EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAT KELLY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Pat Kelly, one of the longest-serving employees in the history of the House of Representatives. Pat retired yesterday after more than 53 years of outstanding public service.

Pat comes from a family that has always placed a high premium on public service. Her father, Edward, was a New York City Court justice; her mother, Edna, was a Member of the House of Representatives. Even further back, Pat can trace her family's history of service to a grandfather who was appointed Postmaster of Brooklyn, New York, by President Woodrow Wilson.

In her decades in the House, Pat worked as a research assistant, a legislative assistant for three Members of Congress and the House Rules Committee, and the Editor of the House Daily Digest. Pat served in that most recent role from 1999 to her retirement. She has seen more than half a century of history being made first-hand—and more importantly, she has helped shaped that history, through her diligence, hard work, and deep experience. For more than 53 years, Pat Kelly made herself indispensable to the House, and she will be greatly missed.

HONORING EVIE DAVIS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, public service is a noble profession when done honestly and well. Those who work in government, serving the people, do so with pride of accomplishment in the knowledge that they are helping to make life easier for those they serve.

Evie Davis, the District Manager of the West Nyack Social Security office began her career with the Social Security Administration 40 years ago, in October of 1970, at the Northeastern Program Service.

She held a variety of positions of increasing responsibility, rising to District Manager of the White Plains office in 1990. She served there for eleven years before moving across the Hudson River to her current position in Rockland County.

She has served on many committees and workshops in furtherance of helping the SSA better help its clients, including the workgroup on the Limited-English Speaking Population. She has also served on the Advisory Committee of the Offices for the Aging in both Westchester and Rockland Counties.

She has always prided herself on her service to the Social Security Administration and the people it serves, touching the lives of virtually all of America's families in one way or another. She derived great fulfillment from her role in managing and always strove to contribute to a satisfying work environment. For her dedication and her abilities she has received many awards, including the Associate Commissioner's Citation.

Evie and her husband Mark are about to celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary. They have two sons, Eric and Jarrod and twin baby granddaughters.

I congratulate Evie Davis for her 40 years of public service in helping people. She has earned our thanks and praise for the good work she has done for so many years in making our lives and the lives of those around us better and more fulfilling.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EUGENE AARON BONACCI

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and service of Eugene Aaron Bonacci, a decorated veteran of the United States Navy, loving son, brother, partner, and friend to many. Tragically, Eugene passed away unexpectedly last month at the all too early age of 33.

Eugene devoted his too short life to his family and country. After graduating from Roslyn High School in 1996, he enlisted in the United States Navy. The military proved an ideal career choice. His intelligence, patriotism, selflessness, and drive to succeed in all he endeavored were a perfect fit for the Navy. It was no surprise to those who knew Eugene best that he would be highly decorated for his service. Eugene earned the Navy Achievement Medal, Blue Jacket Award, National Defense Service Medal, Joint Services Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Navy Pistol Expert Medal, and Rifleman Marksmanship Ribbon.

Following his time in the Navy, Eugene enrolled at Pennsylvania State University, where he studied security and risk analysis. It was Eugene's difficulty obtaining full-tuition benefits for his education under the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill that inspired him and his mother, Leslie Blei, to become tireless advocates of the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill Improvements Act. When the bill passed and was signed into law by President Obama, Eugene, selfless as always, cited his mother's advocacy as a factor for passage of the bill.

Eugene's professional accomplishments were numerous. His personal attributes were the most significant though. Eugene was loved by his family and loved them in return, including his partner Elizabeth Rockey. His large extended family was the source of his strength.

Eugene's life was cut short, but as his father Eugene Bonacci II says, Eugene was blessed with a meaningful life. In a final act of compassion that embodied Eugene's selflessness, he donated his organs, which doctors estimated could save and improve the lives of numerous people.

For his service to country, advocacy for veterans, and devotion to his family and friends, I ask all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Eugene Aaron Bonacci.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF LINDA ROMANIK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember Linda Romanik. She was a labor leader who was dedicated to her fellow workers, her family, and her community, and a former member of my Congressional Staff. I am saddened to report that Linda passed away recently after a short illness.

Linda was born on July 31, 1949, in Cleveland, Ohio. Early in her childhood she moved to Wickliffe, Ohio, and graduated from Wickliffe High School in 1967. Soon afterward, she began her employment with Bailey Controls in Wickliffe.

At the time, the workers at Bailey had no labor representation. In 1971, Linda helped form an organizing committee. As a result of her efforts, the workers at Bailey Controls organized Local 1741 of the United Auto Workers (UAW). She served on the Local 1741 committee from 1985 until 1996 and was the committee's Vice President from 1990 through 1993. Linda was also active on the UAW's Community Action Program (CAP) for the Ashtabula-Geauga-Lake region from 1976 until 1981 and was its chair from 1981 through 1988.

In 1996, Linda worked tirelessly on my Congressional campaign. When we won the election that year, I asked Linda to join my staff as a caseworker and labor liaison. She served the people of Ohio's 10th Congressional District with enthusiasm and distinction. She helped me set up my District offices and worked closely with constituents who needed personal help and with local labor leaders who needed my attention on many issues.

Linda resigned from my staff in 1998 to take on greater challenges in the labor movement. She became the UAW's CAP coordinator in 1998 and International Representative for the UAW's Regions 2 and 2B in 2004. She retired in 2010 after more than 35 years of service with the UAW. She served on the board of the United Labor Agency and was its Recording Secretary. She stayed active with Local 1741 and its successor, Local 70 after the merger of the two locals in 2005. Linda was also a longtime member of the Lake County Democratic Women's Club.

Linda was also a caring mother and wife. She spent 30 loving years married to her husband John, for whom she cared dearly. She

also raised her two children, John and Andrea, with warmth and kindness and was the proud grandmother of Carter.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering Linda Romanik, an advocate for the public good who served this House with distinction, who made the workplace a better place for workers, and who was dedicated to her community and family.

CELEBRATING TAIWAN'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STRAIT EXCHANGE FOUNDATION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, in the last two and a half years, through Taiwan's Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) and Mainland China's Association for Relations Across the Trait Strait (ARATS), Taiwan and Mainland China have held several rounds of talks and concluded many economic and trade agreements, most important of which was the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) inked last June 29 in Chongqing China.

ECFA boosts Taiwan's economy and creates tens of thousands of job opportunities. Further, the agreement will help Taiwan's economy to benefit from regional integration and develop new international markets while attracting foreign direct investments in Taiwan. In addition to the economic benefits for both Taiwan and the Chinese mainland, the signing of this agreement has significantly eased tensions across the Taiwan Strait. The two sides are now linked by more than 300 direct flights per week. Mainland China is Taiwan's largest trading partner with cross-strait trade totaling close to $110 billion in 2009, according to Taiwan statistics.

Clearly, the Straits Exchange Foundation is to be congratulated on its 20th anniversary for its good work. SEF has brought prosperity and peace to the Taiwan Strait. As we celebrate the successes of the SEF, we know much lies ahead for the SEF and the ARATS. For instance, the people in Taiwan and the international community continue to have strong concerns about China's military expansion and deployments.

So far, China has yet to renounce the use of force regarding Taiwan and China's military build-up across the Taiwan Strait continues unabated with more than 1,100 missiles pointed in Taiwan's direction. Although tensions have abated and there seems to be no danger of China using force against Taiwan, China's military deployments worry policymakers in both Taipei and Washington.

While the United States is happy to see rapprochement between the two sides, it is my opinion that to ensure Taiwan's future, we must help Taiwan develop the confidence to resist any outside aggression. We should and must continue to stand by our commitment to provide Taiwan with defense articles and defense services. Our recent decision to notify Congress of the approval of arms sales to Taiwan worth $6.4 billion is an indication of our commitment to meet the obligations spelled out in the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA). This has been a U.S. policy followed by successive Administrations for more than 30 years.

Again, I congratulate the leaders of Taiwan's SEF, Taiwan's Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) and ROC President Ma Ying-jeou for their vision and hard work in improving cross-strait relations. Together they have restored U.S. trust and reversed the deterioration in cross-strait relations that took place prior to May 2008.

HONORING TREVOR BAYNE

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor a rising star in motorsports.

On February 20, 2011, Knoxville native Trevor Bayne raced into NASCAR history by becoming the youngest driver ever to win the Daytona 500.

It was only his second sprint Cup race ever.

The night before his victory, Trevor celebrated his twentieth birthday. Little did he know that the next day, his childhood dream would come true.

Trevor's love of racing began when his father bought him a go-kart when he was 5 years old, and he never looked back.

As a boy, his hero was NASCAR legend Jeff Gordon. Until Sunday, Gordon was the youngest driver ever to win the Daytona 500, an honor that now belongs to Trevor.

Just before heading to Victory Lane, Trevor said four words that summed up his historic feat: "Are you kidding me?"

Because of his overnight success, Trevor is fast becoming one of the most popular young drivers in his sport, but he is much more than that.

Trevor is a young man who puts his faith before winning and his family ahead of individual accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, Knoxville and the State of Tennessee are very proud of 2011 Daytona 500 Champion Trevor Bayne, and I urge my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD to join me in recognizing this extraordinary young man.

COMMENDING THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida for 100 years of dedicated service to our South Florida community. For a century, it has amassed a distinguished history of honorable service to the people of Miami-Dade County. I have the great privilege of representing the 18th Congressional District of Florida which falls within the boundaries of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit.

The Eleventh Judicial Circuit is the largest circuit in the state of Florida and the fourth largest trial court in the United States. The circuit is one of 20 in the state. The Eleventh Judicial Circuit's jurisdiction consists of Miami-Dade County, Florida, and has 123 circuit and county court judges presiding and over 14,000 attorneys serving a county wide population of over 2.5 million people. The court's philosophy is written on a placard that appears above the bench in each courtroom with the words, "We Who Labor Here Seek Only Truth."

When Florida entered into statehood in 1845, the state was served by only four judicial circuits: North, South, East, and West. The Southern Circuit spanned thousands of square miles, covering Dade, Monroe, Hillsborough, and Benton counties, and was served by only one circuit judge. The judge had the daunting task of traveling by train, boat, or horse across thousands of square miles to serve the entire circuit. In 1868, Florida's legislature replaced the four compass point circuits with seven numbered circuits. A constitutional amendment added an eighth circuit in 1902.

Florida's growing population soon created a need for additional circuits; so in 1910, the people of the State of Florida amended their constitution to give the legislature the authority to create additional judicial circuits as needed. After considering several plans to restructure the state circuit court system, the legislature expanded the system to 11 circuits in 1911. The Eleventh Judicial Circuit was one of the state's three new circuits.

Originally, the Eleventh Judicial Circuit served the counties of Dade, Palm Beach, and Monroe. At the time, Dade County had a population of roughly 12,000 people and was growing steadily. The first judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit was Livingstone Wellesley Bethel, a first generation immigrant raised in Key West, who spent almost 40 years of his life in public service. Judge Bethel served the people of Florida in many capacities including mayor of Key West, Lieutenant Governor of Florida, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, and county and circuit judge.

Our country was built on the foundation that all men are created equal and with certain unalienable rights: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Our founding fathers took care to protect these and other fundamental rights, establishing a three branch federal government and state governments. They recognized the importance and need for a judicial system to provide checks and balances in order to protect the rights of citizens, stating in the preamble of our Constitution, "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for-the United States of America." A foundation of our judicial system is "equal justice under law." Our federal and state courts work tirelessly to protect the rights of all Americans and are dedicated to carrying out the mandates of our Constitution.

From its modest beginnings in 1911, the Eleventh Judicial Circuit has grown to be one of our nation's most highly respected and important legal jurisdictions. The Eleventh Judicial Circuit is celebrating its rich history and legacy through centennial celebrations that include special artwork, a reenactment of the historic 1930 Al Capone perjury trial, and an overview of the civil rights movement in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit. The Eleventh Judicial Circuit is one of busiest and most prestigious

jurisdictions in our nation, and is recognized as a beacon of justice. The circuit fully embodies the commitment of our nation to provide ''equal justice under law.'' For the last 100 years, the men and women presiding over the Eleventh Judicial Circuit have served the people of South Florida with honor and distinction. I thank the judges, attorneys, and staff of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit for their commitment to justice and the rule of law.

The current members of the court are:

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Barbara Areces; Antonio Arzola; Jerald Bagley; Jennifer D. Bailey; Mary Barzee Flores; Scott M. Bernstein; Stanford Blake; Beth Bloom; Joel H. Brown, Chief Judge; Beatrice Butchko; Marcia B. Caballero; Gisela Cardonne Ely; Jeri B. Cohen; Yvonne Colodny; Jorge E. Cueto; Abby Cynamon; Maria Espinosa Dennis; Reemberto Diaz; Amy Steele Donner; Ronald Dresnick; Pedro P. Jr. Echarte; Spencer Eig; Joseph P. Farina; Ivan F. Fernandez; Jose L. Fernandez; Leon M. Firtel; Gill S. Freeman; Darrin P. Gayles; Michael A. Genden; Mindy S. Glazer; Stacy D. Glick; Monica Gordo; Milton Hirsch; Jacqueline Hogan Scola; Julio Jimenez; Sandy Karlan; Maria M. Korvick; Maxine Cohen Lando; Lester Langer; Mark King Leban; Cindy S. Lederman; Ellen Leesfield; Peter R. Lopez; Valerie R. Manno Schurr; Antonio Marin; Bronwyn C. Miller; David C. Miller; Celeste H. Muir; Dennis J. Murphy; Victoria Platzer; Orlando A. Prescott; Israel Reyes; Jose M. Rodriguez; Rosa I. Rodriguez; Jorge Rodriguez-Chomat; Arthur L. Rothenberg; Samantha Ruiz-Cohen; Maria I. Sampedro-Iglesia; Migna Sanchez-Llorens; George A. Sarduy; Nushin G. Sayfie; John Schlesinger; Marc Schumacher; Lawrence A. Schwartz; Robert N. Jr. Scola; Bernard S. Shapiro; Victoria S. Sigler; Scott J. Silverman; Bertila Soto; William Thomas; John W. Thornton Jr.; Marisa Tinkler Mendez; Daryl E. Trawick; Dava J. Tunis; Ellen Sue Venzer; and Diane V. Ward.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COURT JUDGES OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Victoria R. Brennan; Don S. Cohn; Joseph I. Jr. Davis; Victoria del Pino; Robin Faber; Rosa C. Figarola; Mary J. Francis; Gloria Gonzalez-Meyer; Michaelle Gonzalez-Paulson; Wendell M. Graham; Andrew S. Hague; Eric Hendon; Charles K. Johnson; Carroll J. Kelly; Lawrence D. King; Shelley J. Kravitz; Luise Krieger-Martin; Myriam Lehr; Steve Leifman; Norma S. Lindsey; Patricia Marino Pedraza; Cristina Miranda; Edward Newman; Maria D. Ortiz; Ana M. Pando; Gladys Perez; Catherine M. Pooler; Judith Rubenstein; Nuria Saenz; Caryn C. Schwartz; Jacqueline Schwartz; Sheldon R. Schwartz; Fred Seraphin; Lourdes Simon; Samuel J. Slom; Rodney Smith; Linda Singer Stein; Teretha Lundy Thomas; Lisa S. Walsh; Deborah White-Labora; and Andrea R. Wolfson.

SENIOR JUDGES OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Mercedes Armas Bach; Eli Breger; Philip Cook; Robert M. Deehl; Charles D. Edelstein; Richard Y. Feder; Eugene J. Fierro; Ronald Friedman; Seymour Gelber; Norman S. Gerstein; Marvin H. Gillman; William E. Gladstone; Leonard E. Glick; Jon I. Gordon; Edward S. Klein; Judith L. Kreeger; Barbara S. Levenson; Richard V. Margolius; Robert H. Newman; Thomas K. Petersen; Steven D. Robinson; Jeffrey Rosinek; Alan R. Schwartz; Martin Shapiro; Roger A. Silver; Stuart M. Simons; Raphael Steinhardt; Herbert Stettin; and David L. Tobin.

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MICHAEL L. OATES

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Lieutenant General Michael L. Oates, the Director of the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization (JIEDDO), who will retire from service on July 1, 2011.

LTG Oates has honorably served his country for more than three decades. Since graduating from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1979, LTG Oates has commanded troops from Company to Division level. He is a veteran of Desert Shield and Desert Storm and served three tours in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, serving as the Chief of Staff to the Deputy and Chief Operating Officer, Coalition Provisional Authority, as the Deputy Commanding General (Operations) 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and the Commanding General, 10th Mountain Division/Multi-National Division-Center. Among his many decorations, LTG Oates has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Bronze Star Medal.

As a Member of the House Armed Services Committee, I have supported LTG Oates' mission to provide the necessary training, equipment, and analytical capabilities necessary to protect our service men and women from the threats posed by IEDs. Having served in both Iraq and Afghanistan myself, I have experienced firsthand the dangers that IEDs pose to our troops. Under Oates' leadership, JIEDDO has made significant strides to combat those dangers by not only reducing the effectiveness of the IEDs, but also by helping to eliminate the enemy networks that seek to use these devices to harm our troops.

His approach on Capitol Hill brought a high degree of candor, integrity, and focus. Few missions are as important as JIEDDO's efforts to defeat the IED as a weapon of strategic influence and LTG Oates carried out that mission superbly, executing our counter-IED (C–IED) support to the Afghanistan surge and significantly reducing the effectiveness of IEDs. Also under his leadership, JIEDDO improved its processes and control measures to reduce wasteful spending, improve transparency to Congress, and demonstrate a greater level of accountability.

I have gotten to know Lieutenant General Michael Oates well during his tenure at JIEDDO. He is an inspiring leader, a teacher, and a Texan. The philosophy he instilled in his staff and demonstrated by example in his daily work come from James P. Owen's book, ''Cowboy Values.'' As he concludes his military career and rides off to face even tougher endeavors, he takes Owen's ''Code of the West,'' with him:

Live each day with courage.
Take pride in your work.
Always finish what you start.
Do what has to be done.
Be tough, but fair.
When you make a promise, keep it.
Ride for the brand.
Talk less and say more.
Remember that some things aren't for sale.
Know where to draw the line.

I am proud to share in the celebration of LTG Oates' military career, recognizing both his extraordinary leadership of JIEDDO and his distinguished military service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, February 28, 2011, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yes'' on rollcall vote No. 148 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 394, as amended), ''yes'' on rollcall vote No. 149 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 347, as amended), and ''yes'' on rollcall vote No. 150 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 368, as amended).

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, while Marshall University is the oldest public institution of higher education in West Virginia, tracing its founding to 1837, it took nearly 125 years of sustained growth before the normal school established on a knoll in rural Cabell County would truly come of age.

Compared to the news that seems to grab attention nowadays, it is probably difficult for today's students to understand the significance of the granting of university status to the former Marshall College. But 50 years ago, the designation as a state university meant far more than just a name.

Video footage and still photographs shot on Marshall's campus the day the news broke that the West Virginia Legislature had passed the university bill depict a student body that celebrated as if the football team had won a national championship. A special edition of The Parthenon hailed, ''We are now Marshall 'U'!'' Crowds gathered as ''College'' was symbolically chipped off one of Marshall's state highway historical markers. Students taped over the word ''college'' on the team sweatshirts they proudly wore. Cheering and running across campus, they acted as if a war had just ended. And, in essence, that is exactly what had happened. March 2, 1961, marked the end of a multi-year battle for Marshall's official recognition as an advanced higher learning institution in the state of West Virginia.

In his book, ''Marshall University: An Institution Comes of Age, 1837–1980,'' Marshall historian Dr. Charles H. Moffatt noted that in 1961, university status would make Marshall the first university located in the vast stretches of central Appalachia between Lexington, Kentucky, and Lexington, Virginia, and between

Athens, Ohio, and Knoxville, Tennessee. At the time, many states had only one state university, as was the case here, with West Virginia University in Morgantown being the sole university among a handful of higher education institutions in the Mountain State.

Dr. Stewart H. Smith, president of Marshall from 1946 to 1968 and for whom Smith Hall is named, fought many years for his beloved college to earn university status by engaging legislators, backed by strong local support, and working on a public front to change attitudes about a second university in West Virginia. Many thought the state should support only one large university, fearing another would drain resources from West Virginia University.

Smith argued that Marshall had earned university status because of the number of academic programs and advanced degrees offered, as well as the growth in enrollment. Smith, local legislators and area leaders said the change in status would not only help Marshall recruit more students and retain better faculty, it also would result in more federal funding and private donations, and help to bring more businesses to the state.

By 1960, following the establishment of Marshall's College of Applied Sciences, a request was made to the state Board of Education to accord the institution university status. The board approved the request in October 1960, and the battle for a change in State Code to make it official began.

Smith had strong support from Huntington-area legislators, and he joined them in carrying the fight to lawmakers from across the state and to the governor's office. He unified the Huntington campus and, along with the elected officials and other Marshall supporters, they persevered. The so-called Marshall bill passed the West Virginia Senate on February 16, 1961, and cleared the House of Delegates shortly after. Governor W.W. Barron signed the bill and dedicated a brand-new Gullickson Hall at the same time during a ceremony on Marshall's Huntington campus on March 2, 1961.

As he put his pen to the paper, Governor Barron said, "It is my privilege and pleasure to place my signature on legislation to change the name of this splendid educational institution from Marshall College to Marshall University. It is my sincere wish that Marshall's future will be resplendent with new pride and progress . . . which I am convinced will aid all of West Virginia."

The university and city celebrated. It was a turning point in the university's history and set the stage for what has indeed been a new generation of pride and progress as Marshall has grown to serve more West Virginians than ever.

Dramatic changes have occurred in the 50 years since. Enrollment has more than tripled and the campus infrastructure has been completely transformed. The Marshall community experienced unimaginable devastation with the plane crash in 1970 and witnessed an incredible rebirth through the 1990s, a story that was retold with a star-studded motion picture in 2006.

Marshall now offers 159 majors and 105 degrees through its 12 colleges. The university boasts the nation's finest graduate program in forensic science, and a top-ranked School of Medicine and transportation research institute. Marshall has developed a reputation for bioscience research and has in recent years established new programs in engineering, physical therapy and health informatics. Marshall also is launching a new School of Pharmacy, expected to field its first class of students in fall 2012.

The state's investment in Marshall has more than paid off, tripling in the past few years under current President Stephen J. Kopp's leadership. The most recent economic impact study, completed in 2010, conservatively estimates that Marshall returns $20 for every state dollar invested in the university, and helps to create more than 6,000 jobs.

Kopp has overseen more than $200 million in new capital projects and major building renovation. Since 2005, Marshall has launched 10 new high-demand degree majors or programs and doubled its research grant funding.

Marshall's impact will grow even more, as the university expects record enrollment in fall 2011 and more than $50 million in planned infrastructure improvements and new buildings over the next few years.

This growth would not have been possible without the vision and leadership more than 50 years ago from Dr. Smith and local legislators who recognized the need for Marshall to become a university. And, while there has been tremendous positive change since 1961, Marshall's mission will always be to serve the people of West Virginia and the entire region.

A hundred years ago, Professor Walter Raleigh addressed the meaning of the university. He said, "We owe an enormous debt to those who went before us; we can pay it, or a part of it, only to those who come after us. We must pass on our inheritance; and if we really can make here and there, as no doubt we can, some additions and improvements, to compensate the irrecoverable depredations of time and mortality, we are happy indeed. Anyhow, here is work enough for a University, and motive enough to urge us on to the work."

A hundred, indeed, hundreds of years hence, Marshall University will continue passing on our inheritance as long as we give it the support and encouragement it so nobly deserves.

FINANCIAL TIMES CRITICIZES REPUBLICAN ASSAULT ON SEC AND CFTC

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, in a very thoughtful editorial on February 24th, the Financial Times, a widely-respected voice of a responsible free market approach to the economy, expressed strong criticism of the reductions in the budget requests that were made for the Securities Exchange Commission and the Commodities Futures Trading Commission. These two agencies were given significantly enhanced responsibilities in the recently passed financial reform bill, and the Republican budget means that, most glaringly but not exclusively, derivatives will continue to lurk in the shadows of the financial system with their great potential for harm when improperly governed.

The Financial Times, not given to radical thought, closed this editorial by noting that "If the Republicans want another financial crisis, they are going about it the right way."

Mr. Speaker, few public policy issues are as important to us as avoiding the disaster of another financial crisis and its consequent plunging of the economy as a whole into deep recession and so I ask that his important editorial from the Financial Times be printed here.

[From the Financial Times, Feb. 24, 2011]

EDITORIAL: FUNDING REGULATORS

The Dodd-Frank financial regulation law passed in July 2010 was a far-reaching effort to promote financial stability. Whether the legislation can achieve that goal, though, depends on how it is implemented. On this, there are some worrying signs. The House of Representatives has voted to cut funding by a third to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. It also stripped $25m from the Securities and Exchange Commission. Squeezing two of the most important regulators jeopardises the progress made in creating a safer financial system.

Too much regulation did not cause the financial crisis. In the last decade, the SEC and CFTC have anyway been stretched. Over that time, the industry's complexity and size have grown. Technology has also changed the way markets operate, and regulators are as yet inadequately equipped with tools to monitor that change.

Even if the remit of these two bodies had not expanded, therefor; to cut their budgets would be ill-advised. To do so when Dodd-Frank has added to their tasks, is irresponsible. The White House understands this: the proposed 2012 budget would nearly double the CFTC's funds and increase the SEC financing by a fifth.

It is imperative that the SEC and CFTC are properly resourced. They are already behind schedule in writing the regulatory detail. This strain is particularly acute for the CFTC, which is taking on a proportionately greater burden under Dodd-Frank: previously unregulated derivatives fall largely under the CFTC's purview.

The current funding model is not the only option. User fees could be a viable alternative to congressional financing. Some other financial regulators already self-fund; the SEC partly does so. The futures industry has lobbied against this model for the CFTC. What matters most, however, is that regulators receive enough funding without strings attached.

The pressure to cut the SEC and CFTC budgets is part of the Republican war on the White House. Dodd-Frank is not perfect, but it improves on what came before. It cannot work, however, if politicians do not support regulators' efforts. If the Republicans want another financial crisis, they are going about it the right way.

HONORING LANCE CORCORAN

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Lance Corcoran. Mr. Corcoran worked for the California Correctional Peace Officers Association and was an influential individual in California's state correctional system. He passed away on Sunday, February 27, 2011. Mr. Corcoran is survived by his wife Christine and his three sons, Ian, Michael and Dylan.

Mr. Corcoran served as the Chief Communication Officer for the California Correctional

Peace Officers Association. He worked for the statewide organization representing the 33,000 men and women who worked in the state's correctional facilities. For over twenty years, Mr. Corcoran served as a union officer for the California Department of Corrections. Starting out as a Correctional Officer at Susanville in 1986, he was quickly promoted due to his commitment to improving the California correctional facilities and the lives of his fellow Peace Officers.

In 1994, Mr. Corcoran served as the President of the California Correctional Center Chapter within the California Correctional Peace Officers Association and also served on the Board of Directors. His leadership and determination not only made the California Correctional Peace Officer Association one of the largest and most prestigious law enforcement associations in the state but also made it highly influential. He continued to improve the Association by serving two terms as the Executive Vice President for the California Correctional Officers Association.

Mr. Corcoran directed the legislative operation of the California Correctional Peace Officers Association as the Chief of Governmental Affairs in 2005 before taking on the position of Chief Communications Officer for the Association. Not only was Mr. Corcoran an advocate for the rights of Peace Officers but also for the families impacted by crime. Mr. Corcoran was an active member of the California Crime Victims Coalition and served on the advisory board for the Doris Tate Crime Victims Bureau.

The passion of Mr. Corcoran to represent the California Correctional Peace Officers Association was unrelenting. He actively worked with determination to protect the rights of the men and women who worked for the California Department of Corrections. Few people have the passion and determination that Mr. Corcoran had. Mr. Corcoran always had a smile on his face and had an unparalleled sense of humor. He was not only an advocate for the Peace Officers, but was also their friend. He worked diligently and with compassion to ensure that all California Corrections Officers were treated fairly. Mr. Corcoran has left an influential impact on the California Correctional Peace Officers Association and on the State of California.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Lance Corcoran for his service and dedication to the California Department of Corrections and to the State of California. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Lance Corcoran.

IN HONOR OF AIRMAN 1ST CLASS COREY C. OWENS

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. ROSS of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true patriot who died in service to this great country. On February 17, 2011, Airman 1st Class Corey C. Owens, USAF, died of a non-combat related incident at Al Asad Air Base in Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn.

Airman 1st Class Owens, 26, of San Antonio, Texas, was assigned to the 47th Security Forces Squadron, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, and was on his second deployment to southwest Asia. His father resides in Story, Arkansas.

Although I never had the honor of meeting Airman 1st Class Owens, it is clear by the outpouring of praise from his colleagues, friends and family that he was well liked and well respected by all who knew him. In fact, local news reported that when Laughlin Air Base held a memorial service on February 28, they had trouble finding a space large enough.

Airman 1st Class Owens is survived by his current wife, Misty Owens; his two daughters, Xiya and Xoe Owens from his first marriage; his father, Steve Owens of Story, Ark.; his mother, Chris Owens of Springfield, Ill.; two sisters, Ann Kusterbeck of Princeton, Tex., and Sandra Owens of Springfield, Ill.; two uncles, two aunts, two nieces, one nephew and several cousins.

When we think of true heroes, we think of brave Americans like Airman 1st Class Owens who risk everything to defend freedom and serve this great country. We will always be grateful for his selfless sacrifice and he will be deeply missed by all who knew him. My thoughts and prayers go out to his parents and the rest of his family and friends during this very difficult time. We are who we are as a nation because of patriots like Airman 1st Class Owens.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me as we honor the life of Airman 1st Class Corey Owens and his legacy, as well as each man and woman in our Armed Forces, and all of those in harm's way supporting their efforts, who give the ultimate sacrifice in service to this great country. We owe them our eternal gratitude.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MOTORCOACH ENHANCED SAFETY ACT

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Motorcoach Enhanced Safety Act.

Four years ago, a horrific accident occurred in my congressional district when a bus carrying the Bluffton University men's baseball team crashed on Interstate 75 in Atlanta, Georgia, en route to a tournament in Florida.

Twenty-nine people were injured on that terrible day, but seven others—Zachary Arend, David Betts, Scott Harmon, Cody Holp, Tyler Williams and Jean and Jerome Niemeyer died that terrible day. They were all treated at various hospitals—Atlanta Medical Center, Piedmont Hospital, and Grady Memorial Hospital.

The entire nation was shocked by the tragedy, and I was floored when my office received a phone call from one of the surgeons who treated the victims. Dr. Jeffrey Salomone, an Associate Professor of Surgery at Emory University School of Medicine, and Deputy Chief of Surgery at Grady Hospital was outraged. He felt that the injuries would have been less severe, and that more lives may have been saved had the victims not been ejected from the motorcoach bus. It was an accident that had been seen time and time again in emergency rooms across the country, and Dr. Salomone couldn't understand why the government had not acted.

Well last year, Congress almost did. The sponsors of the Senate-companion to this legislation—Sens. SHERROD BROWN and KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON—worked tirelessly to move the Motorcoach Enhanced Safety Act through the Committee process and onto the Floor. In the House, the Chairmen of both the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Energy and Commerce Committee expressed interest and empathy on this issue. Secretary LaHood coordinated discussion groups and drafted a preliminary proposal to address motorcoach safety.

Simply said, Mr. Speaker, Congress needs to act. This bill addresses the most commonsense of issues and has always enjoyed bipartisan support. The U.S. used to be a leader on safety and standards issues, but now we're falling behind. The proposals laid out in this legislation bring our nation's motorcoach industry into the 21st century. I hope that all my colleagues will cosponsor this important bill, and that the victims and their families will celebrate its signage into law this year.

NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK/ PEACE CORPS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the opportunity to honor the Peace Corps during this National Peace Corps Week.

I would also like to thank Congressman GARAMENDI, a returned Peace Corps volunteer himself, for his leadership in organizing this special order on this historic occasion.

Today, March 1, 2011 the Peace Corps celebrates its 50th anniversary. It is with the historic contributions of this organization in mind, that I proudly acknowledge the important work of more than two hundred thousand Peace Corps volunteers since the agency's inception in 1961.

It is not surprising that year in and year out Americans are eager to do even more. While more than 13,000 Americans apply annually to serve their country in Peace Corps, serious budget constraints provide placements for roughly 30 percent of applicants.

President Obama has rightly called for doubling the size of the Peace Corps in order to meet this demand, as well as the overwhelming need for additional volunteers around the globe.

This is a pledge that we must keep.

I am proud to report that California has been and continues to be the largest producer of Peace Corps volunteers with more than 1,100 people currently serving abroad.

My home District, California's 9th Congressional District, can be called home by more than 20 current volunteers who have committed themselves to the Peace Corps mission of world peace and friendship through service.

The University of California, Berkeley located in my district has consistently received top or near top honors for producing the most Peace Corps Volunteers, producing 92 volunteers in 2010 alone.

In fact, UC Berkeley has contributed over 3,400 volunteers to the Peace Corps Program since 1961.

Through volunteer work abroad in fields including health education, food security, local business development, education about HIV/AIDS, and agricultural and environmental improvement, the work of the Peace Corps improves people's lives.

At the same time, this vital work enhances the credibility of the United States abroad, fostering the exchange of ideas, and uniting cultures around values of peace, tolerance, and prosperity.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 384, The Peace Stamp for the Peace Corps Act, which calls for the introduction of a semi-postal Peace Stamp, which will sell at a slightly higher rate than the normal 44 cents, in order to create additional revenues for the Peace Corps.

What better time to celebrate the legacy and significance of this great organization with a semi-postal stamp than on the occasion of the Peace Corps' historic 50th anniversary.

I encourage my colleagues to join as cosponsors of H.R. 384, which most importantly, would generate additional resources for the work of the Peace Corps through the generous support of the American people.

There is no denying the impact of U.S. foreign assistance programs around the world, and the Peace Corps is a perfect example of our nation's will to promote peaceful relations, the exchange of ideas, and to assist and empower those who are most in need.

Before I finish, it should be noted that the Peace Corps enjoys bipartisan support in Congress, not the least of which from our four Returned Peace Corps Volunteers currently serving in the House: Reps. GARAMENDI, FARR, PETRI, and HONDA.

I would also like to take a moment to recognize a man who embodied the Peace Corps' mission of 'peace and friendship through service', and that is Sargent Shriver.

Mr. Shriver, who passed away this January, was a true public servant who dedicated his life to promoting justice and creating opportunity not only in America but throughout the world.

In his work and personal life, and most notably as the first Director of the Peace Corps, Mr. Shriver's dedication to this cause has come to define generations of U.S. volunteers working at home and abroad for the betterment of society through the offering of a steady, helping hand.

During National Peace Corps Week we salute past and present Volunteers who selflessly serve abroad in support of the Peace Corps' vital mission.

Today we say happy 50th anniversary to the Peace Corps, and should similarly rededicate ourselves to supporting and strengthening the Peace Corps program for ours and future generations.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD ''DICK'' GODDARD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Richard ''Dick'' Goddard, longtime Cleveland-area meteorologist, animal rights advocate, author and cartoonist on the occasion of his fiftieth anniversary in broadcasting and 80th birthday.

Born on February 24, 1931, Dick, an Akron, Ohio native, graduated from Green High School. He first entered the field of meteorology as a member of the U.S. Air Force, 6th Weather Squadron, where he served our country during the Korean War. After his return to Ohio, he enrolled at Kent State University, where he graduated in 1960 with a bachelor of arts in drama and broadcasting.

He began his career in broadcasting with Cleveland-area station KYW–TV on May 1, 1961. After the station moved to Philadelphia, Dick remained in Cleveland, becoming the chief meteorologist at WJW–TV where he has remained for forty-five years. Dick also became the statistician for the Cleveland Browns, a position he still holds. In these roles, he has become a community leader and local celebrity, hosting public events and founding the area's annual Woollybear Festival.

Dick is one of the Cleveland area's most famous and effective advocates for animal welfare. For example, to help an animal shelter find new homes for its indigent dogs, he features several adoptable dogs during every Friday evening newscast. He has single-handedly raised the level of awareness of animal rights and has done Northeast Ohio a great service.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Dick Goddard for his contributions to the Cleveland area and to our nation. The longevity of his public service in Cleveland shows a strong commitment to the vitality of Northeast Ohio, and his tireless work for animal rights has helped to save or improve the lives of countless needy animals. He has been nothing short of inspirational, and he continues to be a leader and role model in our community.

MAYOR OLIVE STEPHENS—A LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a very special citizen of the 26th District of Texas, Olive Stephens. Mrs. Stephens has enjoyed a long life of public service with 10 years as Councilwoman and 38 years as the Mayor of Shady Shores whose population is about 2,700. At 94 years of age, Mayor Stephens says it's time to pass the torch.

Olive Stephens has made a remarkable impact on the town during her reign of service. She was there to support the incorporation of Shady Shores in 1960. This prevented it's absorption from surrounding cities and since then, five separate city landmarks bear her name including a street, the city council chambers, and an elementary school. For many years, in an effort to keep from increasing taxes for citizens, fundraisers were held to help fund the fire department, road maintenance, and the general fund. Ceramics sales, fish frys, bar-b-ques, chili suppers, and yard sales are all examples of how Mayor Stephens led her citizens in ingenuity and resourcefulness.

Olive was known for her tenacity and has left us with many memorable quotes, but I think one of her more recent in regard to her stepping down is a relevant one, ''Well, I've left you without any debt and money in the bank, so let's see if we can keep it that way.'' Her longevity and integrity are not in short supply as she will continue participation in the community she helped build. She is truly an inspirational community leader. I thank Mayor Stephens for her lifelong commitment to service. I am proud to represent her in Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT MORRIS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Robert Morris, a dedicated community and home building industry leader.

After graduating from San Diego State University, Mr. Morris became actively involved with builders associations—first, serving as a volunteer with the Building Industry Association of San Diego and then joining the staff as the Director of Membership and later on as the Executive Vice President. Mr. Morris' strong belief in community service was emphasized shortly after his arrival in the great State of Texas in 1994. He sought and gained opportunities to become involved with various civic organizations, serving on boards such as the Fannie Mae Dallas Advisory Council and the North Central Texas Customer Advisory Board.

With his extensive experience and passion for the building industry, Mr. Morris established his presence as the Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the Home Builders Association (HBA) of Greater Dallas. In this role, Mr. Morris also qualified for two home building industry professional designations, the Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS) and the Certified Green Professional (CGP) and continued to expand his knowledge by participating in the National Association of Homebuilders Officers Council Excellence in Learning Program. The HBA and the industry greatly benefitted from his vision, extensive experience, and wealth of wisdom. Mr. Morris has received numerous awards and honors, including the prestigious Texas Association of Builders' Presidential Service Award and the Seldon Hale Lifetime Accomplishment Award.

I know his dedication and leadership will be greatly missed at the HBA. I wish Bob and his wife, Pam, all the best in their future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Morris on his retirement and his many achievements in the home building industry.

HONORING JACK CRISTIL FOR HIS STORIED CAREER AT MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Jack Cristil of Tupelo, Mississippi for his

contribution to sports radio and television broadcasting, and specifically the state of Mississippi through his dedicated service as a Mississippi State University (MSU) announcer. For 58 years, Cristil has been at the microphone broadcasting across the radio airwaves for Mississippi State football and basketball games.

Cristil began his career calling minor league baseball games in Tennessee and Alabama and later moved to Clarksdale, Mississippi to call high school football games. In 1953, Cristil was hired by MSU's Athletic Director C.R. ''Dudy'' Noble as the voice of the Bulldogs and Mississippi State football games. Four years later, in 1957, Cristil began to broadcast MSU basketball games as well.

Cristil is a recipient of the Ronald Reagan Lifetime Achievement award, the Southeastern Conference (SEC) Broadcaster of the Year in 1988 and a 21-time winner of the Mississippi Broadcaster of the Year. Additionally, he was a recipient the Chris Shenkel Award in 1997 by the College Football Hall of Fame as well as being a 1991 inductee to the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame.

On February 23, 2011, Cristil announced that due to urgent health reasons he would call his final Mississippi State University basketball game the following Saturday. Last weekend, millions of sports fans nationwide were privileged to listen briefly to Cristil's final broadcast during the Mississippi State versus the University of Tennessee basketball game when ESPN announcers went silent for a few moments allowing Cristil's live radio feed to broadcast over national television.

Cristil was known for his commitment to journalistic professionalism in his broadcasts as well as his unique and trademark expressions such as, ''You can wrap this game in maroon and white!'' and ''Welcome to a sunbathed Scott Field at Davis Wade Stadium on the beautiful campus of Mississippi State University!''

To quote a story from the Jackson, Mississippi newspaper, The Clarion-Ledger, the following is a great representation of Cristil's attitude and personality:

''Of a State—Alabama football game when Bob Hope was on tour and doing a show that night in Tuscaloosa, unbeknownst to Cristil. Bear Bryant's boys, as usual, were beating up on State when somebody came by the visitors' radio booth and whispered to Cristil, 'Hope is available at halftime if you want him.' Responded Cristil, 'Fellow, I need some hope right now.' But Bob Hope did come by and did do the interview. 'One of the best halftime guests I ever had,' Cristil says. 'Funny and smart.' ''

In his career, Cristil has broadcast over 1,500 basketball games and 636 football games, which is nearly 63 percent and 55 percent, respectively, of all of Mississippi State's games.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Jack Cristil's broadcasting career and service to Mississippi State University by saying as Jack Cristil would say: ''You can wrap it in maroon and white!''

A TRIBUTE TO FAY DOUGLAS-LANE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Fay Douglas-Lane for her service to and excellence in the practice of nursing.

Fay was born in Kingston, Jamaica. Her extensive nursing career began at the University Hospital of the West Indies' School of Nursing, where she received certification in both medical and surgical wards. Throughout her life, Fay provided critical services to her community as a nurse, mentor and volunteer to those in need.

Fay began her career in 1983, as an Operating Room nurse at SUNY Downstate Medical Center. For nearly nine years she served in this capacity. She left Downstate Medical Center for a brief period, but returned in 1994. When Fay returned, she served in supervisory roles until her promotion to Associate Nursing Director in 2003. Fay has a unique understanding of perioperative nursing; her expertise was instrumental to the healthcare team at SUNY. Among her accomplishments, Fay championed and facilitated the Team STEPPS Program, an evidence based teamwork system designed to improve quality, safety and efficiency for perioperative services. Fay retired from Downstate Medical Center on December 31, 2010.

Fay has always been committed to achieving excellence in the practice of nursing. She was involved in the Brooklyn Chapter of the Association of Operating Room Nurses, including two separate terms as President. She also served as mentor to numerous Registered Nurses, Operating Room Technicians, Nursing Assistants, and Resident Physicians.

Fay was not consumed by hospital work. She devoted time to assisting teachers and staff at P.S. 397, a children's elementary school in Brooklyn, NY, and has been actively involved in the Parent Teacher Association of Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn. Fay also spent significant time volunteering. In 1986, she worked with a team of doctors and nurses to care for the poor and needy in Jamaica, West Indies. In 1998, she contributed her time and service to the People United to Save Our Children Community Choir.

Fay has a strong commitment to her faith. In March of 2000, she received a certificate for Outstanding Christian Services from Berean Baptist Church in Brooklyn. In December 2010, she was ordained a deacon at Berean Baptist Church, where she has been a member for over twenty years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Fay Douglas-Lane.

HONORING JACK CRISTIL FOR HIS 58 YEAR CAREER AS THE VOICE OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE BULLDOGS

HON. ALAN NUNNELEE

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mr. Speaker, today is a memorable night throughout the State of Mississippi and indeed throughout the Southeastern Conference, when the Mississippi State University Bulldogs tip off in Fayetteville, Arkansas. The thing that will make this game memorable is that Jack Cristil will not be behind the microphone.

For the past 58 years, as Mississippi State fans tuned in to listen to basketball or football games, they heard the distinctive voice of Jack Cristil. However, due to declining health, Mr. Jack called his last game over the weekend.

He began his career in the golden age of radio, and learned to paint a picture with words as he recounted the events on the field or court, when no other medium was available. The first day on the job, Mississippi State Atheletic Director Dudy Noble told him, ''You tell that radio audience what the score is and who's got the ball and how much time is left and you cut out the bull.''

Throughout his 58 years, he never veered from that advice. His commitment to professionalism and excellence at his craft led him to develop a style that all Mississippians, including those from rival schools, respected. Long before Fox News, he was fair and balanced, and reported the games in that manner.

His distinct style has influenced several generations of sports fans, as they could expect to hear the introduction of a six foot tall sophomore (pronounced with its proper three syllables) wearing maroon pants, a white jersey with maroon numerals, and maroon headgear. He truly was the Voice of the Bulldogs.

Over the years, he has been recognized by numerous organizations including receiving an award named after another famous sportscaster, the Ronald Reagan Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association of Sportscasters and Sportswriters. He also was inducted into the Mississippi State University Sports Hall of Fame in 2003, named Mississippi Sportscaster of the Year 21 times and the recipient of the SEC Broadcaster of the Year award in 1988.

Tonight, the game will go on, and the broadcast will be in capable hands, but Mr. Cristil, we will miss you.

CONGRATULATING INTEL SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH FINALIST AND SEMIFINALISTS IN NEW YORK'S 2ND DISTRICT

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a number of talented and dedicated high school students in my district who were chosen to be Semifinalists in the Intel Science Talent Search (STS) as well as one who was named as a Finalist. These students are the future of our nation's research and I am so proud to recognize them today.

Jonathan Aaron Goldman attends Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School in Plainview, NY, and Intel has named him a STS Finalist for his research project ''Evidence for Link between Native Reading Language and Internal/External Scanning Processes.'' Jonathan will come to Washington, D.C. in March to participate in a final judging session

and will compete for the top award of $100,000. While in D.C., he will display his work to the public as well as meet with notable scientists and the other 39 Intel STS Finalists. Being recognized as a Finalist is an extraordinary honor and I know Jonathan will be successful in his future endeavors.

I also want to recognize the Intel STS Semifinalists from my district. Long Island is fortunate to have so many quality schools with dedicated teachers who guide talented students to success. The following students were chosen from among 1,744 entrants to receive a $1,000 award for their outstanding research. In addition, their schools receive $1,000 to further excellence in scientific education. I am impressed not just by their scientific knowledge but also by their superior commitment to the scientific process. These young students represent the bright future of American innovation, science and research and I look forward to hearing more from them in the future:

Kendra Cornejo, Norman Cao, and Sharon Mary Varghese of Brentwood High School; Arpon Paul Raksit and Marni Jordyn Wasserman of Commack High School; Rachel Paula Gerber of Half Hollow Hills High School East and Dianna Hu of Half Hollow Hills High School West, both in Dix Hills; Jonathan Michael Nachman of Plainview who attends North Shore Hebrew Academy High School in Great Neck; Pamela Anne Wax of Harborfields High School in Greenlawn; Ishwarya Ananthabhotla of Kings Park High School; Adam Joshua Getzler, Jonathan Aaron Goldman, Jonathan Abraham Goldman, and Alexander Herbert Kusher of Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School; and Gary Scott Rosenblatt, Karen Sikka, Harris Jacob Weber, and Deanna Ruxi Zhu of Syosset High School.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on one amendment to H.R. 1. I wish the RECORD to reflect my intention had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 125, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING JOHN FEASTER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John Alfred Feaster as he celebrates his 80th birthday. A celebration will be held in Burton Michigan on March 19th in honor of the occasion.

John Alfred Feaster graduated from Arkansas A&M College in 1954 with a degree in economics. He served in the U.S. military during the Korean War and was honorably discharged with the rank of corporal in 1956. A year later he married the former Lillian Battle in Flint Michigan. Mr. Feaster worked at AC Spark Plug retiring in 1991 and he is a member of UAW Local 651.

As an active member of Quinn Chapel AME Church, Mr. Feaster has served as President of the Laymen Organization, on the Steward Board, on the Trustee Board, in the Men's Fellowship, in the Men's Choir, and the Chancel Choir. He was initiated into Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity on December 17, 1952 and is a lifetime member. He is currently active with the Epsilon Upsilon Lambda (Flint Grad) chapter of the Fraternity. Mr. Feaster is also a lifetime member of the Flint Chapter of the NAACP.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating John Alfred Feaster as he celebrates his 80th birthday. I would like to extend to him my best wishes for a delightful day and may the coming year be filled with happiness and good health.

"DON'T CUT GLOBAL HEALTH CARE"

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, recently Dr. Ellen Chadwick, a pediatric infectious disease specialist from Wilmette Illinois, warned about the severe consequences that would arise from cuts in critical global health initiatives, especially those that protect the lives and well-being of children. In her letter to the editor, which appeared on February 24 in the Chicago Tribune, she lays out the many reasons why we need to continue our modest contributions to the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) program and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.

As Dr. Chadwick points out, the United States spends less than one quarter of one percent of our budget on global health assistance, but the benefits we obtain are enormous. She writes that our funding "saves lives, preserves families and communities, and builds extraordinary good will toward America." It is also an investment in global and national security, since global health crises such as the AIDS epidemic can destabilize entire regions.

Like Dr. Chadwick, I believe that we can achieve our fiscal goals without jeopardizing the lives of children around the world and without creating global insecurity. As a member of the President's National Commission on Fiscal Reform and Responsibility, I put forward my own plan to achieve deficit reduction. My plan maintains global health funding and protects the middle-class and the poor here at home. Instead, it reduces the deficit by restoring economic prosperity, cutting unnecessary weapons systems and wasteful spending in the Department of Defense, raising revenues from those who can afford to pay more, and eliminating waste and other inefficiencies in government.

I hope that my colleagues will take a moment to read Dr. Chadwick's letter and, after doing so, will reject the harsh cuts to global health included in H.R. 1.

[From the Chicago Tribune, Feb. 24, 2011]

"DON'T CUT GLOBAL HEALTH CARE"

(By Dr. Ellen Chadwick)

As a pediatric infectious diseases specialist, I am gravely concerned about federal budget cuts passed by the House that will have a devastating impact on a group that cannot speak for themselves in the halls of Congress—poor children in sub-Saharan Africa. The House version of the annual federal funding bill ravages global health programs, reducing their funding by more than $1 billion, with most cuts targeting the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) program and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. Other programs that contribute to maternal and child health in developing countries are also affected. Cutting these precious resources will be measured in lives lost, as cuts will mean fewer HIV-infected pregnant women tested and treated for HIV, fewer infants treated to prevent HIV and more HIV-infected children without access to care, support and education. Finally, these cuts will result in growth of the population of children orphaned by AIDS, already estimated to be 16 million globally. Meanwhile, these cuts will make little difference in our budget deficit.

The investments Americans make in global health see incredible, tangible results measured in lives saved. In 2010 alone, the PEPFAR program provided more than 600,000 HIV-positive pregnant women with antiretroviral treatment, allowing more than 114,000 babies to be born HIV-free. The Global Fund has provided this treatment to an additional 1 million mothers, and HIV treatment to more than 3 million HIV-infected people around the world. What is more, for every dollar we invest in the Global Fund, our international neighbors contribute an additional two, making our leadership that much more important and rewarding. After 30 years of AIDS, we are finally beginning to believe in the promise of an AIDS free generation in the hardest hit regions of the world.

The House's proposed funding cuts stand to decimate these important programs, with deadly consequences. According to PEPFAR estimates, 400,000 men, women and children would be dropped from lifesaving treatment. Another 414,000 supported by the Global Fund would be without medicines, representatives there estimate. More than 32,000 babies could be infected with HIV every year due to reduction in services to prevent mother-to-child transmission. Without treatment, one-half of these HIV-infected infants will not live to see their second birthday.

Even without these cuts, the unmet need is already great. Children in sub-Saharan Africa lack the same access to treatment that adults get—for example, in Uganda 43 percent of infected adults have access to medication while only 18 percent of infected children have access. Children with HIV are also especially vulnerable to tuberculosis, making treatment of both infections particularly difficult.

Over the past several years, I have conducted clinical research and provided training to clinicians in Africa to increase capacity to care for kids. I have cared for many infants and children with HIV/AIDS. With antiretroviral treatment, I watch these children quickly spring back to life. Even more rewarding is the satisfaction of the new mother who is told that her child is not HIV-infected because treatment from pregnancy through the breastfeeding period has protected her child. U.S. support for global health—only one quarter of 1 percent of our federal budget—saves lives, preserves families and communities, and builds extraordinary good will toward America.

The House of Representatives will not have the final word on cuts to global health. The Senate will take up the budget next, and can and must refuse to embrace these draconian cuts. I hope that Illinois' two distinguished senators will lead the charge in protecting the mothers and children in Africa whose well-being depends upon their actions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, February 18, 2011, during consideration of H.R. 1, the Full Year Continuing Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2011, I recorded an erroneous vote on amendment number 569, offered by Mr. ISSA of California. I intended to vote ''no'' on rollcall vote number 133.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. CAROLE KENDRICK SPIVEY THOMAS

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a powerful and effective teacher, Mrs. Carole Kendrick Spivey Thomas, of Eatonton, Georgia.

Mrs. Thomas, married to David H. Thomas and a mother of four, graduated from Mercer University with a degree in English. After graduation, she began a teaching career at her alma mater, Putnam County High School. In 1971 she moved to Gatewood Schools, where she has continued as an excellent educator for the past 40 years. She earned a Specialist Degree and life teaching certificate in Library Education from the University of Georgia and has also served as the school librarian.

Since 1985, Mrs. Thomas has led the middle school trip to Washington, D.C., giving students the opportunity to explore the sights of our Nation's capital and learn about the representative democracy in the United States. She has made the trip a memorable experience for the students, providing them the opportunity to see firsthand the landmarks and places they previously had only read about in books.

In Mrs. Thomas' teaching career, more than half a century teaching career, she has consistently shown her students how much she cares about their education and self-improvement. Whether she is analyzing literature, reviewing projects for her students, or organizing literary competitions, Mrs. Thomas' dedication to her students and enthusiasm for her work are evident and to be highly commended.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Carole Thomas' service and dedication to the students of my district and congratulate her on celebrating over 50 years of teaching excellence.

CELEBRATING TEXAS' INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Texas' Independence Day which occurred 175 years ago and to commemorate the occasion I would like to share with the House, the Texas Declaration of Independence signed on this day in the year 1836.

The Unanimous Declaration of Independence made by the Delegates of the People of Texas in General Convention at the town of Washington on the 2nd day of March 1836

When a government has ceased to protect the lives, liberty and property of the people, from whom its legitimate powers are derived, and for the advancement of whose happiness it was instituted, and so far from being a guarantee for the enjoyment of those inestimable and inalienable rights, becomes an instrument in the hands of evil rulers for their oppression.

When the Federal Republican Constitution of their country, which they have sworn to support, no longer has a substantial existence, and the whole nature of their government has been forcibly changed, without their consent, from a restricted federative republic, composed of sovereign states, to a consolidated central military despotism, in which every interest is disregarded but that of the army and the priesthood, both the eternal enemies of civil liberty, the everready minions of power, and the usual instruments of tyrants.

When, long after the spirit of the constitution has departed, moderation is at length so far lost by those in power, that even the semblance of freedom is removed, and the forms themselves of the constitution discontinued, and so far from their petitions and remonstrances being regarded, the agents who bear them are thrown into dungeons, and mercenary armies sent forth to force a new government upon them at the point of the bayonet.

When, in consequence of such acts of malfeasance and abdication on the part of the government, anarchy prevails, and civil society is dissolved into its original elements. In such a crisis, the first law of nature, the right of self-preservation, the inherent and inalienable rights of the people to appeal to first principles, and take their political affairs into their own hands in extreme cases, enjoins it as a right towards themselves, and a sacred obligation to their posterity, to abolish such government, and create another in its stead, calculated to rescue them from impending dangers, and to secure their future welfare and happiness.

Nations, as well as individuals, are amenable for their acts to the public opinion of mankind. A statement of a part of our grievances is therefore submitted to an impartial world, in justification of the hazardous but unavoidable step now taken, of severing our political connection with the Mexican people, and assuming an independent attitude among the nations of the earth.

The Mexican government, by its colonization laws, invited and induced the Anglo-American population of Texas to colonize its wilderness under the pledged faith of a written constitution, that they should continue to enjoy that constitutional liberty and republican government to which they had been habituated in the land of their birth, the United States of America.

In this expectation they have been cruelly disappointed, inasmuch as the Mexican nation has acquiesced in the late changes made in the government by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, who having overturned the constitution of his country, now offers us the cruel alternative, either to abandon our homes, acquired by so many privations, or submit to the most intolerable of all tyranny, the combined despotism of the sword and the priesthood.

It has sacrificed our welfare to the state of Coahuila, by which our interests have been continually depressed through a jealous and partial course of legislation, carried on at a far distant seat of government, by a hostile majority, in an unknown tongue, and this too, notwithstanding we have petitioned in the humblest terms for the establishment of a separate state government, and have, in accordance with the provisions of the national constitution, presented to the general Congress a republican constitution, which was, without just cause, contemptuously rejected.

It incarcerated in a dungeon, for a long time, one of our citizens, for no other cause but a zealous endeavor to procure the acceptance of our constitution, and the establishment of a state government.

It has failed and refused to secure, on a firm basis, the right of trial by jury, that palladium of civil liberty, and only safe guarantee for the life, liberty, and property of the citizen.

It has failed to establish any public system of education, although possessed of almost boundless resources, (the public domain,) and although it is an axiom in political science, that unless a people are educated and enlightened, it is idle to expect the continuance of civil liberty, or the capacity for self government.

It has suffered the military commandants, stationed among us, to exercise arbitrary acts of oppression and tyrrany, thus trampling upon the most sacred rights of the citizens, and rendering the military superior to the civil power.

It has dissolved, by force of arms, the state Congress of Coahuila and Texas, and obliged our representatives to fly for their lives from the seat of government, thus depriving us of the fundamental political right of representation.

It has demanded the surrender of a number of our citizens, and ordered military detachments to seize and carry them into the Interior for trial, in contempt of the civil authorities, and in defiance of the laws and the constitution.

It has made piratical attacks upon our commerce, by commissioning foreign desperadoes, and authorizing them to seize our vessels, and convey the property of our citizens to far distant ports for confiscation.

It denies us the right of worshipping the Almighty according to the dictates of our own conscience, by the support of a national religion, calculated to promote the temporal interest of its human functionaries, rather than the glory of the true and living God.

It has demanded us to deliver up our arms, which are essential to our defence, the rightful property of freemen, and formidable only to tyrannical governments.

It has invaded our country both by sea and by land, with intent to lay waste our territory, and drive us from our homes; and has now a large mercenary army advancing, to carry on against us a war of extermination.

It has, through its emissaries, incited the merciless savage, with the tomahawk and scalping knife, to massacre the inhabitants of our defenseless frontiers.

It hath been, during the whole time of our connection with it, the contemptible sport and victim of successive military revolutions, and hath continually exhibited every characteristic of a weak, corrupt, and tyrranical government.

These, and other grievances, were patiently borne by the people of Texas, until they reached that point at which forbearance ceases to be a virtue. We then took up arms in defence of the national constitution. We appealed to our Mexican brethren for assistance. Our appeal has been made in vain. Though months have elapsed, no sympathetic response has yet been heard from the Interior. We are, therefore, forced to the melancholy conclusion, that the Mexican

people have acquiesced in the destruction of their liberty, and the substitution therfor of a military government; that they are unfit to be free, and incapable of self government.

The necessity of self-preservation, therefore, now decrees our eternal political separation.

We, therefore, the delegates with plenary powers of the people of Texas, in solemn convention assembled, appealing to a candid world for the necessities of our condition, do hereby resolve and declare, that our political connection with the Mexican nation has forever ended, and that the people of Texas do now constitute a free, Sovereign, and independent republic, and are fully invested with all the rights and attributes which properly belong to independent nations; and, conscious of the rectitude of our intentions, we fearlessly and confidently commit the issue to the decision of the Supreme arbiter of the destinies of nations.

Signed,

Richard Ellis, President of the Convention and Delegate from Red River.

Charles B. Stewart, Tho. Barnett, James Collinsworth, Edwin Waller, Asa Brigham, John S. D. Byrom, Francis Ruis, J. Antonio Navarro, Jesse B. Badgett, Wm D. Lacy, William Menifee, Jn. Fisher, Matthew Caldwell, William Motley, Lorenzo de Zavala, Stephen H. Everett, George W. Smyth, Elijah Stapp, Claiborne West, Wm. B. Scates, M. B. Menard, A. B. Hardin, J. W. Burton, Thos. J. Gazley, R. M. Coleman, Sterling C. Robertson, Geo. C. Childress, Bailey Hardeman, Rob. Potter, Thomas Jefferson Rusk, Chas. S. Taylor, John S. Roberts, Robert Hamilton, Collin McKinney, Albert H. Latimer, James Power, Sam Houston, David Thomas, Edwd. Conrad, Martin Parmer, Edwin O. Legrand, Stephen W. Blount, Jms. Gaines, Wm. Clark, Jr., Sydney O. Pennington, Wm. Carrol Crawford, Jno. Turner, Benj. Briggs Goodrich, G. W. Barnett, James G. Swisher, Jesse Grimes, S. Rhoads Fisher, John W. Moore, John W. Bower, Saml. A. Maverick (from Bejar), Sam P. Carson, A. Briscoe, J. B. Woods, H. S. Kimble, Secretary.

HONORING THE LIVES OF VETERANS KERRY DUDKEWIC, ARNOLD BOCKSEL, AND SEAMUS BYRNE

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the lives of three veterans who passed away this past weekend.

Mr. Kerry Dudkewic of Smithtown, NY, was 62 years old and a Vietnam veteran and lost his battle with cancer on Friday, February 25, 2011. This past January he was finally given confirmation from the VA that his many ailments were indeed connected to his service and were caused by exposure to Agent Orange. Kerry knew he was very sick and wanted his wife to obtain survivor benefits upon his death. Kerry's commitment to serving others was exhibited throughout his life and I am so grateful I was able to help him in return before his passing.

Mr. Arnold A. Bocksel of Syosset, NY, was a 97-year-old WWII veteran and passed away on Sunday, February 27, 2011, of natural causes. Arnold survived the Bataan Death March and three and a half years in a Japanese prison camp. Arnold was awarded several medals, including the Bronze Star and the Prisoner of War Medal. Arnold suffered from service-related injuries and in 2010 he was awarded a check from the VA to make his home handicapped-accessible. Arnold was truly a hero and I was so proud to help get him the support he earned and deserved.

Finally, Mr. Seamus Byrne of Smithtown, NY, was tragically struck by a car and killed on Sunday, February 27, 2011, while walking home with his wife Michelle after celebrating his 33rd birthday with friends. Seamus served with the New York Army National Guard Fighting 69th Infantry Regiment and was awarded a Purple Heart for injuries sustained while serving in Afghanistan. I am so saddened by this, knowing Seamus was finally getting his life back in order after his injuries and knowing his family was finally getting their husband and dad back to normal. Seamus is survived by his 10-year-old son Seamus, his 3-year-old daughter Ashley, and his wife, who is a nurse and tried to save him after he was struck.

Again, I am honored to have had these great men in our community and am grateful for the service they provided to our nation.

HONORING THE STATE OF TEXAS

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the State of Texas on the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence of the Republic of Texas.

Texas Independence Day commemorates the adoption of the Texas Declaration of Independence from Mexico on March 2, 1836. Sixty delegates from across Texas signed the declaration. Its language in many ways parallels our nation's 1776 Declaration of Independence.

Only six days before the signing of Texas' declaration, 150 patriots under the command of Colonel William Barret Travis made their last stand against Santa Anna's Mexican army at the Alamo. Though vastly outnumbered, the Alamo patriots were committed to the cause of liberty for Texas. On February 24th, Colonel Travis dispatched arguably the most historic letter in Texas history, calling for reinforcements. ''I shall never surrender or retreat. Then, I call on you in the name of Liberty, of patriotism, and everything dear to the American character, to come to our aid with all dispatch,'' pleaded Travis.

The strength of character and commitment to freedom displayed by Colonel Travis and his men has endured in the hearts of every Texan throughout our 175 years as a Republic. It is this spirit that makes Texas great, and has allowed us to weather challenging times. More than ever, I think we could use a lot more of that undeniable Texas spirit and determination in Washington.

It is with great pleasure I take the time to recognize the great State of Texas on this monumental occasion.

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY—175 YEARS AGO

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the unique history of the great state of Texas.

Today, March 2, marks Texas Independence Day.

On this day, 175 years ago, Texas declared its independence from Mexico and its dictator, Santa Anna, the 19th century Muammar Gadhafi.

In 1836, in the small farm village of Washington-on-the-Brazos, 54 Texians, as they called themselves in those days, gathered to do something bold and courageous: Sign the Texas Declaration of Independence and once and for all ''declare that the people of Texas do now constitute a free, sovereign, and independent republic.''

As these determined delegates met to declare independence, Santa Anna and 6,000 enemy troops were marching on an old beat-up Spanish mission that we now call the Alamo, where Texas defenders stood defiant, stood determined.

They were led by a 27-year-old lawyer by the name of William Barrett Travis.

The Alamo and its 186 Texans were all that stood between the invaders and the people of Texas.

And behind the cold, dark, damp walls of that Alamo, Commander William Barrett Travis sent the following letter to Texas requesting aid.

Here is what this appeal said in part: ''To all the people of Texas and Americans throughout the world, I am besieged by a thousand or more of the enemy under Santa Anna. I have sustained a continual bombardment and cannon fire for over 24 hours, but I have not lost a man. The enemy has demanded surrender at its discretion; otherwise the fort will be put to the sword. I have answered that demand with a cannon shot, and the flag still waves proudly over the wall. I shall never surrender or retreat. I call upon you in the name of liberty and patriotism and everything dear to our character to come to our aid with all dispatch. If this call is neglected, I am determined to sustain myself for as long as possible and die like a soldier who never forgets what is due his honor and that of his country. Victory or death.''—William Barrett Travis, Colonel, Texas Army.

After 13 days of glory at the Alamo, Commander Travis and his men sacrificed their lives on the altar of freedom March 6, 1836.

However, those lives would not be lost in vain. Their determination did pay off, and because heroes like Travis, Davy Crockett and Jim Bowie held out so long, Santa Anna's forces took such great losses they became battered and demoralized.

As Travis said, ''Victory will cost them more dearly than defeat.''

The Alamo defenders were from every State and 13 foreign countries.

They were black, brown, and white. Their ages were 16 through 67, and they were all volunteers.

They were mavericks, revolutionaries, farmers, shopkeepers, and freedom fighters; and

they came together to fight for something they believed in: freedom and independence.

General Sam Houston, in turn, had the time he needed to devise a strategy to rally other Texas volunteers to ultimately defeat Santa Anna in the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.

The rest is Texas history.

The war was over, and the Lone Star flag was visible all across the broad, bold, brazen plains of Texas.

Texas remained a nation for 9 years and claimed land that now includes part of New Mexico, Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas, Wyoming, even up to the Canadian border.

In 1845, Texas was admitted to the Union by only one vote when a Louisiana Senator changed his mind.

By Treaty with the United States, Texas may divide into five States, and the Texas flag is to fly even with the U.S. flag and not below it.

Freedom has a cost. It always does. It always will.

And as we pause to remember those who lost their lives so that Texas could be a free Nation, we cannot forget those Americans that are currently fighting in lands across the seas for the United States' continued freedom and liberty today.

Texas Independence Day is a day of pride and reflection in the Lone Star State.

It is a day we remember to pay tribute to heroes like William Barrett Travis, Jim Bowie, Davy Crockett, Jim Bonham, Sam Houston, and the rest of the volunteers who fought the evil tyrant and terrorist Saint Anna. It was an effort to make Texas free, and that effort was successful.

My first grandson is named Barrett Houston in honor of William Barrett Travis and General Sam Houston.

So, today, we remember that Texas was a glorious nation once and won freedom and independence because some fierce volunteers fought to the death for liberty over tyranny.

On this Texas Independence Day, let us not forget those brave men and women in our military that are fighting to preserve and uphold our freedom from a new world threat of terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that the Congress and the country will join in celebrating this Texas Independence Day.

In Colonel Travis' final letter and appeal for aid, he signed off with three words that I leave with you now: "God and Texas." "God and Texas" and the rest, as they say, is Texas history.

And that's just the way it is, Mr. Speaker.

HONORING CORINNE GRAYSON-THOMAS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Corinne Grayson-Thomas was born in New York City to William and Anna Grayson and attended NYC Public Schools until her family moved to Runyon Heights in Yonkers, New York. She was the first African American woman to graduate from Roosevelt High School, in 1932. She attended City College of New York, majoring in History and Science, while focusing on political issues, as well as justice and equality. With the war coming, she made the decision to leave college after 3 years and go to work.

She joined Gimbel's Department Store in 1944, became the first African-American Sales Representative, and she remained there until she retired in 1975. She was also the first woman of color to become an Avon Representative and worked with the company for 40 years. Ms. Thomas was very successful as a Team Leader, receiving many awards from the company and being featured in the 1996 February Edition of Essence Magazine in the Avon Ad "Black Has Never Been More Beautiful."

Corinne joined the Terrace City Chapter #26 Order Eastern Star under the affiliation of her father, Worshipful Master William Grayson. After serving as Worthy Matron in 1970, she had several appointments from the Grand Chapter, which included the Grand Marshall in the East and District Deputy Grand Matron. She is an honorary member of Poinsettia Chapter in Spring Valley and a Past Commandress of the Order of Cyrenes.

She was a member of the Nepperhan Community Center for many years and served on the Board of Directors and as president for 5 years (1960–1965). Ms. Thomas was a member of the Social Bridge Club and is an avid bowler in the Runyon Heights Seniors League. She is also a frequent contributor to the Runyon Heights Community Newsletter.

She is widowed and has one daughter, Jean Ann; 2 grandsons, Jathan and Michael and one Great Grand-daughter, Katherine Corinne and has 3 siblings, Muriel, Carol and Gerald.

She believes in spreading love and has spent her whole life doing just that. Her favorite Bible Chapter is 1 Corinthians 13, and the scripture that echoes this principle is "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

I join the Terrace City Chapter in honoring Corinne Grayson-Thomas for her many contributions to the betterment of her community.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF COLORADO BECOMING A TERRITORY

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Colorado becoming a territory of the United States on February 28th, 2011.

The territory was organized as a result of the Pike's Peak Gold Rush of 1858 through 1861. Given its name from the discovery of gold in the foothills of the mountain named for its explorer, Zebulon Pike, this gold rush resulted in a large movement of miners and prospectors to the area in search of their fortunes.

As the initial gold deposits were collected, settlers moved westward into the Rocky Mountains to search for additional deposits, forming camps wherever they were discovered. Denver became the central supply town for these prospectors. More permanent mines emerged and settlers understood the vast wealth this mineral rich country held, and sought to establish a more concrete set of laws and government.

Colorado officially became a territory of the United States through the signature of President James Buchanan on February 28th, 1861.

The Colorado Territory was formed amid the furor of succession of southern states and matured during our Civil War. Our great state is now a destination for Americans and foreign travelers who come to behold our natural beauty and engage in our superior recreational activities.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Peace Corps and praise the generations of volunteers who have passed through the program, sharing American ideals with the world and promoting a greater understanding of world cultures on the part of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, there are currently 8,655 Peace Corps volunteers serving abroad, and the largest portion of them, 1,134, come from my home state of California. Right now, there are 336 volunteers from the Los Angeles-Long Beach Metropolitan Area, which encompasses my District. In fact, I am proud to say there only two metropolitan areas that produce more volunteers than my congressional district.

Since the beginning of the program, California has produced over 27,000 Peace Corps volunteers, who, driven by the same pioneering spirit for which California is famous, selflessly contributed a significant portion of their lives to serving others. My alma mater, UCLA, has produced 92 volunteers, ranking it among the top 10 universities that inspire recent graduates to join the program. I salute them all and thank them for the sacrifices they make every day to make the world a better place.

The history of the Peace Corps is tied to its founder, John F. Kennedy, when he was then a candidate for President. On October 14, 1960, he gave a speech at the University of Michigan and lingered afterwards with a group of students, the conversation lasting long into the night. During that meeting, they discussed the idea of a government program whereby young Americans would be sent to developing nations to aid in local projects, mostly centering on education, health, and agriculture. President Kennedy kept this idea and 50 years ago he signed Executive Order 10924, establishing the Peace Corps. It was one of his first acts as President.

Peace Corps volunteers are expected to work for 27 months, during which time they live and work in a developing nation with minimal comforts. After a training period, volunteers are placed in schools, community groups, and with other organizations that lack the capacity to acquire professional staff with specialized skills. Volunteers live on a small stipend and must adapt to the unique challenges posed by living in a different place with different cultures.

Volunteers started arriving in five countries through 1962. In just under six years under the leadership of its first Director, Sargent Shriver, the Peace Corps developed programs in 55 countries with a volunteer count of more than 15,000. As of now, over 200,000 Americans have served in 139 developing countries. Whole families have served in the program, which leads me to believe that the Peace Corps is an American institution, its value time-tested and its image recognized on a global scale.

As a Member of Congress dedicated to strengthening American security, at home and abroad, I can think of no other American program that does better work to promote peace and goodwill at the grassroots level among everyday people in the world's developing countries. Every Peace Corps volunteer is an ambassador, living simply and building lasting relationships with their community partners, day in and day out. Some of these partners have gone on to serve their own countries internationally as diplomats. Many more become teachers, businesspeople, and local leaders who invest in their country, continuing and improving upon the work inspired by a Peace Corps volunteer. In making more friends around the globe and helping people take the lead in solving their own problems through collaborative means, the Peace Corps makes the world safer.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to building institutional capacity and promoting a positive model of Americans abroad, the Peace Corps has a third component: It educates Americans about the world beyond our shores and promotes long-term cross-cultural understanding. Returned Peace Corps volunteers will talk about their experiences and offer insights into the cultures of their host countries for the rest of their lives. They will seek out public forums and encourage others interested in making the journey. They will possess a perspective of the world, and of its inhabitants, unattainable by any other means. They will also continue to serve the public interest. In this way, the Peace Corps improves America as it does any other country.

Mr. Speaker, since the age of 6 I have wanted to work for others, and though I was a little girl at the time, I was touched by the energy of President Kennedy and came of age as the Peace Corps flourished. The spirit of service has never left me. The ideals of the Peace Corps fell across a generation, and to all those volunteers who heeded the call, I thank you for your service.

INTRODUCTION OF IMPROVING COMPACT-IMPACT ASSISTANCE FOR EDUCATION

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to re-introduce a bill to expand the Federal Impact Aid Program to reimburse schools for the costs of educating students from the Freely Associated States (FAS), residing in the United States, including the territories. This legislation was H.R. 4695 in the 111th Congress and it enjoyed bipartisan support. Impact Aid was originally authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act in 1965 to compensate local school districts for the costs of educating federally connected children. Examples of these kinds of students include those whose parents live on military bases, live on Indian lands, or are the children of accredited foreign diplomats. However, the Impact Aid Program does not compensate local schools for the costs incurred by educating students from the FAS.

The United States entered into the Compacts of Free Association with the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau and under the Compacts, citizens of these countries can enter the United States without a visa. Thus, children whose parents are citizens of the FAS are in schools in the states and territories under a special immigration category and are federally connected just as children of military families are similarly federally connected. This legislation would provide a means for the federal government to provide assistance to impacted local education authorities.

Mr. Speaker, the economic downturn has forced many local school districts to cut education budgets. This is a longstanding issue for affected jurisdictions and they need this to be redressed now more than ever. I will continue to make this, and all unreimbursed compact-impact funds, a priority in the 112th Congress. I would like to thank Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. HONDA, and Ms. HANABUSA for their support as original co-sponsors. I will work with these co-sponsors to pass this bill.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is $14,172,957,589,856.62.

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 $3,534,531,843,562.80 since then.

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

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 3, 2011 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 4

9:30 a.m.
Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine the employment situation for February 2011.
SH–216

MARCH 8

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SH–219 following the open session.
SD–G50

Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentation from Veterans of Foreign Wars.
345, Cannon Building

10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter A. Diamond, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and Katharine G. Abraham, of Iowa, and Carl Shapiro, of California, both to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers, Executive Office of the President.
SD–538

Budget
To hold hearings to examine the report of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform.
SD–608

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Peter Bruce Lyons, of New Mexico, to be Assistant Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Energy.
SD–366

Finance
To hold hearings to examine if the tax system supports economic efficiency, job creation and broad-based economic growth.
SD–215

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine State Department training, focusing on investing in the workforce to address 21st century challenges.
SD–342

10:30 a.m.
Appropriations
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012.
SH–216

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine implementation of the ''Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act''.
SR–253

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Transportation.
SR–253

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Heather A. Higginbottom, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President.
SD–342

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.
SH–219

MARCH 9

10 a.m.
Budget
To hold hearings to examine distribution and efficiency of spending in the tax code.
SD–608

Finance
To hold hearings to examine the President's 2011 trade agenda.
SD–215

Judiciary
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security.
SD–226

Small Business and Entrepreneurship
Business meeting to mark up the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Reauthorization Act of 2011.
SR–428A

2:15 p.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the Federal Highway Administration.
SD–406

2:30 p.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the state of the housing market.
SD–538

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine realizing NASA's potential, focusing on programmatic challenges in the 21st century.
SR–253

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine new tools for curbing waste and fraud in Medicare and Medicaid.
SD–342

3 p.m.
Appropriations
Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of the Interior.
SD–124

MARCH 10

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine on the current and future worldwide threats to the national security of the United States; with the possibility of a closed session in SH–219 following the open session.
SD–G50

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine S. 398, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to improve energy efficiency of certain appliances and equipment, and S. 395, to repeal certain amendments to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act with respect to lighting energy efficiency.
SD–366

Appropriations
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Transportation.
SD–138

10 a.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Carolyn N. Lerner, of Maryland, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel.
SD–342

2:30 p.m.
Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.
SH–219

3 p.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine information sharing in the era of WikiLeaks, focusing on balancing security and collaboration.
SD–342

MARCH 15

10:15 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the ''Freedom of Information Act'', focusing on ensuring transparency and accountability in the digital age.
SD–226

MARCH 16

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations from AMVETS, Jewish War Veterans, Military Officers Association of America, Gold Star Wives, Blinded Veterans Association, Non Commissioned Officers

Association, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Fleet Reserve Association.

SDG–50

MARCH 30

10:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations from Paralyzed Veterans of America, Air Force Sergeants Association, Military Order of the Purple Heart, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Wounded Warrior Project, Vietnam Veterans of America, The Retired Enlisted Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War.

SD–106

MARCH 31

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD–G50

APRIL 5

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Southern Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217 following the open session.

SD–G50

APRIL 12

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SH–219 following the open session.

SD–106