated to lead these wonderful young men to the fulfillment of this scouting dream are the following: Paul Dunaway, Rory Hassell, Stephen Head, Jeffrey Jones, Matt Lindsey, Chris Peurifoy, Lyle Potter, Jim Reed, Greg Tate, Clinton Willbanks, Geoffrey Willbanks.

The foregoing Boy Scouts and leaders have, by their demonstrated excellence and zeal, not only expanded their horizons and abilities, but they have also made it possible to create a better world in which to live for all those who follow hence. Accordingly, their names and participation are hereby memorialized in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States of America to bear witness of their valiant participation to all those who may draw near. May God bless every one of these fine individuals just as He has so richly blessed these United States of America to this time.

A TRIBUTE TO BEATRICE
WILKINSON-WELTERS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters for her appointment as Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago and for her outstanding contributions to the welfare of residents of Brooklyn.

Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters has distinguished herself through many years of service to her nation and community as the Founder and Chairman of the AnBryce Foundation and the Vincent Wilkinson Foundation, whose focus on underserved youth and young adults provide multiple settings for their personal and scholastic development.

She earned her undergraduate degree from Manhattanville College and her graduate degree from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. She also received an Honorary Doctorate from Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters has provided vision and leadership through her service as a trustee or board member for the Kennedy Center Board of Trustees, the National Symphony Orchestra, the Library of Congress, the Brookings Institution, the Washington Jesuit Academy, and the Maret School.

Despite her demanding career and many contributions to society, Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters has been a devoted wife to her husband, Anthony and a loving mother to their two sons Bryant and Andrew.

Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters was confirmed by the United States Senate as Ambassador to Trinidad-Tobago on March 10, 2010 and

sworn in by President Barack Obama on April 27, 2010.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters.

CELEBRATION OF THE COLUMBUS
RECREATION AND PARKS DE-
PARTMENT ON ITS CENTENNIAL

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department. Through its 100 years of serving our community, the Department has enriched the lives of central Ohioans by offering social and educational programming, activities, and events for all ages to enjoy.

On July 15, 1910, Columbus mayor George S. Marshall signed into law legislation establishing the Columbus Department of Recreation, which encompassed the city's six established park locations. As part of the City Beautiful Movement, the Department of Recreation became crucial in Columbus' development as an aesthetically-pleasing city filled with green spaces and public parks. With the Department's hard work, residents began to enjoy beautiful scenery, community centers, trails, pools, golf courses, and programming designed with central Ohioans of all ages in mind. In 1972 the Department of Recreation merged with the Division of Forestry and Parks to become the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department we have today, and has grown from its original six parks to 215 established parks, greenways and green spaces that span over 10,000 acres across Franklin County.

The Columbus Recreation and Parks Department offers a wide variety of classes, events, and programs to connect residents of all neighborhoods involved in the community. Locations such as the Cultural Arts Center offer art classes for painting, ceramics, and sculpting. Entire theatrical seasons are played out at various centers such as the Davis Youth Performing Arts Center. Central Ohio seniors can enjoy aerobics classes, along with senior golf, softball, and basketball leagues.

From April through December of this year, the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department will be celebrating its centennial anniversary with events every month. At the Jazz and Rib Fest in the Arena District, the Department commemorated its July 15th birthday with a "Best Ribs" contest and they have held their 100th hole celebration at Raymond Golf Course.

For 100 years, the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department has played a vital role in the growth of Columbus and Ohio's 15th Congressional District, as well as the enhancement of the quality of life of those who call central Ohio home. I am proud to recognize and honor the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department as they celebrate 100 years of history and achievement.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE
ROGER WENDT FOR HIS WORK
ON THE IOWA SAFE SCHOOLS
ACT

HON. LEONARD L. BOSWELL

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend State Representative Roger Wendt, former Chair of the Iowa House Education Committee for his work protecting Iowa's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students from bullying and harassment in schools and communities. All students need a safe, supportive environment in which to learn, regardless of gender or sexual orientation. There is extensive evidence that LGBT students are disproportionately targets for harassment and discrimination in schools. The climate of fear experienced by LGBT students frequently results in increased absenteeism, decreased academic performance and increased risk of suicide and other high-risk behaviors.

On September 1, 2010, Iowa Safe Schools will recognize Alicia Claypool, State Representative Roger Wendt, and State Senator Mike Connolly for all their work protecting Iowa's LGBT students and all other students from bullying and harassment. This date will mark the 3rd year anniversary of the Iowa Safe Schools Law going into effect. This legislation protects Iowa's 500,000 students from bullying and harassment in our schools on the basis of 17 categories which include sexual orientation and gender identity.

Representative Wendt led the fight in the Iowa House for this critical piece of legislation. His years-long efforts resulted in its bi-partisan passage in February 2007. Iowa educators, administrators, and other policy makers hold Representative Wendt in high esteem for his tireless commitment to improving the lives of Iowa youth. Parents, community leaders, and students have been well-served by this advocate for equality, and I am proud to honor him.

TRUTH IN FUR LABELING ACT OF
2009

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 2480, the Truth in Fur Labeling Act, which improves the accuracy of labels on fur products sold in the United States. The bill would also require the Federal Trade Commission to review its Fur Products Name Guide, ensuring that document contains accurate and consistent species names. I support the Truth in Fur Labeling Act because American consumers deserve to know what, exactly, they are purchasing when they shop for fur garments, regardless of the price of those garments.

This legislation guarantees transparency so that shoppers can make informed decisions about the products they buy. This transparency is currently compromised by the "fur

loophole" in the Fur Products Labeling Act of 1951, which allows manufacturers of fur and faux-fur garments under \$150.00 to sell these products without a label or with a label that fails to list all of the types of fur included in the product. In the market today, exporters use this loophole to deceptively sell products made from cat and dog fur as though they were made from faux fur or the fur of other animals, although it is illegal to import, export, sell or advertise domestic dog or cat fur in the U.S.

China exports about half of all the imported fur garments sold on the U.S. market. In Chinese factories, many domestic dogs and cats are brutally killed and sometimes even skinned alive for their fur. A Humane Society investigation found in the 1990s that the death toll of domestic dogs and cats in China reached 2 million animals every year; the same investigation revealed that some of the resulting dog fur was being sold in the U.S. After this scandal broke, Congress passed the Dog and Cat Protection Act of 2000, which banned the trade in dog and cat fur. Unfortunately, the "fur loophole" has created a way for dishonest exporters to continue profiting from sales of dog and cat fur to American consumers. Manufacturers also use the loophole to market real fur as faux fur, tricking Americans with humane shopping policies into supporting an industry they oppose.

Part of my objection to the current, deficient, language of the Fur Products Labeling Act lies in the fact that its loophole only applies to products of "relatively small quantity or value." A garment of \$150, the upper limit of that category, can contain multiple animal pelts. Clearly, new legislation is necessary to allow customers to be confident in the type of fur they are buying, regardless of how much money they spend.

I urge my colleagues to also support this important resolution.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF GEORGE B. VASHON

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. MAFFEI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize George B. Vashon, a distinguished 19th century figure in American history and the notable event that occurred recently to help remedy a past injustice. This gifted writer, orator, educator, abolitionist and lawyer, who was a leader in Syracuse's anti-slavery efforts for a period of time, was posthumously admitted to the Pennsylvania bar this spring after twice being denied because of his race. His life work helped improve the lives of countless African Americans, while his individual career achievements clearly proved the merits of his being granted this distinction 163 years later.

George B. Vashon was born and raised in Pennsylvania and moved to New York, where he resided in Syracuse for some years. In his early years, he was exposed to many leading figures in the abolitionist movement through his father John B. Vashon's role as a leader of Pittsburgh's black community. One of the Vashons' close associates was New York philanthropist Gerrit Smith, a financier and activist of the anti-slavery movement. For a short pe-

riod of time, he also represented central New York in the House of Representatives. William Lloyd Garrison and Frederick Douglass were also among the central figures in the abolitionist crusade who worked closely with John and George Vashon throughout their lives.

With George B. Vashon's gifted scholarly abilities—he was fluent in several languages as a teenager and went on to become the first African American to graduate from Oberlin College—he chose to study law and pursue a legal career after college. Under the tutelage of Judge Walter Forward, who would later become Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, Vashon sought to practice law in his home state of Pennsylvania and applied for admission in 1847. His application was denied because of his "negro descent." He was so distraught at this denial that he left Pennsylvania to live and teach in Haiti for a few years, but not before he applied for and passed the New York bar and became the first black lawyer in the state.

Upon his return to the U.S., George B. Vashon moved to New York, where he opened a legal practice at the corner of Water and Warren streets in downtown Syracuse. Because of its proximity to Ohio and Canada, Syracuse had become a growing hotbed of activity along the Underground Railroad and Vashon was a central player at this time. With passage of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, Vashon's legal services were needed to assist runaway slaves gain their freedom. With the support of his friend Gerrit Smith, Vashon later went on to become the first black man to run for Attorney General in New York on the Liberty Party ticket. He also contributed to Frederick Douglass' newspaper, *The North Star*, and became one of the first black college professors in this country when he served on the faculty of New York Central College in McGrawville, New York. Years later, George would help found Howard University, where he would be the university's first black professor. He was later admitted to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In an effort to remedy the discrimination he faced when he initially pursued a legal career in Pennsylvania, two of Vashon's descendants petitioned the Supreme Court of Western Pennsylvania. Nolan Atkinson, Vashon's great-grandson, and Paul Thornell, Vashon's great-great-grandson were successful. On May 4, 2010, the Court righted a wrong in the history books. In doing so, they issued the following order: "In acknowledgement of Mr. Vashon's credentials and achievements, this Court hereby admits George B. Vashon to the practice of law in the Courts of this Commonwealth posthumously."

I am pleased to commend this important acknowledgement of this notable figure in American history. Syracuse is privileged to claim George B. Vashon as a key figure in our city's proud history of antislavery activism.

SALUTING THE 2010 TECH TITANS FINALISTS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the finalists for the 2010 Tech Titans Awards presented by

Metroplex Technology Business Council, the largest technology trade association in Texas. At the 10th annual Tech Titans gala this August, the 2010 winners will be announced in categories designed to showcase the most cutting-edge technologies and the brightest talent emerging from the North Texas region. The event will also reveal the rankings of the 2010 Titan Fast Tech, which lists the fastest-growing DFW technology companies based on percentage of revenue growth over the last year and the last 5 years.

Founded in 1994, the Metroplex Technology Business Council, MTBC, is a non-profit organization composed of approximately 300 members that include technology businesses and providers from across the DFW Metroplex. The MTBC produces numerous events, including the Management in High-Tech Luncheon Series, the Technical Luncheon Series, Tech Week in Austin and the Tech Titans and Fast Tech Awards.

The MTBC is a shining example of the face of the future for Texas. Make no mistake, the MTBC is making great things happen for the Lone Star State—and the world.

In addition to the MTBC, supporters of the Tech Titans Awards and Fast Tech event include PricewaterhouseCoopers, TechAmerica, Deloitte, Dallas Business Journal, BKD, LLP, Time Warner Cable Business Class, GSCS Inc., Farstar Inc., and AVMG.

Congratulations to all finalists. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to excellence. I salute you.

The 2010 Tech Titans Finalists' names and categories follow:

Corporate CEO Award: Valerie Freeman, BravoTECH, Dallas, TX; Suri Gurvenda, Optimal Solutions Integration, Inc., Irving, TX; Dale Sohn, Samsung Telecommunications America, Richardson, TX; Charlie Vogt, Genband, Plano, TX.

Emerging Company CEO Award: Andres Ruzo, Link America, Inc., Rowlett, TX; Devender Aerrabolu, American Unit, Frisco, TX; Bettina Bennett, WhichBox Media, LLC, Dallas, TX; Shama Kabani, The Marketing Zen Group, Carrollton, TX.

Corporate Horizon Award: D4D Technologies, Richardson, TX; Entrust, Dallas, TX; Fujitsu Network Communications, Inc., Richardson, TX; Genband, Plano, TX.

Emerging Company Horizon Award: GlobeRanger Corporation, Richardson, TX; HealthPoints, Inc., Dallas, TX; MicroTransponder, Inc., Dallas, TX; Revere Security, Dallas, TX.

Technology Innovator Award: Drs. Cadeddu, Scott, Fernandez, & Bergs, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Arlington, TX; Yves Chabal, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX; Will Rosellini, MicroTransponder, Inc., Dallas, TX; Steve Wallach, Convey Computer, Richardson, TX.

Technology Advocate Award: Matt Blanton, StarTech Early Ventures, Richardson, TX; Gabriella Draney, Tech Wildcatters, Dallas, TX; Robert Scott, Scott & Scott, Dallas, TX; North Texas RCIC, Dallas, TX.

Technology Adopter Award: City of Richardson Animal Shelter, Richardson, TX; Dallas Cowboys Football Club, Irving, TX; The Heart Hospital at Baylor Plano, Plano, TX; Top Golf, Dallas, TX.

Community Hero Award: Wanda Gass, Texas Instruments, Dallas, TX; Suri Gurvendra, Optimal Solutions Integration, Inc.,

Irving, TX; Lin O'Neill, Futures Consulting, Dallas, TX; Nina Vaca-Humrichouse, Pinnacle Technical Resources, Inc., Dallas, TX.

Tech Titan of the Future—University Level: Caruth Institute for Engineering Education, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX; Geo Jeffrey NanoExplorers Program, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX; UT Dallas Innovation Opportunity Camp, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX; UNT Summer Robocamp for Girls, University of North Texas, Denton, TX.

Tech Titan of the Future—High School Level: Joanne Blast, Lake Highlands High School, Richardson ISD; Kevin Cieszkowski, Richardson Berkner STEM Academy, Richardson ISD; Aaron Hampshire, Parish Episcopal School, Addison, TX; Alisa Salvans, Richardson High School, Richardson ISD.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FULL SELF-GOVERNMENT ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 29, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the District of Columbia Full Self-Government Act. The bill would grant the District of Columbia almost complete home rule. It would mark the most significant advancement in the District's local autonomy since Congress first created the District government's structure and operating rules in the Home Rule Act of 1973. The bill would eliminate almost all of the requirements and limitations imposed on the District by Congress in the Home Rule Act, so that the District could structure its operations and provide services in any manner that it chooses. Aside from a statehood or voting rights bill, no bill would do more to grant the federal taxpaying citizens of the District of Columbia their equal citizenship rights.

Under the bill, the District's government would be able to operate similarly to how most state and local governments operate. For example, the District, like every state, would be able to set its own fiscal year. Under the Home Rule Act, the District's general government fiscal year must begin in October, while its fiscal year for schools must begin in July. In contrast, almost every state and local government's fiscal year for all operations begins in July, enabling these jurisdictions to better plan and coordinate their operations and services.

In addition, the District would no longer have to come to Congress before it could make changes to its operations. For example, the District's major change in school governance structure that eliminated the school board and placed responsibility for schools in the mayor was held up for weeks because it had to be enacted by Congress, which caused serious problems for the opening of schools. Recently, I had to introduce a bill to reduce the waiting period for holding special elections to fill vacancies on the D.C. City Council from 114 days to 70 days. Previously, Ward 4 and Ward 7 were left without representation because the council could not reduce the period to fill vacancies.

The bill would accomplish what I have been fighting for since I entered Congress: legisla-

tive and budget autonomy for the District. The bill, like my stand-alone budget and legislative autonomy bills, would eliminate the requirement that the city's laws layover in Congress for 30 or 60 days before they take effect, and would eliminate the requirement that the city's local budget be affirmatively approved by Congress before it takes effect.

The bill would not only remove Congress from the District's legislative process, it would free the District to operate and provide services as it sees fit. The bill would eliminate all of the budget, financial management, audit and borrowing requirements imposed on the city by the Home Rule Act, and would permit the city to set the powers, organization, and procedures of the Office of the Mayor and the city council. It is important to note that the bill would have no effect on existing contractual or other financial obligations incurred by the District, on any elected or appointed District official or other District employee, or on any pending legal actions or proceedings.

Even with this bill, however, there would be two important limitations on the District's autonomy. First, Congress would retain its ultimate legislative authority over the District under the U.S. Constitution. The only way to completely eliminate congressional authority would be to amend the Constitution or to make the District a state. Second, like the Home Rule Act, the bill specifically precludes the city council from legislating over certain matters, such as height limitations on buildings.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HEALTH OUTCOMES, PLANNING AND EDUCATION ACT (HOPE) FOR ALZHEIMER'S

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Health Outcomes, Planning and Education (HOPE) for Alzheimer's Act. I would like to thank my colleague and fellow co-chair of the bipartisan Alzheimer's Task Force, Mr. CHRIS SMITH of New Jersey, for partnering with me on this important legislation.

An estimated 5.3 million Americans have Alzheimer's disease, and 1 in 10 individuals has a family member with the disease. Unless science finds a way to prevent or cure it, nearly 16 million Americans will have Alzheimer's disease by the year 2050.

The HOPE Act aims to increase detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and provide access, information, and support for newly diagnosed patients and their families. The bill would provide for Medicare coverage of comprehensive Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diagnoses and services in order to improve care and outcomes for Americans living with the disease.

At present, most people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias have not been diagnosed. This only contributes to the difficulty surrounding this disease. Data from a recent study in the Journal of General Internal Medicine conducted from 2002 to 2003 show that only 19 percent of people age 65 with de-

mentia had a diagnosis of the condition in their primary care medical record. In addition, ethnic and racial populations at higher risk for Alzheimer's are less likely than whites to have a diagnosis of the condition.

Delays in diagnosis have various negative consequences for patients and their families. One such serious consequence is that if individuals do not receive treatments early, when available medications are more likely to be effective, then families have less opportunity to make legal, financial and care plans while the person living with Alzheimer's or dementia is still capable.

While America works towards investing more in research for Alzheimer's to move towards a cure for this devastating disease, we must also help the many affected families to plan for the care of the patients. This bipartisan legislation is a good step in ensuring these important steps are taken.

The Alzheimer's Association has endorsed our legislation, which will increase the likelihood that Alzheimer's will be diagnosed sooner and help individuals plan for the required care associated with Alzheimer's. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues on this important issue throughout the legislative process.

HONORING ALICIA CLAYPOOL FOR HER WORK ON THE IOWA SAFE SCHOOLS ACT

HON. LEONARD L. BOSWELL

OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend Alicia Claypool, Chair of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission on her work protecting Iowa's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students from bullying and harassment in schools and communities. All students need a safe, supportive environment in which to learn, regardless of gender or sexual orientation. There is extensive evidence that LGBT students are disproportionately targets for harassment and discrimination in schools. The climate of fear experienced by LGBT students frequently results in increased absenteeism, decreased academic performance and increased risk of suicide and other high-risk behaviors.

On September 1, 2010, Iowa Safe Schools will recognize Alicia, State Representative Roger Wendt, and State Senator Mike Connolly for all their work protecting Iowa's LGBT students and all other students from bullying and harassment. This date will mark the 3rd year anniversary of the Iowa Safe Schools Law going into effect. This legislation protects Iowa's 500,000 students from bullying and harassment in our schools on the basis of 17 categories which include sexual orientation and gender identity.

Without the efforts of Alicia, this law would not have passed, and Iowa Safe Schools, an organization committed to protecting Iowa's students would not exist. Iowans can never thank Alicia enough for all her efforts in creating and fighting for those without a voice.

RECOGNIZING VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY (VCU) FOR ITS VICTORY IN THE COLLEGE BASKETBALL INVITATIONAL (CBI)

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) for its victory in the College Basketball Invitational (CBI) Championship on March 31, 2010.

VCU is located in Richmond, Virginia and is one of the premier institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The University fosters an enrollment 32,436 total students, including 21,149 undergraduates. VCU maintains a Division I athletic program offering 14 varsity sports which includes a men's basketball team that rosters 12 talented young men from around the world. In March of 2010, VCU junior Larry Sanders was named Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Defensive Player of the year and earned first team ALL-CAA honors while teammate Joey Rodriguez earned second team ALL-CAA honors.

On March 31, 2010, the VCU basketball team rallied from a 9 point deficit at halftime to defeat Saint Louis University for the second straight game by a score of 71 to 65 in the best of three championship series, capturing the CBI championship. The VCU basketball team won the CBI championship under the guidance of their first year coach, Shaka Smart. During the final game, Junior Brandon Rozell scored a game high 27 points and his teammate Joey Rodriguez scored 13 points on his way to capturing Tournament MVP honors. The VCU basketball team finished their season with 27 wins, the second most wins in school history.

VCU President Michael Rao and Athletic Director Norwood Teague have done an exemplary job of supporting this successful athletic program and the gifted student-athletes of the Rams basketball team. The VCU athletes and coaching staff have earned the pride and respect of the VCU students, faculty, alumni, all Rams fans and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Rams for their successful 2010 basketball season and their achievement as CBI champions.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CENTRAL KENTUCKY NEWS JOURNAL

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great news source in the Commonwealth of Kentucky—the Central Kentucky News-Journal. This year, the Central Kentucky News-Journal will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

After a series of changes in ownership, Mrs. T. W. Buchanon became the editor-manager of the journal and it was launched as the Central Kentucky News-Journal in January of 1910. The newspaper now, one hundred years

later, is in circulation twice a week, providing unparalleled coverage for the citizens of Taylor County.

As a community paper, the Central Kentucky News Journal plays an important role bringing readers news and articles that directly affect their readers. Campbellsville and the Commonwealth of Kentucky are fortunate to have such an outstanding newspaper with a proven history of providing exceptional news coverage.

I am proud to represent the employees at the Central Kentucky News-Journal and thank them for the countless contributions they have made.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Central Kentucky News-Journal and congratulating them on 100 amazing years.

CONDEMNING TERRORIST
ATTACKS IN KAMPALA, UGANDA

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1538, which condemns the terrorist attacks that took place on July 11, 2010, in Kampala, Uganda. This terrorist behavior is simply unacceptable and our nation must express our disapproval of the responsible parties who committed these horrible attacks.

Mr. Speaker, the situation in East Africa is grave. Unfortunately, the situation isn't getting any better either, given that this is the worst terrorist attack that this region has witnessed since 1998. The responsible party for these horrifying terrorist attacks is the hard-line Somali militant group, al-Shabab. Even more frightening is the fact that this group has threatened further attacks, if Uganda and Burundi continue to supply troops to an African Union peacekeeping force in Somalia. This continued threat of terrorist attacks is not only a dire concern in this area of East Africa, but also for our nation. Uganda, a key U.S. ally, is also a training ground for soldiers for Somalia's transitional government, the government which al-Shabab is seeking to overthrow. Both the United States and the United Kingdom support this mission. Consequently, we have responsibility to support and protect the peacekeeping forces that are working to provide stability in Somalia. In order for strength to be restored in the failing state of Somalia and the surrounding countries like Uganda, we must also find a way to remove the terrorist group al-Shabab from its destabilizing role.

Mr. Speaker, as the trend in globalization continues to increase, the connections among nations become more and more intertwined. Therefore, as Representatives of Congress, we must pass this resolution to call on our administration to work with the international community to address the security threat emanating from Somalia. This will hopefully ensure that this violence doesn't overspill more into other nations.

Again, I fully support this resolution and I urge my colleagues to support it as well.

HONORING LINDER'S 100TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the 100th Anniversary of Linder's Garden Center in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Linder's is a family-owned greenhouse that began as a small business selling fresh produce to local restaurants, and has grown into a Garden Center selling more than 25 million plants each year.

In 1910, a Swiss immigrant with humble beginnings named Albert Linder brought his horse drawn wagon filled with celery stalks and other fresh vegetables to local markets and restaurants. Linder soon found success as a result of his hard work and dedication to plants. At its peak, this burgeoning small business operated six greenhouses for celery seedlings.

By the 1940's, Linder had stopped using horse drawn wagons because trucks enabled him to expand his business to customers located farther away. Facing strong competition and celery blight, Linder was eventually forced to change the model of his business. He decided to move away from celery seedling and focused on cut flowers and bedded plants. This change proved profitable for Linder's and allowed Linder to remain successful even during difficult economic times.

Modern day Linder's continues to focus on flowers and plants, but has expanded to include green houses, and a garden center which hosts educational classes that allow budding urban gardeners to learn more about plant care. In 1970, the third generation of the Linder family took over the business. Robert, Dave and Lillian Linder have successfully continued their grandfather's business and continue to make our community beautiful.

Madam Speaker, please join me in rising to honor Linder's 100th Anniversary. I am honored to submit this statement recognizing this resilient and successful Saint Paul family-owned business. They are truly an example of the American dream being fulfilled. Their hard work and dedication have made them a successful Minnesota business.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,247,793,649,102.86.

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 \$2,609,367,902,809.06 so far this Congress.

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

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF
SCOUTING

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to recognize the centennial anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. Over the last one hundred years, the Boy Scouts of America has remained devoted to its mission of dedicated service through developing social and moral skills in young men throughout the United States. This organization has produced some of our Nation's best and brightest leaders as a result of a simple creed that was embedded in them as young adults.

In 1909, William Boyce was a lost American in the fog on the streets of London. He encountered a young boy, now known as the "Unknown Scout," who voluntarily assisted him on his way. When Boyce offered compensation for the boy's good deed, the boy declined and stated that he was doing his "Good Turn" as a Scout. On February 8, 1910, Boyce brought the idea of Scouting to the United States and formed the Boy Scouts of America. Since its founding, the organization has been committed to preparing young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Through one hundred years of service, Boy Scouts of America remains dedicated to building the character of servant leaders within our communities. Boy Scouts of America has worked with over one hundred and ten million young adults, two million of which have gone on to become Eagle Scouts. I also applaud the work of the Scouting leaders who are devoted to the mission of mentoring young adults through countless hours of service projects, Pinewood Derby races, and other activities in order to build America's leaders of tomorrow.

On behalf of the 24th District of Texas, I would like to say "thank you" and "congratulations" to the Boy Scouts of America for the tremendous work it has accomplished over the course of one hundred years. By impacting and developing the lives of youth, the Boy Scouts of America has contributed to the development of a responsible and productive America.

CONGRATULATING THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE HOUSE FELLOWS PROGRAM

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the participants of the House Fellows Program. The House Fellows Program, run by the Office of the House Historian, is a unique opportunity for a select group of secondary education American history and government teachers to experience firsthand the inner-workings of Congress. These educators have demonstrated excellence in the classroom, are

dedicated to educating our nation's youth and are truly deserving of our recognition.

One of the goals of the House Fellows Program is to develop curriculum on the history and practice of the House for use in schools. During the program, fellows prepare a brief lesson plan on a Congressional topic of their choosing, which is then shared with the other fellows. These plans will become part of a larger teaching resource database on the House. During the school year following their participation in the House Fellows Program, each Fellow is responsible for presenting his or her experience and lesson plans to at least one in-service institute for teachers of history and government.

The House Fellows Program began in 2006, and since then 75 teachers from across the country have participated in this innovative program.

An additional 45 teachers will be taking part in this summer's program. With plans to select a teacher from every Congressional district over the next several years, the House Fellows Program will impact thousands of high school teachers and their students and will energize thousands of students to become informed and active citizens.

As a former U.S. history teacher, I believe strongly in the importance of civic education. We must continue our efforts to get our youth involved in the political process in districts across the country. Educating teachers about the "People's House" is one of the best ways to do that. I congratulate the following educators who are participating in the third session of this summer's 2010 House Fellows Program: Ms. Cindy Tatum (TANNER, TN-08), Ms. Betsi Foster (TANNER, TN-08), Mr. John Tenney (DELAURO, CT-03), Ms. Carol Gale (LARSON, CT-01), Mr. Robert Nave (MURPHY, CT-05), Mr. Stephen Miller (VAN HOLLEN, MD-08), Ms. Cristy Lenski (LINDER, GA-07), Ms. Judy Walton (EHLERS, MI-03), Mr. William Reinhart (MCKEON, CA-25), Mr. Herrick Smith (MICA, FL-07), Ms. Shannon Gerlach (ROYCE, CA-40), Ms. Darla Faden (SMITH, NE-03), Ms. Gayla Reimer (MILLER, FL-01), Mr. Kris Vass (GOODLATTE, VA-06) and Mr. Tom Beard (GRAYSON, FL-08).

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in thanking the Office of the Historian for sponsoring this program. Thanks to Dr. Robert Remini and Dr. Fred Beuttler for their outstanding leadership, and Dr. Thomas Rushford, Mr. Anthony Wallis and Mr. Benjamin Hayes for providing the crucial staff support.

Thank you also to the Office of the Historian interns: Ms. Jacqueline Burns, Mr. Michael Karlik, Ms. Madeleine Rosenberg and Ms. Debbie Kobrin.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY-SAFE COMPOSITE UTILITY POLES

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to encourage the domestic development, adoption and de-

ployment of recyclable and environmentally-safe composite utility poles for use in the distribution and transmission of electricity. As Congress works to invest in our nation's electricity infrastructure to deliver critical new sources of energy to our cities and towns, it is time we also modernize the electricity delivery infrastructure so that it is more reliable, environmentally-safe, and cost-efficient than the current, century-old model. Our 21st Century electricity infrastructure must meet the changing demands of a diverse society, survive unforeseen natural disasters, and help deliver technology to improve our lives. Composite utility poles meet these demands.

Composite products are made from a variety of components such as glass, resins and fiber reinforcements that, when combined, produce stronger and lighter materials. Composites are integrated into products surrounding us every day, including swimming pools, cars, airplanes, wind turbines, and power plant cooling towers. Composite manufacturing in the United States is a fast growing, \$70-billion industry that employs approximately 550,000 Americans. My legislation will help spread this innovative technology to our nationwide network of approximately 130 million aging wooden utility poles. In the process, we also will create high quality, long-term manufacturing jobs here at home.

Composite utility poles last longer and are considerably lighter than wood, concrete and steel. They do not require treatment with harmful chemicals to prevent decay; as a result, they can be used in environmentally-sensitive areas, such as deserts, marshlands, national parks, forests and monument areas. Composite poles withstand severe weather conditions, including extreme temperature changes and fierce winds. They also are impervious to corrosion and require little maintenance, key issues for places like Chicago that must use salt often during winter to address icy road conditions and lose many steel and wooden poles due to the associated corrosiveness of the salt. In urban areas, composite poles can internally house WiFi and other wireless infrastructure and help clean up streetscapes by replacing unstable and unsightly chemically-treated poles with fewer composite poles. Composite pole life expectancy ranges from two to three times as long as traditional wood poles.

My bill takes two steps to promote the development and use of these utility poles. First, it amends the advanced manufacturing credit to allow the Treasury Department and the Energy Department to consider allocating a credit to the advancement of composite technology for our nation's energy infrastructure. Second, it provides a 30% tax credit to purchasers of composite poles that contain 15% recyclable or bio-content material, are recyclable at the end of their life, and are used for electricity distribution and transmission. This credit is intended as a catalyst to expedite the adoption and deployment of composite utility poles, helping taxpayers invest in this new infrastructure. As such, this credit would expire after five years.

In closing, I urge my colleagues to join me in co-sponsoring this legislation to ensure that green energy is transported by green infrastructure.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOATING LAW ADMINISTRATORS

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. CHANDLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, NASBLA, a Lexington, Kentucky based nonprofit organization.

Recreational boating is one of our Nation's most popular pastimes, with an estimated 78 million recreational boaters in the United States and nearly 13 million recreational vessels registered. In my State of Kentucky alone, there are nearly 200,000 registered boats and hundreds of thousands of Kentuckians who enjoy this great recreational activity.

In 1958, Congress passed the Federal Boating Act, which authorized the states to take over specific boating safety functions. This, in turn, led to the creation of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, NASBLA, in 1960. NASBLA is a national, nonprofit association of state officials responsible for the development and implementation of state boating programs.

NASBLA's mission is to strengthen the ability of state and territorial boating authorities to reduce death, injury and property damage associated with recreational boating and ensure a safe, secure, and enjoyable boating environment. NASBLA addresses its mission by fostering partnerships among and between the states, the Coast Guard and others, crafting model boating laws, maintaining national education and training standards, providing members with critical knowledge and skills, assisting in the homeland security challenges on our waterways, and advocating for the needs of the state boating programs before Congress and federal agencies.

The number of recreational boating fatalities has declined by more than half since 1970, thanks in part to the increased use of life jackets, cooperative boating safety education, enforcement efforts between the Coast Guard and state governments, and safer vessels and equipment manufactured in accordance with Coast Guard standards. Continued emphasis on accident prevention can reduce recreational boating fatalities still further, and in particular, deaths by drowning which remain the leading cause of recreational boating fatalities.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating and recognizing the accomplishments of this Kentucky nonprofit, which in its 50 years, has significantly contributed to the safety of this popular pastime for all Americans.

COLONEL JEFFREY A. "TANK" KOCH RETIRES AFTER 22 YEARS SERVICE WITH THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. McKEON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to COL Jeff "Tank" Koch on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force.

I have had the pleasure of working with Colonel Koch on a number of occasions during his tenure here in the House, and have greatly appreciated his professionalism, knowledge, and dedication, which I know has benefited me personally, as well as numerous other members, and countless staff.

So it goes without saying that Colonel Koch's professional achievements are numerous, but I know would be the first to state that none of them would have been possible without the love and support of his wife and family. Throughout Colonel Koch's service to our country, his wife, Tracey, has been his mainstay and a selfless partner. Her balance and calm has seen their family through multiple moves to military bases within the U.S. and overseas. Together with their children, Caleb and Abby, the Koch family has endured the challenges and sacrifice of family separation and relocations. Each member of the Koch family has made a significant contribution to the U.S. Air Force and our great Nation.

Colonel Koch has led an enviable career. After receiving his commission through the Reserve Officers Training Corps at Troy State University in 1987, Colonel Koch proceeded to numerous distinguished assignments. With his new pilot wings and assignment to the A-10 Thunderbolt fighter jet, Colonel Koch served in the 92nd Tactical Fighter Squadron at RAF Bentwaters, UK flying 37 operational combat missions over Northern Iraq in direct support of Operation PROVIDE COMFORT. With help from the 92nd's armed reconnaissance and close air support missions, thousands of starving Kurdish refugees received life-sustaining food and supplies.

After this, Colonel Koch served as an instructor pilot at the U.S. Air Force Academy, returned to the A-10 to fly missions in Korea, and instructed at the same Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training program he completed earlier in his career. Colonel Koch also served as flight commander in the 358th Fighter Squadron, executive officer for two commanders of the 12th Air Force, and Chief of Offensive Operations at the AFSOUTH Combined Air and Space Operations Center. He also served as a Presidential Advance Team Agent—and a Capitol Hill Fellow for Congressman Jim Gibbons of Nevada. This successful arc continued with a stint in the Air Force's Programs Directorate as the Chief of the Joint Strike Fighter Programming office and command of the 557th Flying Training Squadron. These successful milestones were recognized with assignment to one of DoD's most challenging senior developmental education opportunities, the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. Following ICAF, Colonel Koch received a follow-on assignment back to the Pentagon as a Senior Readiness Analyst for the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Readiness.

Perhaps the most challenging assignment was his final one as Chief of the Air Force House Legislative Liaison Office. This seasoned aviator and Command Pilot with more than 3,000 flight hours in five different aircraft has been a trusted and articulate voice for the Air Force on Capitol Hill.

Colonel Koch has excelled throughout his distinguished career and I am honored to pay tribute to this Airman. Madam Speaker, on behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank COL Jeff Koch, his wife Tracey and their children, Caleb and Abbey, for their service to our country. I wish them Godspeed, and continued happiness as they start a new chapter in their lives.

A TRIBUTE TO THE INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES FOR THE KENTUCKY OFFICE FOR THE BLIND

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Independent Living Services for the Kentucky Office for the Blind.

Independent Living Services is a rehabilitation program administered by the Kentucky Office for the Blind and provides a broad range of services. They value self-determination and encourage individuals to learn skills that will allow them to achieve their desired level of independence.

In September of this year, the Independent Living Services will celebrate 30 years of dedication to helping individuals throughout the commonwealth with vision impairments achieve their maximum level of independence.

Through the effective leadership of the Office for the Blind and the dedication of Independent Living Counselors, thousands of Kentuckians have realized their goal of greater independence in their homes, communities and workplaces.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 30th anniversary of the Independent Living Services and thank the individuals who have committed so much of themselves to help ensure all Kentuckians are given the resources they need to succeed.

NAZARETH DER TAVITIAN: A GENOCIDE SURVIVOR STORY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire Henry Morgenthau documented at the time, it was a campaign of "race extermination."

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian

family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is imperative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide Congressional Record Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

This is one of those stories:

(By Sarkis DerTavitian)

My grandfather Nazareth Der Tavitian was born in Malatya, Turkey. His family consisted of his wife, three sons and two daughters. The eldest child, my aunt was born in 1900. My father followed as the eldest son; he was born in 1903. Next in line was the youngest of the daughters and she was born in 1907, followed by my uncle Kevork in 1910. The youngest son, Hampartsoum was born in 1913.

My grandfather was a successful merchant in Malatya, Turkey. His wealth included large tobacco and opium fields, as well as the export of various goods such as leather, and dried fruits to Europe and America. He often traveled to Aleppo and Istanbul in order to conduct his business. At the brink of WWI in 1914, a Turkish friend of my grandfather informed him that the situation was not looking good for Turkish-Armenians, he advised that he, along with his eldest son—my father make a temporary move to Istanbul, in hopes that the move would keep them safe until the situation had calmed within the provinces. My grandfather, uncomfortable with the idea of leaving the rest of the family during precarious times, conveyed these worries to a dear friend, who at the time was the military general of Malatya. The general assured him that as long as he remained in his position, no Turkish citizen or official could bring harm to him or his family. As the war progressed and the Young Turks solidified their power they ordered the replacement of all leading generals in the provinces, including Malatya—the aim being to break the power of the provisional leaders. My grandfather's dear friend was soon replaced. The alteration of leadership happened abruptly, therefore the opportunity to migrate was infeasible to all those who resided in Malatya.

As soon as my grandfather's friend was replaced as the military general of Malatya, my grandfather was arrested and taken into custody. He had been imprisoned for two weeks when the chief of police gave him an ultimatum—abandon your religion or go under the sword. My grandfather refused to renounce his religion therefore he was murdered instantly. (This story was conveyed to my father by those who were jailed with my grandfather, they had converted in order to save their lives).

Having been one of the more successful residents of Malatya, my grandfather had an apprentice whom he regarded both as a friend and apprentice. It was his way of giving back to the community, which until the Genocide had offered him and his family the utmost comfort and good. This friend was aware of the wealth that was kept in my grandfather's home. He came to see if assistance was needed, as he was not a Turkish-Armenian, but rather a Turk by heritage. To his surprise he found that my grandfather had already been taken into custody, and my grandmother was in hiding in the basement of the family home, she had escaped the mandatory deportation of Malatya. He as-

sured them that he would be back once he can figure out how he could best be of service. Comforted by his statement, the family continued to stay in hiding as they eagerly awaited his return.

Unfortunately, the loyalty of my grandfather's apprentice was not to be trusted. Upon leaving my father's family home, he went to the local police and informed them that my grandmother, along with the children were in hiding and had escaped the mandatory deportation. He provided the local police with the proper address and location, as well as the background information pertaining to my family.

My grandmother had taken precautions and had told my father along with the eldest of the daughters where the family fortune was hidden. Having heard and seen the horrific experience of mass murder and deportation my grandmother was well aware that her family would not stay intact. In the likely chance that she would be taken into arrest, she had hoped that the large amount of family savings would either help the children sustain themselves or buy their safety.

Soon thereafter, my grandmother was taken into exile. My father recalls her carrying a child as the police forced her out of the home; leaving the remaining children orphaned. My grandmother was never to be heard from again. The fate of my grandmother and her infant remains unknown. That was the last they saw or heard of their mother. The children were not sent into exile. They continued to hide in the basement of the family home.

After my grandmother was taken away my grandfather's apprentice rushed to the house. Seeing the children, distraught, alone and in tears he assured them that he would find their mother and return her to safety. He left only to return in a couple of days. We concluded that the two-day absence would assure that no other family member was present to care for the children. Upon his return, he lied to the children and told them that he was able to find their mother that she was well, but in need of their help. He told the children that their mother asked that they gather the hidden family wealth, in order to bail her out of jail. Their father's apprentice would take care of the procedure. The eldest child my aunt, obliged in trust and showed my grandfather's apprentice where the wealth was hidden. The family wealth amounted to two barrels of 20,000 gold coins. The average yearly salary in Malatya at the time of the Armenian Genocide was two gold coins—the salary of 10,000 Turkish workers. As the children eagerly awaited their mother's return, my grandfather's apprentice enjoyed the sudden lavishness of wealth. Out of immense guilt, my aunt, the eldest child of Nazareth DerTavitian became severely ill. She died at the age of 15.

A year after the murder of my grandfather and grandmother, the Turkish police came to the family home and took my father, his two brothers and his sister into government headquarters. They demanded that they convert to Islam or their fate would resemble that of their parents. My father, now being the eldest spoke for the entire family. He decided that the safety of his brothers and sister was of the utmost importance. They all converted to Islam and circumcised in accordance to Muslim tradition. They now held new identities, a new religion and new names. My father Kevork became Bakeer. They continued to live in Malatya in hopes of regaining the ownership of their father's land. They thought that that hopeful day

had come when Mustafa Kemal Ataturk ratified a law in which whoever held the certificate to the land on which they resided could claim ownership of that land. My father was able to find the necessary certificates to the family home and took them to the provincial government of Malatya. To my father's devastation they would not allow him to have ownership of his land, because he himself was not Nazaret Der Tavitian. By statute, the lands could not be claimed by the living children of the deceased. Under this new law my father along with his siblings was left homeless. They would either live on the streets of Malatya or leave Turkey and start a new life in Aleppo, a safe haven for Armenian refugees. Their obstacles were many. In addition to having limited amount of resources, a law of conversion hindered the arduous road ahead. Converted persons were not allowed to leave Turkey; therefore they had to risk their physical safety by escaping out of the country. The family was separated in order to secure a safe departure. Riding on mules they individually reached Aleppo, around 1924. They were reunited in the refugee camps of Aleppo.

In 1959, when I was barely 16 years old, the sister of a dear friend of my father's came to visit her brother from Malatya. I, along with my parents went to welcome her. There, I overheard her recall to my father that his father's three story home was still standing and had been converted into an orphanage. The elaborate Damascene hand woven wooden front door, which was the mark of the DerTavitian household, was still standing.

This story, which I just relayed to you, is but one story in the devastating events of the Armenian genocide. The price of which we continue to pay. My father passed 34 years ago. He led an incredibly difficult life. The events of 1915 continued to haunt him. He was unable to surrender the thoughts, emotions and images that followed him throughout his life. I believe that if my father was alive today, his one desire would be to assure that no other peoples or nation suffer under the same fate that he had seen and experienced. I hope that this testimony will play a small, yet significant part of our most basic human quest, that of human rights.

I thank you for taking on this endeavor. Through your actions, you assure that your character is great. For you not only honor and love justice, but rather, work towards its fulfillment.

HONORING 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, this year marks the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. As Scouts from across America gather this week for their 2010 National Scout Jamboree, I rise to congratulate them on their long-standing success, and thank the Scouts for all the work they have done over the years to build our young men into upstanding and trustworthy citizens.

Over the past century, the Boy Scouts of America has become one of the brightest and far-reaching youth-development organizations in our Nation with over four million youth members in its age-related divisions. Indeed, the Boy Scouts of America has become part of our national heritage. Since its founding in 1910, more than 110 million Americans have been members of the Boy Scouts of America.

Committed to teaching traditional values of trustworthiness, good citizenship, and outdoors skills through a wide range of challenging, participation-based activities and educational programs, the BSA's goal is to train youth in responsible citizenship, character development, and self-reliance. President Gerald Ford, a former Boy Scout himself once said, "I can say without hesitation, because of Scouting principles, I know I was a better athlete, I was a better naval officer, I was a better Congressman, and I was a better prepared President."

Part of the reason the Boy Scouts are so successful is because they live by a law and an oath that bind them to the quest for morality and brotherhood. Indeed, the Boy Scout Law is one we can all live by, "A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent."

Today we can all say for certain that the Boy Scouts of America have made our country stronger, braver, and more optimistic, as many of its politicians, astronauts, businessmen and other hard-working citizens grew up in the organization—including my own sons.

It is a sincere pleasure to stand with the Boy Scouts today, and recite an Oath which for 100 years has marked our Nation:

"On my honor, I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country;
To obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight."
Congratulations, Gentlemen!

LORENA GONZALEZ HONORED AS
2010 LABOR LEADER OF THE YEAR!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very hard worker and devout labor leader in southern California.

Lorena Gonzalez will be honored as the 2010 Labor Leader of the Year at the 28th Annual John S. Lyons Memorial Banquet in San Diego on September 11, 2010.

In January of 2008, Lorena Gonzalez became the secretary-treasurer and CEO for the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO. The Labor Council is a coalition of 129 local unions that represent more than 192,000 working families in the region. Upon her election, Lorena became the first woman and first person of color to serve as head of the Labor Council since the organization's inception in 1902.

The daughter of an immigrant farm worker and a nurse, Lorena learned the value of hard work and determination at an early age. After graduating from Vista High School in North San Diego County, she earned a bachelor's

degree from Stanford University, a Master's degree from Georgetown University and a law degree from UCLA.

Prior to coming to the Labor Council, Lorena worked as the Senior Advisor to the office of the Lieutenant Governor of California. She served as a consultant to the Commission on Economic Development, and was the Lt. Governor's principal advisor on policy issues dealing with labor, the environment, energy, and infrastructure.

A member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 36, Lorena worked as the Labor Council's Political Director before being elected Secretary-Treasurer. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the California League of Conservation Voters San Diego, the Center for Policy Initiatives, the Environmental Health Coalition, and the United Way of San Diego. Lorena also serves on the Executive Council of the state California Labor Federation as a Vice President and on the AFL-CIO Central Labor Council/California Federation's Advisory Board.

Nonetheless, Lorena's most cherished title is that of mother. She lives in Pacific Beach with her two children—Tierra and Antonio.

RECOGNIZING 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2010

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today marks 20 years since the historic Americans with Disabilities Act was signed into law. It is one of the most important pieces of civil rights legislation of the last quarter century. Passage of this groundbreaking law came as a result of the efforts of legions of activists. I want to recognize two individuals, in particular, who made ADA possible. The late Justin Dart, a true civil rights leader, was instrumental in the fight to pass the law that made discrimination against people with disabilities illegal. He showed us the path, and we continue to look to his lessons as we chart new ground. His spirit is with us on this anniversary and every day that we fight for justice for all.

I also want to recognize Marca Bristo, who has been an unflagging national leader in the fight for people living with disabilities. I am lucky to call her a friend but Bristo has also been a teacher. She has educated untold numbers of people, including me, by opening our eyes to the barriers standing in the way of people with disabilities. Bristo has been at the helm of Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago for decades. As an organizer in the critical work of disability rights years before the ADA was passed in Congress, she, too, was incredibly influential in creating and shepherding the law to passage.

Since ADA's passage, we have taken many steps to build on its foundation—and we've accomplished many of our goals in recent years. This includes a historic health care bill that will prevent insurance companies from denying coverage, dropping coverage, setting discriminatory annual or lifetime limits on benefits, or charging higher premiums to people with disabilities. We have passed mental

health parity legislation. And we are providing more home- and community-based options for care.

Yet, we cannot sit back and become comfortable with what we have achieved with—and since—passage of the ADA. We know we have much more left to do. Every person must be guaranteed full access to safe housing, good jobs, educational opportunities, quality health care, cutting edge technology, and economic prosperity. Our great country can be made even greater by providing every person with the opportunity to contribute and live comfortably in their community.

We must work to enforce the ADA, not reward those who disobey it. There is simply no excuse for anyone who violates the Americans with Disabilities Act; laws that protect the rights those living with disabilities are no less important and no different from any other legal protection.

We have to make sure that the Community Choice Act is passed and implemented, to further expand the infrastructure so individuals can get convenient, quality care in the settings that everyone prefers: at home and in our own communities.

We must expand opportunities for independence. That is why I am the sponsor of H.R. 1408, the Inclusive Home Design Act, to require that new, single-family homes that get federal assistance meet minimum standards so those with disabilities can come and go freely and seniors can age in place. This is a common sense solution that ensures livability as well as sound economics. Building new homes that are accessible from the start cost several hundred dollars, while retrofitting can cost several thousand dollars or more—forcing some people to move into a nursing home.

We must also expand the realms of access for people living with disabilities—especially to new technologies that did not exist at ADA's inception. Therefore, I am also a sponsor of H.R. 4533, the Technology Bill of Rights for the Blind Act, to require that consumer products like home appliances and office equipment are manufactured so that they are fully accessible to blind consumers.

On this 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, I wholeheartedly thank the countless individuals who worked tirelessly to lay the groundwork for ADA in the decades that preceded its passage. Without their passion and activism, we would not be celebrating today. I also thank those who continue the fight, and I look forward to helping to build upon the enormous successes of the ADA—in this Congress and in those to come.

HONORING DR. RICHARD BURNEY ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Richard Burney, who will be retiring from the University of Michigan after 25 years of distinguished teaching. Dr. Burney has provided exemplary service to the citizens of the State of Michigan through his tireless dedication both to treating acutely injured patients and to training physicians in trauma care

through the direction of Advanced Trauma Life Support, ATLS, education at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Burney's service to the citizens of the State of Michigan in the development of emergency and trauma care has spanned the past three decades. Since May 1982, Richard has provided ATLS in the State of Michigan and has directed over 133 ATLS courses instructing thousands of Michigan physicians in the principles and practice of caring for the acutely injured patient. Richard's efforts earned him recognition from the American College of Surgeons, ACS, as State and Regional ATLS faculty in 1988.

As a member and subsequent chairman of the Michigan ACS Committee on Trauma between 1988 and 1994, Dr. Burney provided leadership in shaping improved quality and access to care initiatives for acutely injured patients in the State of Michigan. During his tenure on the National ACS Committee on Trauma between 1994 and 2004, Dr. Burney participated in the development of the National Trauma Data Bank, which created the largest repository of data on the injured patient and enabled objective comparative research in Trauma.

Dr. Burney has authored 95 articles and book chapters regarding the care of the injured patient and has served on the Editorial Boards of the *Journal of Trauma* and *The Annals of Emergency Medicine* for 14 years each. Between 1985 and 2009, Dr. Burney served as chief of the Division of Emergency Services, medical director of the Survival Flight team, and executive committee of the Transportation Research Institute at the University of Michigan.

With accidental injury remaining the cause of the largest number of years of productive life lost in the United States, Dr. Burney's remarkable contribution to the expert treatment of acutely injured patients has saved countless lives. As a preeminent physician and professor, Dr. Burney has shared his knowledge selflessly and has worked to advance a crucial medical field. Please join me in celebrating Dr. Burney's achievements and in recognizing his legacy of excellence, which will continue to touch patients and students of medicine alike for years to come.

HONORING LONNIE BRAXTON, STUART ENGLISH, AND CHRISTOPHER DUNCAN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor three incredible athletes from eastern Connecticut. Lonnie Braxton III of New London, Stuart English of Madison, and Christopher Duncan of Groton all competed in the 2010 Special Olympics National Games in Lincoln, Nebraska earlier this month. These three tennis players, along with every other member of Connecticut's team, made our State proud by bringing tough competition to their opponents and exemplifying sportsmanship.

I want to congratulate Lonnie in particular for winning the gold medal in the singles competition. He went undefeated in the division and gave an incredible performance over the

course of the games. Lonnie's victory is the product of hard work and a great deal of training in Connecticut. All of this training happened as Lonnie continued with his classes and work at Puffins restaurant in Groton. I have had the pleasure of eating at Puffins and Lonnie is very hard-working and pleasant for all the customers. What a great role model for us all.

Stuart and Christopher also took home medals playing tennis for Connecticut—winning bronze and silver in singles, respectively. The Connecticut tennis team gave an excellent performance and I am particularly proud of the strong eastern Connecticut contingent on that team.

Having attended ceremonies and events of Special Olympics Connecticut, I am familiar with the good work they do. These competitions are, above anything else, about the athletes who participate in them. We should be grateful for the unique opportunity they provide and the overwhelmingly positive impact that the competitions have on the lives of the athletes. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Lonnie, Stuart, Christopher, and every member of the Connecticut tennis team for their hard work and victory at the National Special Olympics.

RECOGNIZING THE PROGRESS AND INSPIRATION OF NASA

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible innovations and inspiring achievements of NASA on the 52nd anniversary of their founding. As the world's space pioneers, NASA has pushed the boundaries of the possible, contributing significant scientific discovery along the way.

NASA was established when President Eisenhower signed the National Aeronautics and Space Act 52 years ago today. Soon after, NASA sent the first U.S. astronaut into space through Project Mercury—Alan B. Shepard, Jr., and shortly thereafter, John Glenn became the first U.S. Astronaut to orbit the earth. NASA built upon this success with Project Gemini, collecting information on weightlessness, space docking, reentry, and executing spacewalks. Finally, in 1969, Project Apollo fulfilled President Kennedy's bold ambition to send a man to the moon before the end of the decade. We all watched as Neil Armstrong took mankind's first steps on the moon and affirmed America's place as the technological leaders of the modern world.

In words that were as poetic as the occasion was meaningful, Armstrong said, "That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind." Buzz Aldrin quickly joined Armstrong on the moon as Michael Collins continued to circle overhead. I was 11 years old that day. I joined people everywhere in watching and celebrating this tremendous collective accomplishment. I remember it clearly. My family was on vacation, but I had persuaded my parents to let me stay in the hotel room alone all day to watch the television, so I could see these giant men take those giant steps. Their mission was a landmark moment for America, for the world, and for all time. Americans are

still inspired by these men and their mission to travel over 250,000 miles of dead space to reach our closest celestial neighbor. I remember thinking then that humankind as a species is capable of true greatness. While wolves howl at the moon, humans visit it.

NASA has conducted many more space flights since that historic day, and it constantly strives to contribute to humanity's knowledge of the universe and ourselves. It inspired a generation to pursue careers in science and engineering, and to believe in the power of American society. Alone in that hotel room, watching TV, I certainly felt a lasting sense of meaning—a connection to those three brave astronauts. Those astronauts represented, in that moment, America's destiny. A destiny shared by the thousands of men and women who worked to make it happen.

NASA's efforts continue today, but their legacy is already assured. From inspiring children to dream to inventing the water filter, NASA has shaped American society in ways we can hardly begin to count. In this, the most competitive, technology-oriented century man has ever known, we are lucky to have an institution like NASA. An institution that will continue to spur us to achieve what was once thought impossible.

Central Florida is proud of NASA and all that it has done. As a member of the Science and Technology Committee, I have great respect and admiration for NASA's contributions to space exploration. NASA has been, and continues to be, a positive and productive force for the advancement of our Nation's interests. I look forward to watching as they continue to carry us into the future.

BEN HUESO HONORED WITH 2010 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a very dedicated public servant on the San Diego City Council. City Council President Ben Hueso considers quality of life issues such as job creation, neighborhood livability and protecting the environment his top priorities this year. Since his 2006 election to the San Diego City Council, Hueso has advocated for District Eight constituents and the city as whole as a Councilmember, developing an open, consensus-building management style. As Council President, he schedules items for consideration by the Council, chairs Council meetings, and selects committee chairs and committee vice-chairs for approval by a Council majority.

In addition to serving as Council President, Hueso chairs the Rules, Open Government and Intergovernmental Relations Committee, serves on SANDAG's Borders Committee, and as First Alternate for SANDAG's Executive Committee. He is San Diego County's representative for the League of California Cities and sits on the Otay Valley Regional Park Policy Committee. Hueso recently completed his service as a Commissioner on the California Coastal Commission, where he helped protect California's coastal resources.

Prior to becoming a Councilmember, Hueso successfully owned and operated a small business in Logan Heights. His strong community

advocacy includes service as a member of the Policy Chief's Advisory Committee, founding the central Commercial District Revitalization Corporation, belonging to the Inner City Business Associations and serving as a board member for the Sherman Heights Community Center.

Hueso holds a bachelor's of arts degree from the University of California, Los Angeles; he also completed postgraduate work in Community and Economic Development at San Diego State University. He and his wife, Laura, live in Logan Heights with their four young sons.

I am happy to join in honoring San Diego City Councilman Ben Hueso with the Community Service Award presented to him at the 28th Annual John S. Lyons Memorial Banquet in San Diego on September 11, 2010.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF RECOGNITION FOR PARENTS OF SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN RESOLUTION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution in support of a national day of recognition for parents of special needs children. I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with my good friend Representative TURNER from Ohio in sponsoring this resolution. I encourage all of my colleagues to support it.

Children with special health care needs are defined as those children who have a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition that requires special health-related services of a type or amount to go above and beyond what is generally required for children. The Department of Health and Human Services' most recent National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs estimates that 14 percent of children between the ages of 0 and 17 in the United States are diagnosed as having special health care needs.

As many in this Chamber already know, I am active in promoting autism awareness and advocating for more research; my only grandson is autistic and I have taken it upon myself to learn about autism and the challenges families face living with autism. Parents serve a critical role in the development of special needs children and in preparing them to succeed in school and life. All too often, children with special needs require specialized services that go well beyond those required by children generally. I believe the time has come to recognize the selfless dedication, compassion, and sacrifice of these parents.

The resolution is simple. It calls for recognition of the importance of honoring the Nation's parents of special needs children; that a National Day of Recognition for Parents of Special Needs Children should be established to honor such parents; and urges the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe such a day with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

Again, I would like to encourage all of my colleagues to co-sponsor this critically important resolution.

SOCIAL SECURITY TURNS 75

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, in just a few weeks, we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the enactment of the Social Security Act.

Americans have benefitted greatly from this extraordinary program over the past 75 years. In fact, almost half of today's elderly would live in poverty without it. It is the most successful domestic program in our nation's history.

There can be no better time to renew our commitment to defend this program, to reinvigorate it and to do everything we can to ensure that Social Security is funded, solvent, and available for generations to come.

From its very inception, Social Security was a promise of economic security and stability for older Americans after a lifetime of hard work. Over the years, that promise has been strengthened to protect Americans in case of severe disability and the death of a breadwinner as well. Year after year, Social Security continues to deliver on that promise. For three-quarters of a century, through 13 recessions, Americans have been able to depend on benefits that arrive on time and in full.

More than 50 million Americans rely on Social Security now. Six in 10 seniors rely on Social Security for more than half of their income. And more than 6 million children—nearly one in 10—receive part of their family income from Social Security.

For 75 years, we have stood by the program that we created: strengthening it in the 1950s and '60s, and preserving its solvency in the '70s and '80s. Now, as we all know, the retirement of the Baby Boom generation will create new and real challenges for Social Security. And we need to respond to those challenges with innovative solutions that guarantee the system's long-term strength for generations to come.

But make no mistake, opponents of Social Security have not given up their effort to undermine this great program. Republicans in Congress continue to deliberately exaggerate the system's problems in an attempt to scare the public into supporting the radical idea of privatizing Social Security.

The Senior Republican on the House Budget Committee, for example, unveiled his Party's plan to eliminate Medicare and privatize and cut Social Security, rehashing the failed policies that President George Bush tried to carry out but was stopped, thanks to Democratic opposition in Congress.

According to the Washington Post, "Some GOP lawmakers also have endorsed [Rep. PAUL] RYAN's alternative budget plan, which would wipe out deficits in part by privatizing social security and replacing traditional Medicare benefits with an insurance voucher for people age 55 and older."

Their strategy poses a risk to all Americans, and experts concur that privatizing Social Security will not solve the challenges facing the system.

The recent economic meltdown on Wall Street reinforces the folly of trying to tie the Social Security Trust Fund to the ups and downs of a volatile stock market. When the market crashed in 2008, investors lost 30 per-

cent or more of their savings. Social Security recipients didn't lose a nickel in benefits. Had previous efforts to privatize Social Security succeeded, seniors would have lost trillions more in the recent stock market meltdown and economic recession. The American people deserve the income security they have earned.

In the wake of the current economic crisis, Social Security is more important than ever. Social Security was created at a time when the American economy had crumbled and was struggling to recover. Pensions were almost non-existent, and a majority of seniors were unable to support themselves after retirement. Thanks to Social Security, millions of seniors today can live their lives with dignity and independence instead of poverty and despair.

In December of this year, the President's Bipartisan Commission on Fiscal Responsibility will release recommendations on meaningful ways to improve America's long-term fiscal outlook, including the future of Social Security. I look forward to reading the report and reviewing their recommendations to ensure that Social Security is strengthened, not weakened.

As we approach August 14, the date of the 75th anniversary of Social Security, we can all be grateful for the creation of this program and we can all rededicate ourselves to ensuring its continued success. I remain committed to preserving Social Security's guaranteed, lifelong, inflation-protected insurance benefits for retirees, disabled workers and their families, and the survivors of deceased workers for generations to come.

CONGRATULATING SAVAGE PRECISION FABRICATION, INC. FOR 2010 UNITED STATES SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION SUBTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Savage Precision Fabrication, Inc. of Wylie, Texas.

Founded by W.T. and JoAnn Gardner in 1975, and still run by the couple today, Savage Precision has been named the 2010 Subcontractor of the Year by the United States Small Business Administration, SBA. This is the fourth time that the company has earned a prestigious designation from the SBA.

As a top-notch manufacturer of precision-machined and sheet metal components, Savage serves a number of major aerospace and defense contractors, as well as high-tech corporations. In fact, the company proudly supplies F-35 Joint Strike Fighter parts to Lockheed-Martin, playing a crucial support role for our Armed Forces.

Service to country has always been a priority at Savage Precision. The company's founder and CEO, W.T. Gardner, is a United States Army veteran. He and JoAnn grew their company through their belief in the American principles of honesty, loyalty, and hard work. From the moment they opened the doors of Savage Precision, the couple's company motto was, "If it doesn't work, you don't have to pay me." That's fair, that's right, and that's true commitment to excellence.

As the company continues to excel, I am honored to congratulate the Gardners and the many outstanding employees of Savage Precision Fabrication, Inc. The award-winning title you've received from the Small Business Administration this year is hard-earned and well-deserved.

God bless you, and I salute you.

MEMBER-DESIGNATED TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS DATABASE INITIATIVE

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce a new initiative to promote transparency and accountability with regard to Member-designated projects within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: a searchable database of all Member-designated projects included in Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure bills.

On the first day of the new Democratic majority of the 110th Congress, under the leadership of Speaker NANCY PELOSI, the House of Representatives adopted Rules to institute specific requirements with regard to Member-designated projects: congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits. See clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the 111th Congress. For each Member-designated project, a Member of Congress must certify that neither the Member nor his or her spouse has a financial interest in the project. See clause 17 of rule XXIII. In addition, each committee report on a bill must identify any congressional earmarks included in the bill. These transparency and accountability requirements also apply to manager's amendments and Conference Reports. As Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I have vigorously enforced these rules.

In addition, in the interests of full disclosure, transparency, and accountability, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, at my direction, requires Members of Congress to comply with all of the requirements of clause 9 of rule XXI and clause 17 of rule XXIII, even if the earmark rules do not apply, if the Member of Congress requests that the Committee take legislative action targeted to a specific State, locality, or Congressional district. For instance, the Committee requires Members to certify requests for corrections to descriptions of previously designated projects, such as corrections to high-priority projects that were included in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users—Technical Corrections Act of 2008 (P.L. 110–244), even though the corrections do not involve any new funding. See Committee Print 110–175. The Committee also requires Members to certify requests for General Services Administration, GSA, Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions, GSA Public Building Project Survey Resolutions, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Survey Resolutions, even though congressional earmark rules do not apply to these Committee actions.

In the 111th Congress, we have built upon these efforts. Member-designated projects can play an important role in certain programs, such as the Federal-aid highway program. They provide constituents with a chance to weigh in directly with their elected officials on their community priorities, and allow Members an opportunity to advocate for surface transportation and mobility improvements that may be overlooked by a State Department of Transportation. Yet, it is also necessary to use a commonsense approach to dealing with projects that are complete or no longer viable. Earlier this week, on July 27, 2010, the House passed, by a vote of 394–23, H.R. 5730, the “Surface Transportation Earmark Rescission, Savings, and Accountability Act”, introduced by the gentlewoman from Colorado, Ms. MARKEY, to clear the books of projects that will not go forward and save taxpayer money. The bill eliminates a total of \$713 million in unobligated funding for 309 Member-designated projects contained in four previous surface transportation acts enacted over the past two decades. Similarly, during consideration of H.R. 4715, the “Clean Estuaries Act of 2010”, in the House in April of this year, I offered an amendment, which the House adopted, to strike the statutory earmarks included in the National Estuary Program under current law.

In addition, the Committee has adopted a series of Member-designated project reform principles to further promote transparency and accountability. The Committee requires Members of Congress to:

Provide specific information on the type, location, total cost, percentage of total cost of the project, that the request would finance, and benefits of the project;

Provide at least one letter of support for the project from state or local government agencies; certify that neither the Member nor his or her spouse has any financial interest in a project requested; and

Post requests for projects on the Member's website.

Today, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure takes another step in its continuing effort to provide unparalleled transparency and accountability of Member-designated projects. We launch a searchable database of all Member-designated projects included in Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure bills in the 110th and 111th Congresses.

The Member-designated projects database, located on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure website, includes the ability to search Member-designated projects by Member of Congress, State, Congressional district, bill, bill title, and amount. Each Member-designated project includes an electronic copy of the individual “no financial interest” certification of the Member of Congress and, beginning with H.R. 5892, the “Water Resources Development Act of 2010”, a copy of a letter from the state or local government expressing support for the project. Finally, the Committee makes copies of all Member-designated project requests available in the Committee office.

As Chairman, I am deeply committed to transparency and accountability in all of the activities of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. I look forward to working with public interest groups to endeavor to find even more ways to shine a light on the actions of our Committee.

HUGH HAZELWOOD RECOGNIZED AS 2010 FELLOWSHIP HONOREE!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hugh Hazelwood, the Vice President of New Business Development for LIBERTY Dental Plan located in Irvine, California. Together with his wife, Marsha, they strive to provide quality union negotiated benefits to union members throughout California and Nevada.

Liberty Dental Plan is currently 700,000 members strong and employs union members to take care of their brothers and sisters concerns and needs.

Hugh started his working career at a very young age in the family business in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Hugh learned early on that success is equated to giving back to worthwhile charities and the community and dedication to his employer.

Hugh's past volunteer endeavors have included The Association for the Research of Childhood Cancer, The Leukemia Society, and various food banks. He currently serves as a Vice President on the Board of Directors for Guide Dogs of America.

Marsha and Hugh were married on Valentine's Day in 1998, and enjoy working together. Liberty Dental Plan allows them the time and resources to give back to the community.

For his many years of dedicated service to the organized labor movement and to our community, I am pleased in joining others to honor Hugh Hazelwood as the Fellowship Honoree at the 28th Annual John S. Lyons Memorial Banquet in San Diego on September 11, 2010.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AMERICAN LEGION LEON OGIER POST NO. 2

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it has come to my attention that on August 7, 2010, the American Legion Leon Ogier Post No. 2 will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the construction of Memorial Hall, a place the post has called home since 1922. This sturdy building befits an organization that has provided unwavering service to the Nevada community for more than 8 decades.

Completed in 1910, Memorial Hall was originally constructed by the citizens of Vernon County to be the home of Company G of the Fifth Regular Missouri National Guard, the company that ably fought in the Spanish-American War. Twelve years later, the building was deeded to the American Legion Leon Ogier Post No. 2 and was renamed Memorial Hall.

It is fitting that a structure which has stood the test of time bears the name Memorial Hall. This building and the American Legion post housed within are enduring testaments to the men and women who lost their lives in defense of our country and to those who have

returned from battle to once again serve our communities. While our Nation's veterans may stop wearing the uniform of the Armed Forces, those brave men and women never stop serving. And, it's comforting to know that the American Legion is dedicated to providing support and stability to these veterans.

The Leon Ogier Post No. 2 has become a fixture of the Nevada community. From the annual kids Christmas program, a tradition that dates back to 1922, to the meal delivery program during the holidays, this post has set a high standard of service. The fabric of the community is strong due in no small part to the Leon Ogier Post No. 2.

Madam Speaker, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the construction of Memorial Hall, let us all take a moment to thank our veterans and the organizations that support them. As we celebrate this important milestone, I trust my fellow members of the House will join me in wishing the American Legion Leon Ogier Post No. 2 the very best in the next 100 years.

CHINA'S UTTER DISREGARD FOR BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I submit an AFP article detailing a tragic story which illustrates the Chinese government's callousness and utter disregard for basic human rights.

AFP reports that China repatriated an 81-year old former South Korean prisoner of war who fled North Korea literally decades after first being captured.

China regularly repatriates North Korean refugees, in violation of their international obligations oftentimes sending these individuals back to certain punishment and possible death. The Chinese government simply doesn't care.

CHINA SENDS S. KOREAN POW BACK TO N. KOREA

SEOUL.—China has repatriated an 81-year-old former South Korean prisoner of war who had fled North Korea decades after being captured, a newspaper report and an activist said Tuesday.

Dong-A Ilbo quoted an unidentified government official as saying the man surnamed Jung was sent back despite intensive diplomatic efforts by Seoul to bring him to the South.

A foreign ministry spokeswoman said she had no information.

"The government made tremendous diplomatic efforts but he was eventually sent back to the North," the source was quoted as saying.

South Korea had contacted Chinese diplomatic authorities more than 50 times since Jung's arrest, the daily said.

Choi Sung-Yong, an activist who campaigns for the return of South Korean abductees, said Jung was forcibly returned to the North in September last year, about a month after being arrested in China where he was hiding.

He said Jung was arrested eight days after he fled the North with the help of South Korean activists.

China repatriates escapees from North Korea as illegal immigrants even though they can face harsh punishment back home.

By Seoul's official account 494 South Koreans, mostly fishermen, were seized in the Cold War decades following the war. Seoul also says more than 500 prisoners of war were never sent home after the Korean War armistice was signed on July 27, 1953.

North Korea denies holding any south-erners against their will, even though some have managed to escape from the hunger-stricken country.

SECURING AIRCRAFT COCKPITS AGAINST LASERS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 5810, which amends title 18 of the United States Code to provide penalties for aiming laser pointers at airplanes. The effect of laser pointer glare on the windows of airplane cockpits is extremely dangerous to pilots. Laser glare that incapacitates pilots can endanger all other people onboard the aircraft. In order to prevent unnecessary harm to pilots, airplane passengers, and other airline employees, deliberate aiming of laser pointers at airplanes must be regulated.

Pilots experience laser glare in cockpits at a rate that has steadily increased over the past fifteen years. In 2009 alone, 1600 individual laser-aircraft incidents occurred. The intensity with which laser light reflects off cockpit glass can result in varying degrees of danger for pilots, from simple distraction by the bright flash of laser light to temporary flash blindness that greatly reduces their ability to capably navigate the aircraft. If the laser light is aimed from a near enough distance, pilots can sustain permanent eye damage from the brightness of the laser light. In some cases, pilots have even taken evasive action, confusing the laser light for the dot-type laser reticle of a weapon.

Eleven states have already enacted laws regulating the use of laser pointers around aircraft. While the use and ownership of small laser pointers is legal, this legislation is vital to preventing laser pointer users from accidentally harming or incapacitating pilots. I support this bill, in the hope that it will help Americans to be more careful in their use of laser pointers, and realize the grave consequences their actions can have for our Nation's pilots and aircraft passengers.

I urge my colleagues to also support this important resolution.

INTRODUCTION OF THE IMPROVING ACCESS TO MEDICARE COVERAGE ACT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, today on the eve of Medicare's 45th anniversary, I rise to recognize the tireless work and fierce vigilance of an organization that has prioritized the care needs of Medicare beneficiaries, the

Center for Medicare Advocacy, as well as bring to light a coverage issue that the agency has been worked on for years: lengthy hospital observation stays.

Earlier this summer, I had discussions with leaders of the Center for Medicare Advocacy about lengthy hospital observation stays which has inhibited care for Medicare beneficiaries. Excessive time on hospital observation status has been shown to create two potential problems for Medicare beneficiaries. First, prescription drugs administered in the hospital during an observation stay are not included in the inpatient deductible cap, which can easily become unaffordable for patients and their families if the medications are not included in the beneficiary's Part D formulary. Secondly, time spent on observation status in a hospital is not counted towards the three-day inpatient hospital stay required for the beneficiary to receive skilled nursing care. Both potential consequences create financial and care burdens for Medicare beneficiaries.

Earlier in the month, I met with the Renshaw family from my district that had been negatively affected by a lengthy hospital observation status. After falling and breaking his hip, Mr. Renshaw, an elderly Medicare beneficiary, was taken to a local hospital treatment where he was subsequently put on observation status. He remained in the hospital for four days. After he was released, Mr. Renshaw required skilled nursing care for his rehabilitation. However, because Mr. Renshaw was placed on observation status instead of admitted officially as an inpatient, his time in the hospital did not count towards the Medicare three-day hospital stay required for skilled nursing care. His family was forced to write a check for nearly \$10,000 in order to get him the care that he needed because Medicare would not cover this benefit.

In response to the Center for Medicare Advocacy's vigilance on this issue and the experiences shared with me by the Renshaw family, I am introducing the Improving Access to Medicare Coverage Act. My legislation will fix this unfair component of Medicare law that arbitrarily differentiates between patients on inpatient versus observation status with obtaining necessary skilled care. The Improving Access to Medicare Coverage Act will count a beneficiary's time on observation towards the three-day hospital stay requirement for skilled nursing care. And while my legislation does not address the challenges associated with unaffordable out-of-pocket prescription drug and other costs associated with lengthy hospital observation stays, I look forward to working with the Center for Medicare Advocacy on finding a long-term solution to this urgent problem.

HONORING KATHLEEN SCHUERMAN

HON. STEVE DRIEHAUS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Madam Speaker, today I want to recognize the 100th birthday of someone who is not only a constituent of mine, but a woman very dear to my heart, my great aunt, Kathleen Schuermann.

Our family will soon gather to mark this occasion, and there's so much to celebrate.

Over the past century, Aunt Kathleen has been a public servant in the State Liquor Department and Hamilton County Juvenile Sheriff's Department. She has been a ballet teacher to a generation of young dancers in Cincinnati. She has been a proud supporter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and a faithful parishioner at Holy Cross-Immaculata. She has been the loving mother of seven children, grandmother of 21, and great-grandmother of 36.

Though she was born ten years before women in America had the right to vote, Aunt Kathleen has her whole life embraced and extolled the importance of civic involvement. Whether working the polls or attending presidential inaugurations, advocating to save Cincinnati's streetcars or offering her own brand of political advice, Kathleen remains an example of the sort of concerned and active citizenship we too seldom see. As a public servant, I draw inspiration from her undimmed interest in governance and community.

We can be certain in coming weeks to see Aunt Kathleen at the Immaculata church festival or making the rounds at the Delhi Senior Center. And so, on her 100th birthday, we not only reflect on her life's journey thus far, but we look forward to the days ahead.

Happy birthday, Aunt Kathleen.

THE 170TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST.
JOHN'S A.M.E. CHURCH

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a storied institution of faith in the Third Congressional District. This year, Saint John's African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church is celebrating its 170th anniversary, and I would like to highlight some moments from the history of the church and its contribution to our community.

St. John's was organized in 1840 within the old Cumberland Street Methodist Episcopal Church in Norfolk. The land where the church now stands was purchased for just \$450 in 1848. The church disconnected from the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1863 and was formally received into the African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1864. Elder John M. Brown was the Church's first pastor.

The church grew rapidly. Additional land to erect a parsonage was bought in 1865, and the church was enlarged twice between 1868 and 1888. In 1888, the present church building on Bute Street was erected. St. John's exterior has stood nearly unchanged since then.

St. John's flourished in Norfolk during the turn of the century. The church was the first African-American congregation in Norfolk to install a pipe organ. The parsonage was completed, and in 1908 St. John's had reached such a level of prominence as to host the General Conference of the entire African Methodist Episcopal Church.

St. John's continued to grow in the early twentieth century. Its membership grew to over 1000, and two new churches grew from it. This rapid growth helped the church burn its mortgage after just 46 years in 1915. Along with its internal growth, St. John's was also active in the community. The church estab-

lished the first African-American Boy Scout Troop in Norfolk in 1930 and the first African-American Girl Scout Troop in 1935.

The growth of St. John's in the second half of the century mirrored our country's growth. The church building underwent a massive renovation in 1956. The church's growth helped it to pay off the mortgage of the parsonage, install air conditioning, and buy buses, pianos, organs and robes for new choirs.

Over the last 25 years, St. John's has continued to both grow and stay relevant in the community. The church has started many new ministries to address the needs of both its members and its Downtown Norfolk neighborhood. An education building conceived earlier was finally built, and the church created a Social Service Outreach Program, the Hope Outreach Ministry, and the Medical and Wellness Ministry. In 1986, St. John's A.M.E. was registered as a Virginia Historic Landmark. St. John's has taken care to develop programs for the next generation of its members, recently revitalizing its Children's Choir, and establishing both a Nursery and Young Adult Choir.

St. John's has had numerous pastors over its history, and many members have left St. John's to enter the priesthood and to preside over congregations of their own. In addition to First Pastor Rev. Brown, a selected list of pastors includes: Rev. W.D. Cook; Rev. J.R. Johnson; Rev. Walter L. Hildebrand; Rev. A.R. Powell; Rev. Walter C. Davis; Rev. L.W. Knight, Sr.; Rev. Larry S. Hinton; and the current pastor, Rev. John D. Burton.

As St. John's gathers to celebrate this historic milestone, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on the future knowing in the words of Rev. Burton that "Everything is going to be alright!" I would like to congratulate Rev. Burton and all of the members of Saint John's African Methodist Episcopal Church on the occasion of their 170th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO NELLE HARPER LEE
AND THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
HER PULITZER PRIZE WINNING
NOVEL "TO KILL A MOCKING-
BIRD"

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, July 2010 marks the 50th Anniversary of Nelle Harper Lee's novel "To Kill a Mockingbird."

First published on July 11, 1960, "To Kill a Mockingbird" has since sold over 30 million copies and has been published in over 40 languages.

During the past 50 years the world has seen many changes but one thing still remains constant—"To Kill a Mockingbird", the novel that inspired children and adults in 1961 is still inspiring a new generation of children and adults today. Few novels have such timeless and universal appeal.

"To Kill a Mockingbird" has received numerous awards including the Pulitzer Prize in 1960 and the film adaptation received three Academy Awards and three Golden Globe Awards in 1962.

The Mockingbird Players, an amateur theater group, perform the dramatization of "To

Kill a Mockingbird" every April and May in Monroeville, Alabama, Lee's hometown. The players have performed at both home and abroad including performances in Chicago, Washington, D.C., the United Kingdom and Israel.

One of the novels best known quotes is, "Lawyers, I suppose, were children once." This quote and her character, Atticus Finch, have inspired lawyers for the past 50 years, including myself.

For those who have read "To Kill a Mockingbird" you may remember Scout's first grade teacher was Miss Caroline Fisher. On Scout's first day at school, Miss Caroline Fisher introduced herself proudly saying, "I am Caroline Fisher. I am from North Alabama, from Winston County." Being born and raised in Winston County, which is a small rural county in North Alabama. I remember being surprised to see my home county mentioned as I first read the book as a law student at Samford University's Cumberland School of Law. From that day forward "To Kill a Mockingbird" has been a favorite of mine, not only because my home county was mentioned but most importantly because the message the book articulates.

Nelle, as she is affectionately known by her friends, was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom on November 5, 2007 by President George W. Bush.

Besides "To Kill a Mockingbird," Lee also penned "Christmas to Me" and "When Children Discover America" for McCall's Magazine in the 1960s.

Miss Lee is a national treasure and I am proud to cosponsor and vote for Mr. BONNER's resolution, H. Res. 1525, honoring the 50th anniversary of "To Kill a Mockingbird."

THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 2010 National Scout Jamboree that concluded at Fort A.P. Hill, near Fredericksburg. Thousands upon thousands of Boy Scouts, Troop masters, and other staff and family descended on the greater DC area to join together and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America.

Madam Speaker, the Boy Scouts of America make positive contributions in every community around the United States. Boy Scouts volunteer many hours to improve their communities, enhance the environment, and help those in need. In their dedication to service to others, Scouts never shy away from a challenge.

I trust the Jamboree that just concluded was a successful and joyous one, Madam Speaker. The Boy Scouts of America, as an organization, has a lot to be proud of and celebrate. Every former and current Scout should be proud of their contributions to humanity and their community. The Jamboree encouraged participants to "Be Prepared" as they anticipate the challenges of life and continue to act as leaders at home and school. Ultimately, Madam Speaker, the Jamboree "Inspire[d] every participant to return to their home, troop, chartered organization, and community telling

the story of the freedom that is ours and the greatness of the United States of America.”

I want to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the Boy Scouts of America on their very special 100-year milestone. Madam Speaker, the Boy Scouts of America prepare our young men for lives of leadership and selflessness. I applaud the organization for its longevity and commitment to service.

HONORING THE SWISHER FAMILY,
ARKANSAS FAMILY OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the Swisher family, who have been named Arkansas Family of the Year by the state Knights of Columbus council.

Brian and Gail Swisher have persevered and sacrificed to allow their son Michael the opportunity to accomplish his dreams and goals, specifically gaining Eagle Scout status, despite his cerebral palsy, which he was diagnosed with at birth. The Swisher family truly deserves recognition for being the Knights of Columbus Family of the Year because of their resiliency and passion in teaching their son that no matter what physical condition he is in, he can still accomplish whatever he tries at, even though he has been confined to a wheelchair since he was a little boy.

Michael Swisher is an inspiration to all of us with his determination to overcome his ailment and complete the tasks necessary to become an Eagle Scout. Michael Swisher and the entire Swisher family are an inspiration and a heartfelt story that should be commemorated throughout the nation for their passion, commitment and desire. They truly are deserving of the recognition Arkansas Family of the Year.

COMMENDING BILL DAVIS FROM
TIFTON, GEORGIA

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commend Bill Davis from Tifton, Georgia.

For 20 years, Bill Davis owned a Sonny's barbeque franchise in Tifton, Georgia. After his 22-year license for the franchise expired in 2007, Mr. Davis met with corporate officials to discuss a new condition of their agreement. The company asked Davis to initiate the selling of beer, wine, and liquor drinks in the restaurant in order to fully comply with corporate standards. Davis refused, claiming that his restaurant was family-oriented and suggesting that the initiation of alcoholic sales could detract from the family environment. It was the first of a philosophical divergence. More would come.

On October 18, 2008, an individual from the corporate office visited the establishment. There, he found the employees wearing white T-shirts with an American flag logo and the words "I Pledge . . . I Pray" written on them.

He also noticed a Jesus souvenir sitting behind the counter. The patrons and staff of the restaurant were accustomed to the display, claiming that it allowed them to exhibit their patriotism and religious affiliation. The corporate employee, however, was less than pleased, perceiving the actions as a breach of the conditions and the typical practice of the franchise owners. An extension on license agreement was signed, and both parties agreed to extend through November 30, 2009.

This past October, Davis received a letter stating that his franchise agreement would end on December 31.

Rather than altering the atmosphere of his establishment to conform to the politically correct request of the corporation, Davis decided to "stand up for God" and continue the demonstration of his beliefs, despite the attempts of the company to silence them, so he parted ways with Sonny's. True to his word, he stuck with his convictions, and the display of American patriotism and religious faith are still a part of the restaurant's atmosphere today.

While the basic restaurant has changed, Mr. Davis is no longer a franchise owner, but a sole proprietor. The restaurant is now called "The Smokehouse Restaurant." Davis affirms that, aside from the name change, everything at the establishment will remain in place. I commend Bill Davis for "standing up for God," and I also support Sonny's right to set the rules for their franchise. They have a contractual right to set the rules, but sometimes, as businesses grow and become prosperous, they have to play it safe, conforming to political correctness and avoiding anything that could potentially raise an eyebrow. Thus, the straightjacket of public opinion and the murky center of legal conformity play an increasing role in decision-making. Some corporations, such as Graco, Domino's, and Chick-fil-A, have stood tall and should be commended.

The decision to run family friendly and patriotic operations is what makes America thrive. It seems as if Davis' decision to stick to these values will likely pay off, as many local patrons have insisted that they will continue to dine at the restaurant on a regular basis.

HONORING RUDY AND EVA LEON
AND LONNIE AND MARILYN KILGORE

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the unyielding commitment of two families to caring for and improving the lives of foster care children in Arizona.

Rudy and Eva Leon have been licensed foster care parents for 45 years and were recently honored by former Governor Janet Napolitano for being the longest serving foster parents in the state of Arizona. They have spent the past 17 years serving the children of Devereux Arizona. The Leons have selflessly provided over 200 children with a safe and loving home environment.

Lonnie and Marilyn Kilgore began their service assisting foster care children in the Juvenile Court Foster Care Program of Arizona. Since that time, they have been licensed with Devereux for the past 16 years, during which they have cared for 47 children.

Foster care parents such as the Leons and the Kilgores recognize that all children deserve a home that will shelter them from the trauma and stress of their young lives. These families have made it their mission to provide these children with the opportunity to move on from their often difficult pasts and benefit from caring and supportive guardians. This foundation truly creates the groundwork for a meaningful, enriching life.

Organizations like Devereux have proven enormously successful at changing the lives of some of our state's most at-risk youth, helping them find stable homes and setting thousands of children on the right path in the face of tremendous difficulty.

I would like once more to thank Rudy and Eva Leon and Lonnie and Marilyn Kilgore for their hard work, deep commitment and determined sacrifice to the children of Arizona. Their long-standing dedication to the future of children and impact on their communities are an example of selfless dedication to us all.

HONORING CARL MESCHER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Carl Mescher of Metropolis, Illinois. Mr. Mescher will turn 90 on August 12, 2010. A reception to celebrate his birthday is being held in Metropolis on August 8, 2010.

Mr. Mescher grew up on the family farm, where he still raises cattle and crops. He served in the United States Navy from June 1940 to July 1946, where he achieved the rank of Chief Petty Officer. He was assigned to the USS Pennsylvania, which was in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Mr. Mescher manned the telephone connected directly to the bridge during the attack.

On December 20, 1941, the USS Pennsylvania was sent to San Francisco for repairs of damage caused during the attack with Mr. Mescher on board. He then served as an observation plane radioman-gunner and participated in missions to retake the islands. He was awarded the Air Medal for courageous action in the Pacific theater at Makin, Kwajalein, and Eniwetok Atoll.

I am honored to thank Mr. Mescher for his service to our nation. May God bless him with continued health and happiness.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2480, THE
TRUTH IN FUR LABELING ACT
OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2480, the Truth in Fur Labeling Act of 2009. This bill will amend the Fur Products Labeling Act of 1951 to close the loophole that allows the sale of products containing a relatively small quantity of fur or fur that is valued at \$150 or less.

The current loophole denies consumers the right to know what their garment is really

made of. It may say “faux” but this may not be accurate. Consumers who may have allergies to fur or ethical objections to fur cannot make informed purchases. Our constituents have the right to know what they are purchasing and wearing.

This bill was introduced in response to a series of investigations of fur products sold at major retailers across the country. This investigation found that a significant number of clothes designers and retailers were selling some fur-trimmed garments that were described as faux when actually they turned out to be real fur. This legislation is about transparency and providing consumers with accurate information on what they’re buying.

This legislation simply requires that fur-trimmed garments meet the same labeling standard already in place for fur garments of a higher dollar value. It does not affect the trade in any animal fur or the methods used to produce animal fur. The legislation also asks the Federal Trade Commission to review the Fur Products Name Guide and ensure accuracy and consistency of species names.

I supported this legislation in the 110th Congress, and strongly support it today.

Mr. Speaker, I want to strongly add my support to H.R. 2480, the Truth in Fur Labeling Act of 2009.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
LORENZEN WRIGHT

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Memphian and NBA star Lorenzen Wright. Mr. Wright was born in Memphis, Tennessee and attended the historic Booker T. Washington High School. After graduating, he attended the University of Memphis where he helped lead the team to the “Sweet Sixteen” in the 1995 NCAA tournament. While there, he was selected Third Team All-American by the Associated Press and earned the nickname “The Howl” because of his tendency to yell after exciting plays.

In 1996, after playing two seasons for the Memphis Tigers, Mr. Wright entered the NBA draft and was selected 7th overall by the Los Angeles Clippers. After three seasons with the Clippers, he played for the Atlanta Hawks for two years before returning home to play for the newly relocated Memphis Grizzlies in 2001.

For Lorenzen Wright, playing for his hometown team at the professional level gave him a chance to play alongside some of the best athletes for the city he loved. During his tenure with the Grizzlies, he became an emotional leader of the team, bringing passion and dedication to each and every game. Friend and former NBA star Penny Hardaway recalled the fans’ love for Lorenzen and how “he attacked the game every single night.” After five seasons with the Memphis Grizzlies, he was traded back to the Atlanta Hawks and has since played for the Sacramento Kings and most recently the Cleveland Cavaliers until his retirement in 2009.

Off the basketball court, Lorenzen Wright was a devoted family man and a loyal friend.

He is survived by six children, Lorenzen Jr., Loren, twins Lamar and Shamar, Lawson and Sofia, his parents Herb Wright and Deborah Marion and a host of family and friends. Lorenzen Wright’s passing is a great loss to our city and the basketball world. I will miss him as a friend and appreciate all he did for Memphis.+

HONORING DON EUCARIO
BERMUDEZ

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, this month Colombia celebrates 200 years as a sovereign nation. As we congratulate our democratic ally and friend on its bicentennial, it is fitting that we also honor some of Colombia’s finest, and among them, is Eucario Bermudez.

This distinguished journalist got his start as a broadcaster, radio host and General Director of Radio Caracol Colombia. While in Colombia, he also produced and directed various TV programs, earning him the “Premio Ondas de España” a prestigious award for journalism given by Spain. In 1981, he moved to Miami, expanding the radio station to the United States. He established Radio Klaridad, which later became Radio Calidad and is now a days the very popular Radio Caracol in South Florida. He has since been director of the station, which together with its sister station Radio Caracol Colombia, broadcasts news in both the United States and Colombia.

Don Eucario also oversees community relations for Radio Caracol, leads the news department, and continues to broadcast daily on his show “The Voice of the Community,” as well as the noon news cast. He does so with true professionalism, honesty and a commitment to reporting the truth, always maintaining a fair and balanced approach.

What stands out most about Don Eucario is his activism and service to the community. He has been president of the Colombian American Chamber of Commerce, founded the Association of Colombian News Outlets and Journalists in the United States, the Colombian American Association, known as CASA, and the first ever Colombian Political Action Committee, COLPAC. He has published several works about the economy, small businesses, entrepreneurship and immigration, and has been recognized by various local governments and the Florida State Legislature for his service to the development of the Colombian American community in South Florida as well as his contributions in the field of journalism.

Although he has called South Florida home for nearly three decades, Don Eucario is still as passionate about his native Colombia as he is about the United States and works to ensure that the Colombian American community has a voice and that its needs are represented. Above all, he is committed to promoting democracy and speaking out for those who cannot express themselves as freely as he can.

I ask that you join me in thanking and honoring Eucario Bermudez, a fine journalist and friend, for his service to the community and his commitment to always speaking the truth.

HONORING THE FRANK L. MITCHELL POST 3335 OF THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Frank L. Mitchell Post 3335 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars as they celebrate their 75th anniversary.

The mission of Veterans of Foreign Wars is to honor the dead by helping the living, and the Frank L. Mitchell Post 3335 in Jay, Maine, has spent the past 75 years meeting this goal. Post members have honored their fallen comrades in the community and have strived to ensure that all veterans receive the benefits they deserve. The Post honors those who remain Prisoners of War or Missing in Action and ensures that the community never forgets the sacrifices of these service members and their families.

Post 3335 helps improve the civic engagement of its community by sponsoring the local Patriot’s Pen competition. This essay writing competition is designed to foster patriotism by giving students in grades six, seven and eight the opportunity to write essays expressing their views on democracy. Additionally, their homecoming celebrations continue to provide Jay with occasions to come together as a community.

The people of Jay know firsthand the important role Post 3335 has played in the life of their town. Through their countless hours of volunteer work and remarkable commitment to our veterans, the members of Post 3336 have been a shining light to some of our nation’s most deserving citizens.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the members of the Frank L. Mitchell Post 3335 as they celebrate their 75th anniversary and thanking them for their tremendous contributions to the Jay community and to the State of Maine.

HONORING MR. FABIO ANDRADE

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, this week Colombia celebrates 200 years as a sovereign nation. As we congratulate our democratic ally and friend on its Bicentennial, it is fitting that we also honor some of Colombia’s finest, and among them, is Fabio Andrade.

Fabio is one of South Florida’s most dedicated, selfless and tireless community activists. He leads the Colombian American community with conviction and commitment. He is a leading voice in urging the passage of a Free Trade Agreement between the United States and Colombia and is an advocate of strengthening the partnership between the two countries. Fabio understands that as the hemisphere’s leading democracies, Colombia and the United States are positioned to make an impact through trade, the creation of jobs and a steadfast commitment to spreading democracy throughout Latin America.

Fabio is committed to ensuring that the needs of our diverse community are met, the voice of South Florida is heard throughout the various levels of government and that Hispanics have opportunity for growth and success. He has set forth to empower individuals, strengthen families, create networks, and bring within reach opportunities for others.

For more than 20 years, Fabio has been instrumental in the creation of work training centers across South Florida, providing support for small businesses and assisting new business owners. As a founder and the CEO of The Americas Community Center, a non-profit organization, he has created a network of support and guidance for immigrants and minorities as they enter the workforce. Fabio himself was able to achieve his success through hard work and dedication, and it is those values which he strives to instill in others.

Fabio's work and his love of service embody the true spirit of prosperity and freedom. He is committed to defending our nation's principles, while at the same time working to ensure that his native Colombia remains the strongest democracy in Latin America.

I ask that you join me in honoring and thanking my good friend Fabio Andrade, a true leader who loves and values freedom and works so that others may enjoy it.

IOWA SAFE SCHOOLS LAW THREE
YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the three year anniversary of the Iowa Safe Schools law. As an Iowan, I'm proud to say that my home state has a strong Safe Schools law which protects all students against prejudice. Iowa is the 10th state to pass such a law which was the extension of the Civil Rights law which protects LGBT school staff members from discrimination.

I also rise today to recognize my friend, former State Senator Mike Connelly. Senator Connelly has been a trusted advocate for policies related to education and youth in Iowa during his 30 years working as a legislator. Senator Connelly played an integral role in the passing of the Safe Schools law serving as the floor manager in the Iowa Senate for the passing of the bill. It was Senator Connelly who successfully challenged those who were initially opposed to the Safe Schools Law. His support helped persuade many Senators to switch their final vote from "no" to "yes."

I'm pleased to be celebrating the three year anniversary of the Iowa Safe Schools law. This law will protect students against discrimination for generations to come.

HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE
OF SERGEANT GLENN
LATRONICO

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Glenn Latronico of Oak

Lawn, Illinois, who is returning home after a fifth tour of duty in the Middle East as an Army Ranger.

U.S. military forces currently rely on the sacrifice and dedication of volunteer soldiers. The freedom every one of us enjoys today depends on the choice made by hundreds of thousands of men and women to risk their own lives for the sake of others through military service.

But even among our dedicated soldiers, the service of certain individuals can rise far above and beyond the call of duty. Sergeant Latronico began his service six years ago with basic training at the age of 18, and proceeded to undergo additional rigorous requirements to become an Army Ranger. After basic training, Army Rangers must take part in Advanced Individual Training and obtain a Military Occupational Specialty; complete Airborne Training; and attend the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program. Not every soldier chooses or is able to fulfill these additional requirements. Sergeant Latronico's completion of this training alone places him among the elite in our military forces.

With his training completed, Sergeant Latronico took part in five tours of duty—two in Iraq and three in Afghanistan. His steadfast service in the face of difficult conditions on the ground in these two countries exemplifies dedication, discipline, and unwavering resolve. I am proud to welcome such a committed soldier back home to my district. I ask you to join me in honoring his sacrifice, a reminder of the very best that our young servicemen and women can offer our great country.

HONORING FLYING TIGERS

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, celebrating the 69th anniversary of the first combat action of the American Volunteer Group, AVG, and to recognize the contribution of the AVG and the 23rd Fighter Group "Flying Tigers" to America's victory in World War II.

Whereas the American Volunteer Group was formed by Lieutenant General Claire Chennault for the defense of China;

Whereas the American Volunteer Group was affectionately known as the Flying Tigers;

Whereas the American Volunteer Group Flying Tigers saw their first combat over Yunnan Province in China on December 20th, 1941 shooting down nine enemy bombers;

Whereas the American Volunteer Group Flying Tigers faced a numerically superior enemy force, long logistics supply lines and poor infrastructure and despite those challenges ultimately destroyed 299 enemy aircraft and 153 probably destroyed, losing only 12 aircraft in combat;

Whereas the American Volunteer Group Flying Tigers were disbanded and the 23rd Fighter Group Flying Tigers were activated in their stead on July 4th, 1942;

Whereas the 23rd Fighter Group while facing similar challenges in the Chinese theater, nonetheless destroyed 621 enemy aircraft finishing as the third highest scoring Army Air Force's Fighter Group of World War II;

Whereas the current day 23rd Fighter Group and 23rd Wing continues the proud combat

tradition of the American Volunteer Group seeing combat action in Vietnam, Desert Storm, Operation Allied Force, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Resolved, that the United States Congress congratulates the Flying Tigers of the American Volunteer Group and the 23rd Fighter Group for their contribution to our nation's defense and celebrates the 69th anniversary of the first combat action by the Flying Tigers.

HONORING ARMY STAFF
SERGEANT ERIC BYRON SHAW

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Army Staff Sergeant Eric Byron Shaw of Exeter, ME who was killed while serving his country in Afghanistan.

Eric was well-loved by his community, family, and friends. He is remembered for his dedication to serving his nation, his generous spirit, and his devotion to his family. On June 23rd, Sergeant Shaw was killed in action on his third tour of duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. This loss is particularly painful as Shaw leaves behind a young family.

Known for his good nature, Shaw was a 1999 graduate of Dexter High School. After high school, he enrolled in the University of Southern Maine where he was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity. As a history major with a minor in education, Shaw planned to pursue a career teaching history. His close friends remember him as a caring person willing to do volunteer work and participate in community activities.

Staff Sergeant Shaw was on his third tour of duty with the 327th Infantry, First Brigade Combat Team from Fort Campbell, Kentucky. During his service, he received many awards including the Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Iraq Campaign Medal, and the National Defense Service Ribbon. Sergeant Shaw will be receiving three awards posthumously, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the NATO Medal.

In Maine, our communities are known for coming together during a crisis, and I know that everyone in the state stands together to support Eric's mother, wife and three children, although they do not live in the state. Eric is mourned by all as a true American hero and a defender of the freedom we all hold dear.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the memory of Staff Sergeant Eric Byron Shaw for his patriotism and devotion to his community and his country.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK AND
SERVICE OF ANA SOTORRIO

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ana Sotorrio for her years of service to the residents of Miami-Dade County, as she retires this month.

During the last three decades, Ana has demonstrated extreme professionalism, loyalty and commitment to her work. She has proven to be an exceptional leader with the ability to work in a team, develop and maintain working relationships at the local, state, and federal levels and ensure that the goals and priorities of Miami-Dade County are met.

Ana joined the County Manager's office in 1974 and later moved on to Miami-Dade Aviation, where she has served with six Aviation Directors and has been instrumental in the growth and expansion of Miami International Airport.

For 22 years, Ana has been critical to the ongoing operation of the Miami-Dade Aviation Department. Through her leadership in developing the government and regulatory agenda she was successful in securing funding for vital projects at Miami International Airport, including \$100 million for a runway project, \$74 million for the federally mandated explosive detection systems, and approval of the ongoing \$6.3 billion Capital Improvement Program.

Ana is not just a leader at the Airport, but also an activist in the community, serving on numerous boards and associations including the Florida Airports Council, of which she recently served as President, the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, the Jay Malina International Trade Consortium and Leadership Miami.

Ana's work and dedication have directly impacted her colleagues, the residents of Miami-Dade County and the thousands who travel through South Florida each day, as well as those involved in the aviation community across the nation. She has been a steadfast leader with qualities that many, including myself, admire. She will be missed at the County, the Airport and even in Washington, DC, but I know that the positive impact left behind through her work will be felt for years.

I ask that you join me in recognizing Ana Sotorrio for her service, her activism and her commitment to working towards improving Miami-Dade County and the lives of others. I wish Ana the best in her future endeavors and on behalf of our community, I thank her for her years of service.

HONORING RICHARD "DICK"
WILSON, SR.

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to honor the life of Richard "Dick" Wilson, Sr., who recently lost his 21-month battle with brain cancer at the age of 78. Dick is survived by his wife Phyllis JoAn; two sons, Rick (and his wife Leslie), Indianapolis, Indiana—my long-time staffer and former District Director—Steve (and his wife Michelle), Overland Park, Kansas; a daughter, Patricia Geyling (and her husband Rolf), Santa Barbara, California; 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Study after study has proven beyond a shadow of a doubt that fathers play an important role in teaching their children life lessons and preparing them to succeed in life. Although I did not know Dick Wilson, Sr. very well, I do know his son Rick extremely well. For a little over 15 years Rick Wilson served the people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District with grace and skill; first as director of my mobile office and later as my District Director. And if the measure of a father is the quality of the children that he raises, then based upon what I know about his son Rick, Dick Wilson, Sr. was undoubtedly an exceptional man.

Richard "Dick" Wilson was born December 29, 1931, in Schenectady, NY. He graduated from Mount Pleasant High School in 1950 and attended the University of Kansas on a cross country and track scholarship. Dick was a member of the 1953 NCAA championship cross-country team—Kansas' only cross-country team to ever win a national championship—and part of the four-mile relay team that broke the American record that same year. In 2008 he was inducted into the KU Athletics Hall of Fame.

After graduating from the University of Kansas, Dick Wilson served in the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserves from 1956 to 1968, achieving the rank of captain.

On July 15, 1956, he married Phyllis JoAn Fink. He and his wife raised three children, moving from Schenectady, NY, to Palatine, IL, and then to Indianapolis before settling in Lawrence in 1992.

Dick began his career in commercial underwriting in 1957; eventually serving with the Travelers Insurance Company for 35 years before he retired in 1992 in Lawrence.

In addition to working hard all of his life and raising a family, Dick Wilson was also a competitive Masters runner for more than 30 years; and was nationally ranked in the top 10 of his age group every year from 1985 to 2005—a remarkable 20 year streak. In fact, in 2003 Dick was ranked No. 2 in the nation and No. 4 in the World in his age group.

Twenty-one months ago though, Dick began the race for his life when he was diagnosed with cancer; a race he would ultimately lose. However, no matter the odds, Dick never gave up living life. Last year, after doctors removed 95 percent of a brain tumor, Dick ran in the Head for the Cure 5K—a race to support the Chris Anthony Tumor Research Fund at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. The race honors the late Chris Anthony, who died at the age of 37 from a brain tumor. When interviewed by the *Kansas*—the University of Kansas' Daily newspaper—about what running in the Chris Anthony meant to him, Dick said: "Maybe someday there will be a cure, and if there is, it can hopefully help my children and help my grandchildren."

Shakespeare once wrote: "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and entrances, and one man in his time plays many parts. . . ." Dick Wilson played his parts and played them well. May flights of angels sing him to his eternal rest.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in sending condolences and best wishes to the Wilson Family in their time of need. God bless you.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF JUBILEE DAY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Jubilee Day, which is celebrated on October 6 of every year by the Fisk University community.

Just after the end of the Civil War, the Fisk School was founded in Nashville, Tennessee as an educational institute that would be open to all, regardless of race or age. However, just five years after its founding, the school faced dire economic struggles.

In an effort to save the University from closing, a group of students formed a choral group, the Fisk Jubilee Singers, with the goal of raising money to fund the institution. They took all of the funds in the university's treasury for travel expenses, hoping that the enormous risk would pay off.

Despite a few initial struggles, the Jubilee Singers eventually came to tour throughout the United States and Europe and raised enough funds to not only preserve the university but also to pay for the construction of Jubilee Hall, the first permanent structure built for the education of African-American students in the South.

The singers came to perform for such notable figures as William Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips, Ulysses S. Grant, William Gladstone, Mark Twain, Johann Strauss, and Queen Victoria, and introduced the world to the spirituals of enslaved Africans as a musical genre.

Since its founding in 1866, Fisk has educated countless intellectual, artistic, and civic leaders, and has played a pivotal role in the advancement of education for African-American students. None of its accomplishments would have been possible without the talents and sacrifices of that first group of nine students.

To honor the hard work, perseverance, and accomplishments of the original Jubilee Singers and the continued success of the generations of Jubilee Singers who followed and continue to tour today, Fisk University celebrates Jubilee Day on October 6 of every year.

This year in particular, members of the Fisk community in Washington, DC, will come together for an event at the Capitol to celebrate Jubilee Day along with the Fisk community in Nashville.

Madam Speaker, as a proud alumnus of Fisk, I urge my colleagues to join me in this year's celebration of Jubilee Day by cosponsoring this resolution, and I urge its immediate consideration.