EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NSP TERMINATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 861) to rescind the third round of funding for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and to terminate the program.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, today's legislation is the third in a series of four announced bills explicitly intended to dismantle our nation's foreclosure prevention efforts.

In this case, the initiative being terminated is the Neighborhood Stabilization Program, which has to date impacted over 100,000 properties in our nation's hardest hit areas while supporting an estimated 93,000 jobs. The program works by providing critical assistance to states, local governments and nonprofit organizations to demolish or rehabilitate blighted properties, as well as establish financial assistance programs for low- and middle-income homebuyers. The resulting redevelopment of foreclosed and abandoned homes has helped stabilize communities, preserve the value of adjacent properties, and begun to restore municipalities' tax base.

Mr. Chair, with seven million people having lost their homes to this housing crisis so far, another three million foreclosures expected through 2012, and unemployment still hovering around 9 percent, now is not the time to pull the rug out from under distressed homeowners and communities struggling to get back on their feet.

TO RECOGNIZE THE ASIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND CONGRATULATE THE 2011 HONOREES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize the Asian American Chamber of Commerce and to congratulate this year's Gala awardees. These awards recognize local businesses that have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the community.

The Asian American Chamber of Commerce is a resource for local businesses looking to connect with one another and the community of Northern Virginia. The accomplishments of this chamber reflects the many contributions Asian Americans have made to our community and the growing prominence of Asian Americans in civic, social, and political life of our region.

It gives me great pleasure to recognize the following awardees:

Asian Business Excellence Award: Base Technologies

Lifetime Achievement Award: Master Jhoon Rhee—Pioneer of U.S. Tae Kwon Do

Non-Profit of the Year: New Tang Dynasty Television

Public Service Award: Rosemary Lauer—Devotion to Children

Member/Volunteer of the Year: Cindy Chatman—Prudential

Small Business of the Year: Allegra Print & Imaging of Fairfax

Corporate Partner of the Year: Verizon, State Farm, CitiBank

Government Agency of the Year: Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing their accomplishments and thanking these individuals and organizations for their work in the community. The efforts and leadership of these honorees have been a great benefit to our community and truly merit our highest praise. I also would like to thank the Asian American Chamber of Commerce for its tireless efforts to promote the highest caliber of business and social involvement from area businesses and owners.

HONORING MR. BRUCE A. HOLM

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time today to honor the life and achievements of Bruce A. Holm, an internationally known biomedical researcher and crucial advocate in the effort to develop high-tech research at the University of Buffalo and throughout the region of Western New York.

Bruce dedicated his sharp intellect and spirit of entrepreneurship toward the improvement of research in the field of life sciences. During his time as executive director of UB's New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences, he was instrumental in the growth of the region's biotechnology industry as he skillfully attracted researchers and companies from around the world to collaborate at the Center.

Bruce was also a pioneering researcher in the biology of lung development and therapies for acute lung disease. Among his many other significant accomplishments, Bruce's collaboration with UB colleague Edmund Egan resulted in the development of a drug that has lowered the mortality rate of premature infants.

Known to his colleagues and students as an exceptional researcher and teacher, Bruce offered immeasurable contributions to the scholarly community at the University of Buffalo and the Western New York region. His passing is a tragic loss to his family, friends, and colleagues, and although his legacy will endure for years to come, today we mourn the loss of his brilliant life cut short. I ask you to stand with me in this moment as we honor the life of Bruce Holm and offer our condolences to his colleagues, friends, and family.

ADDITIONAL CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS AMENDMENTS, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, we all agree that we must get our fiscal house in order, which is why Democrats sought to cut more than $40 billion from the President's 2011 budget request in December. We must evaluate every program and determine whether it merits taxpayer funding.

I have significant reservations about some of the cuts included in H.J. Res. 48, particularly eliminating funding for the Public Telecommunications Facilities Program, which was created nearly 50 years ago and is the only source of ongoing infrastructure assistance for public broadcasting stations. Its competitive grants require a local match, resulting in a successful public-private partnership, and it is the only source of emergency funding for stations with facilities devastated by disasters. Funding has already been cut by more than half since 2004, and it is a mistake to eliminate it.

Instead of continuing their quest to dismantle public broadcasting, the authors of the bill should have found savings by ending taxpayer-funded subsidies to large oil companies, which fleece taxpayers of tens of billions of dollars.

However, while I may not support every cut, it is imperative that Congress do everything it can, and reach common ground whenever possible, to avoid a government shutdown. We cannot allow for the possibility of seniors going without Social Security checks or veterans losing access to the health benefits they have earned.

The 7-month continuing resolution the House passed in February is a dangerous bill that would create not a single job, hurt federal programs essential to economic growth, and compromise our security. With no better options, we must adopt this short-term continuing resolution to keep the government operating while we negotiate spending for the remainder of the fiscal year that will continue economic growth.

HONORING MS. JANET M. BEDROSIAN FOR 38 YEARS OF SERVICE AT THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the distinguished

public service career of Ms. Janet M. Bedrosian. Ms. Bedrosian has honorably served the U.S. Bureau of Land Management for nearly 38 years and will retire on April 2, 2011.

Ms. Bedrosian was born in Tennessee and moved to Grass Valley, California, as an infant, where she grew up in California's Mother Lode country and graduated from Nevada Union High School as class valedictorian.

Ms. Bedrosian attended the University of Nevada-Reno, where she earned dual degrees in journalism and English. Ms. Bedrosian, currently the Deputy State Director, External Affairs at the BLM's California State Office, began her BLM career in 1973 at the Nevada State Office as its first public affairs staff member. She also worked in the Washington, D.C. office as Assistant Public Affairs Chief before returning to California to work in the state office as a public affairs specialist and congressional liaison. Ms. Bedrosian worked with California's 54-member Washington delegation, more than 120 full-time members of California's State legislature, and key State and local governments and their staffs. During this time, she built a robust and comprehensive congressional and legislative program that remains unequalled in the BLM's history. Her understanding of government processes and her ability to develop strong relationships have been crucial to many of the BLM's and Department of the Interior's successes, particularly in California.

Issues for which Ms. Bedrosian played a key role include the coordination between elected officials, the Department of the Interior, the National Park Service, and the BLM that resulted in passage of the California Desert Protection Act—the largest piece of wilderness legislation in the contiguous United States ever to come before Congress.

Ms. Bedrosian is well respected for her knowledge of land management and her ability to handle complex issues. Due to these attributes, a former BLM Director called upon her to act as the BLM's Chief of Staff in 2007.

For her dedication, expertise, and service, Ms. Bedrosian has been honored with the two highest awards from the Department of the Interior—the Meritorious Service Award in 2007 and the Department's highest civilian honor, the Distinguished Service Award, presented to her in 2010. According to the Interior Department, ''Recipients of the Distinguished Service Award must have demonstrated extremely significant long-term contributions to Departmental programs and missions.'' These awards are signed by the Secretary of the Interior and have been presented since 1948. Ms. Bedrosian is recognized nationally as an expert, a leader, and among the best External Affairs managers the BLM has ever had.

Outside the workplace, Ms. Bedrosian enjoys politics, travel, and making cookies. But mostly, she enjoys her family: husband Tod, son Sean, and daughter Kate; and her three sisters, brother, and father, all of whom live in the Sacramento area.

Ms. Bedrosian's nearly four-decade career in public service deserves the highesi appreciation and commendation. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Janet Bedrosian on a successful career and in wishing her happiness in her retirement.

HONORING MR. RALPH C. LORIGO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ralph C. Lorigo and his many years of dedicated service to Western New York.

Ralph was born on July 17th, 1947 to Ralph E. and Caroline (Juliano) Lorigo. He attended St. Lucy's School on Swan St. through the age of 12 and went on to West Seneca High School after his family moved to West Seneca in 1960. Upon graduation from high school, Ralph earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Buffalo. He would go on to attend the University of Buffalo Law School, earning his juris doctorate degree in May of 1973.

Ralph's interest in politics, which was certainly passed on to him from his mother Caroline, began in 1981 when he decided to run for Town Justice in West Seneca. Though his first bid was unsuccessful, Ralph went on to serve as a member of the Town Committee, then Town Chairman, and eventually as an Executive Board Member. In 1990, Ralph became the Erie County Conservative Vice-Chairman and in 1993 was a candidate for the New York State Supreme Court in a narrowly unsuccessful election campaign. Finally in 1995, Ralph became the Erie County Conservative Chairman and continues his work in that position to this day.

In addition to his political career, Ralph is also a dedicated member of the West Seneca Lions Club. He helped start a West Seneca Youth Court in 1984, has taught in the West Seneca Continuing Education program since the 1970's, sat on the West Seneca Continuing Education Board for several years, and has been involved in many other community programs.

Ralph is married to the former Deborah Caruana and has three adult children: son Michael (wife Devonie), son Joe (wife Jean), and daughter Jaime. Ralph and Deborah also have three grandchildren, Adrianna, Alana, and Alexa.

On a personal note, Mr. Speaker, let me say that I have had the high privilege of knowing Ralph Lorigo for more than 25 years. As an attorney and political leader, Ralph's career has been one of intense dedication to those whom he has represented. But as a husband, father and community leader, Ralph's true priorities—family, faith and community—have never failed to stand out. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ralph C. Lorigo for his many years of tireless service on behalf of the Western New York community.

HONORING THE 150TH YEAR OF ITALIAN UNIFICATION

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that Congressman BILL PASCRELL and I rise on behalf of the Italian American Delegation to honor the 150th year of Italian Unification.

On March 17th, 2011 the Republic of Italy celebrates their 150th year of unification throughout Italy and across the United States with a series of activities turning 2011 into an ''Italian Year.''

150 years ago the Risorgimento gave birth to modern Italy, preserving the ideals of western civilization: the protection of the rights, freedoms, and liberty of individuals.

Much of what we are as Americans and what we believe in has roots in Italy. As long time allies, we share a unique partnership in the arts, sciences and politics. Our friendship is strengthened through our common values and historical ties. It has been shaped through the ideas and contributions of great figures like Andrea Palladio and Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and Gaetano Filangieri, Giuseppe Garibaldi and Abraham Lincoln.

As co-chairs of the Italian-American delegation, we are proud to represent millions of Americans who like ourselves, are of Italian descent. Our ancestors have brought proud traditions of service with them to the United States. We still share those values today and with assistance from many Italian-American community organizations we continue to pass these traditions onto future generations.

As President Kennedy stated during the Centennial celebration of Italian Unification, ''We have the old and the new bound together and inextricably linked, Italy and the United States, past, present and we believe, future.''

We proudly recognize and celebrate this 150th anniversary of Italian Unification and the continued friendship between the United States and Italy.

A WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, during our celebration of Women's History Month, I would like to take an opportunity to honor the late Honorable Shirley Anita Chisholm. She was a trailblazer and an inspiration for many people across the country, including myself.

Shirley Anita Chisholm was born on November 30, 1924, in Brooklyn, NY to immigrant parents. She was an alumna of Girls High School, and earned her B.A. from Brooklyn College in 1946. In 1952, she went on to earn her M.A. from Columbia University in elementary education. During her time in school she became interested in and became a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and the NAACP.

Prior to her political career, she was an educator—a nursery school teacher from her college graduation in 1946 until 1953. From 1953 to 1959, she served as the director of Hamilton-Madison Child Care Center, and from 1959 to 1964 she was an educational consultant for the Division of Day Care in New York City.

Shirley Chisholm's political career began when she ran for the New York State Legislature in 1964. She proudly served there for four years. In 1968, she won election to the United States House of Representatives, becoming the first African-American woman elected to Congress. Congresswoman Chisholm was re-

elected six times, and retired in 1983. During her tenure, she was a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus, and was an important advocate for women, children, and inner city residents.

Her distinguished career was marked by challenging barriers. Shirley said: ''I want to be remembered as a woman who fought for change in the twentieth century.'' We remember her today as a powerful force for change, an advocate for the most vulnerable in society, and an inspiration for many. On January 25, 1972, she became the first major-party black candidate for President of the United States of America and the first woman to run for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and accomplishments of Shirley Chisholm on the occasion of Women's History Month.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD TECHNICIAN EQUITY ACT

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce much-needed legislation to benefit one of the most deserving groups of workers in our nation. The National Guard Technician Equity Act will go a long way toward correcting many wrongs in several outdated laws that harm the men and women who serve our country.

National Guard dual-status technicians are a unique group of workers. They are civilian employees of the National Guard in all 50 states and each territory. However, as a condition of their civilian position, they also must serve in either the Air or Army National Guard. These men and women serve the National Guard in a variety of capacities, from helicopter, airplane, and tank mechanics to clerical and support workers. National Guard technicians also serve their country on the military side of their jobs—during deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, and on state active duty in events such as Hurricane Katrina, forest fires, and floods.

The primary law that covers National Guard dual-status technicians is the Technician Act of 1968. Because of many outdated and unfair provisions in this law, technicians receive the worst of both worlds—on the civilian and military side of their jobs. My legislation, the National Guard Technician Equity Act, will correct these injustices.

First, the Technician Act requires that if a technician is no longer fit for military duty, then that person must be fired from their technician position, even if they are fully capable of performing their civilian duties. In a time in our nation with record unemployment, we should not be losing experienced, expert employees like this. My legislation would allow technicians the option of remaining in their civilian position if they have 20 years of creditable service as a dual-status technician. This not only will retain some of our best and brightest, but also will clear the way for other National Guard members to advance in the military ranks.

Second, the Technician Act bars technicians from having the same appeal rights as most other federal employees—including their counterparts in other Defense Department positions. Federal employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement have the right to file a grievance in the event of an adverse action (typically a long suspension or termination of their employment), and then proceed to arbitration; otherwise, they have the right to file a case with the Merit Systems Protection Board, a neutral federal agency. While technicians can file a grievance, they can only appeal to the Adjutant General in their state, not to any neutral third-party. My legislation will allow National Guard technicians the same right to appeal their case to a neutral party that most other federal workers have.

Third, most National Guard members are able to enroll in the TRICARE Reserve Select program, a key health benefit. However, despite the requirement that National Guard dual-status technicians must join the Air or Army National Guard, they are ineligible for TRICARE or TRICARE Reserve Select. Instead, technicians can only participate in the FEHBP program. FEHBP plans are generally significantly more expensive than TRICARE Reserve Select. My legislation takes the common-sense step of studying the feasibility of including National Guard technicians in the TRICARE or TRICARE Reserve Select programs.

Fourth, National Guard technicians also receive the worst of both worlds—military and civilian—when it comes to retirement. The FY 2000 National Defense Authorization Act included a provision to provide technicians who started work after 1996 to have ''special category'' civilian retirement. This means that they can retire somewhat earlier than most other federal workers, due to the dangerous nature of their jobs. However, technicians who were already working for the National Guard on or before 1996 were exempted from this improved retirement. My legislation will ensure all National Guard technicians—regardless of when they started work—will have the same retirement. Further, although active duty members of the military can retire after 20 years of service at any age, National Guard members, including technicians, must wait to retire until they are 60 years old for full military retirement. A provision in the FY 08 NDAA allows National Guard members to retire 3 months early for every year of service, but that provision does not go far enough. Since technicians can be fired from their civilian position if they cannot meet their military requirements, many of them depend on their civilian and military retirement if this occurs. Therefore, my legislation will ensure technicians—and all other members of the National Guard—receive a fairer military retirement by reducing the age of normal military retirement from age 60 to age 55.

Finally, my legislation corrects other injustices that harm technicians and treat them differently than their civilian and/or military counterparts. They include: requiring the federal government to pay FEHBP premiums during Emergency State Active Duty; doubling the amount of military leave for all federal employees in the National Guard; giving technicians the same right during a reduction in force that other federal workers have; giving technicians the same access to enlistment and re-enlistment bonuses and student loan repayment benefits that other National Guard members receive; and the right to receive overtime pay for overtime worked.

National Guard dual-status technicians have waited 43 years for Congress to correct these inequities and injustices. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important legislation that benefits the brave men and women who so proudly serve our nation.

TO CONGRATULATE STEVE P. CHOI ON BEING NAMED THE 36TH PRESIDENT OF THE KOREAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, as the incoming co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Korea, it is my great honor to congratulate Steve P. Choi on being named the 36th President of the Korean American Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area.

My community, the 11th Congressional District of Virginia, is enriched by its great diversity. More than 1 in 4 residents are foreign born and 40% are minorities. Asian-Americans, particularly Korean-Americans, comprise the largest ethnic population. The National Capital Region is home to more than 80,000 Korean-Americans making this area the third largest Korean community in the United States. Fairfax County, which I represent, has a sister-city relationship with the Songpa-gu district of Seoul, Korea.

The Korean-American community contributes immeasurably to the Northern Virginia region. A large percent of businesses in the area are owned and operated by Korean-Americans, who provide a robust variety of jobs, goods, and services to local residents. The strong character and work ethic displayed in the Korean-American community are consistent with that of so many immigrant groups who have come before. Education is highly regarded and sought after, and honesty, integrity and dignity are values that are instilled at a young age and continue to develop throughout life.

The Korean American Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area plays a critical role in providing information, opportunities, and services to local Korean-Americans. Throughout my career, first as a district Supervisor, then as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and now as the U.S. Congressman representing this district, I have worked closely with the Korean American Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area as well as other Korean-American groups to ensure that the needs of the community are addressed and that its voices are heard. I look forward to working with Mr. Choi as he begins his term as president of this esteemed organization so that together we can continue the progress toward achieving of our common goals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Steve P. Choi on being named the 36th President of the Korean American Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area and in wishing him continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO JOAN FAUVRE, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2011

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joan Fauvre of Pasadena, California. Every year in March, in recognition of Women's History Month, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women.

Joan grew up in Louisiana and received her B.A. from the University of Louisiana, Lafayette and her M.A. from Pacific Oaks College. Her commitment to children and education became evident early, when she taught third grade in the Los Angeles Unified School District in 1976, prior to beginning a family.

In the 1980's, Joan joined the Pasadena Educational Foundation (PEF). Established in 1971, PEF is a nonprofit organization that is committed to developing partnerships and resources to enhance educational programs in the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD). The Foundation has been incredibly successful, especially due to Joan's professional leadership and skills as a fundraiser and community builder. In 1985, Joan served on the Board of Directors, where she proved to be a valuable asset to the Foundation. In 1990, she co-chaired a planning committee, which aimed at expanding PEF's fundraising efforts. In 1994, she completed her tenure as a board member, and accepted the position of Executive Director. As a testament to the Foundation's success and Joan's able guidance, PEF has taken on some of the critically important district-wide activities that had been cut from the PUSD budget. For instance, the Foundation now runs a Summer Enrichment Program at five PUSD campuses that provides learning opportunities for over 1000 students. Furthermore, thanks to Joan's efforts and the community support that she built, all PUSD middle schools have a Robotics Program.

Joan is also a dedicated volunteer, who has committed endless hours of service to a variety of organizations, including the Pasadena-Foothill Valley YWCA, the Junior League of Pasadena, and Polytechnic Parents Group, among others. She was also an active participant on the Partners in Education Advisory Board, and was on the Board of Trustees of Pacific Oaks College and Children's School for eight years.

Upon her retirement from PEF in 2010, Joan remains a vibrant member of the community. Currently, she serves on the Board of Trustees of the Pasadena Child Health Foundation and on the Board of Directors of the California Consortium of Education Foundations. She and her husband John have three children and two grandchildren.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring a remarkable woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Joan Fauvre, for her exceptional service to the community.

HONORING CAMDEN COUNTY FREEHOLDER RILETTA CREAM, RESPECTED EDUCATOR AND ADMIRED CIVIC LEADER OF THE SOUTH JERSEY COMMUNITY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Freeholder Riletta Cream for her contributions to New Jersey as an educator and as a Camden County Freeholder.

A native of Camden City, Freeholder Cream has devoted her life to improving Camden County. Freeholder Cream began her career in education, rising from teacher to principal during her 37 years in Camden County Schools. Since 1994 she has also worked as an adjunct professor at Rowan and Rutgers Universities instructing student teachers. On January 3, 1991, the Riletta Twyne Cream Family School opened its doors to the next generation of Camden's children.

In 1994, Riletta Cream was appointed to the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and was re-elected three times. In her capacity as Freeholder, she served as a liaison to the Departments of Buildings and Operations and Education. She also worked to restore the Camden City Council Chambers, implement the construction of two new libraries, and install computers in every classroom in the city.

Working as an Educator and Freeholder of Camden County, Riletta was a steadfast public servant. After announcing her retirement, Riletta said that her time in service has been a joy. Speaking as a former Freeholder, I share in her joy and commend her for her accomplishments. Mr. Speaker, I am proud that Freeholder Cream has served Camden as a passionate civic leader and am confident that her service will continue to set an example for all citizens of New Jersey.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ACCESS SACRAMENTO

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Access Sacramento, Sacramento's public access station, as they celebrate the station's 25th anniversary. It is a great pleasure to recognize the station's dedication to giving a voice to individuals, events and opinions that are often not seen on television. As Access Sacramento's supporters gather to celebrate this milestone, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their leadership in community reporting.

The Sacramento area was one of the last urban areas to be wired for cable television, and it was not until December 1983 that public access television came to Sacramento. Known then as Sacramento Cable, the station developed a system that would provide funding, channel space, and equipment for a wide variety of local programming. These resources were divided among a number of organizations, one of which was Access Sacramento.

Over the last 25 years, Access Sacramento has overcome each challenge it has faced, and has adapted to meet the demand of a growing and ethnically diverse community. The station has earned an international reputation for success and has welcomed visitors from Europe, Africa, and Asia to see how the organization operates. Furthermore, Access Sacramento has been recognized for their quality programs, receiving many awards, including the prestigious ''Best Public Access Television in the Nation'', which it has won twice.

Access Sacramento's success, however, is not simply measured in awards, but in their ability to provide viewers with an opportunity to hear and see important ideas and thoughts that often cannot be found on television. The organization prides itself on the thousands of unique and locally produced programs that are seen and made available through the station each year. As of this year, their annual budget has grown to exceed $650,000 with a staff of ten individuals and over 750 volunteers. The station reaches 265,000 Sacramento residents and distributes more than 5,000 videos annually. It is clear that Access Sacramento is making a difference one voice at a time.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Access Sacramento, and their continuous commitment to providing the Sacramento community with access to information that they would not have received from other media outlets. The past 25 years have been tremendously successful and I am sure they will continue to enjoy success in the future. While Access Sacramento's staff, supporters, and listeners gather together to celebrate the organization's 25th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their outstanding work in providing the community with local television and radio programming.

THE TRIANGLE SHIRTWAIST FIRE: HIGHLIGHTING THE NEED FOR WORKERS' RIGHTS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, Friday, March 25th, marks the 100th anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist factory fire.

The tragedy of the Triangle fire is not just the deaths of 146 workers—mostly young women in their teens and early twenties—but the fact that those deaths were avoidable. If the owners of the factory hadn't locked the doors to the stairwells and exits, if they had installed a stable fire escape or put in sprinklers, many of those lives would not have been painfully and tragically lost. If the owners of the factory hadn't fought long and hard against their employees' right to join a union of their choice, those workers might not have been locked in and prevented from fleeing the fire, as the owners were able to do themselves.

The depictions of the tragedy by eyewitnesses are difficult to read. The fire broke out on the Saturday afternoon, at the end of the workday. Survivor Yetta Lubitz said that the warning and the fire arrived at the same time. Within three minutes, the only unlocked exit was blocked and the fire escape soon twisted and collapsed from the heat. Within 30

minutes, 146 lives were lost, including sixty-two people who died by jumping or falling from the ninth floor.

The International Ladies Garments Workers, the National Women's Trade Union League, and other unions didn't just mourn the victims—they organized. The day after the fire, 15,000 shirtwaist workers demonstrated in support for a 52-hour week and a 20 percent pay raise. On Sunday, thousands gathered at the Metropolitan Opera House and passed a resolution calling for a Bureau of Fire Prevention and a permanent citizens' committee to push for labor reforms. Soon after, Governor Al Smith acted to create the Factory Investigating Commission, chaired by Robert Wagner, who would become a U.S. Senator and the sponsor of the National Labor Relations Act. One of its key investigator staffers was Frances Perkins, who became Secretary of Labor,

The impetus for reform came from the workers themselves. Their activism resulted in the passage of major worker protections not just new fire safety laws but laws against 7-day work weeks and child labor. The Triangle tragedy resulted in more workers having the right to union representation, collective bargaining rights, and a voice at work.

In 1961, on the 50th anniversary of the Triangle fire, ILGWU President David Dubinsky attended the memorial service and said, "We want a fitting memorial to the martyrs we honor today. No better one can be found than to increase the respect for and the safety of workers."

100 years later, those words continue to ring true. Today, we confront a coordinated effort to roll back the hard fought gains that were won not just because of the horrific nature of the tragedy that occurred but because of the organizing power of unions, workers and their supporters. Just as the Triangle Fire spurred people into action, the anti-working family agenda of Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker has mobilized millions. The message is clear: we will not go back to the days when workers had no voice, no dignity and no safety. We will not go back.

TO RECOGNIZE THE 21ST ANNUAL FAIRFAX COUNTY FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME HONOREES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fairfax County Youth Football League and to celebrate the 21st Anniversary of the Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame.

The importance of youth sports cannot be overstated. Participation in organized sports teaches our youth many lessons that will serve them well throughout life. These invaluable lessons include sportsmanship, teamwork, honesty, a sense of belonging, and maybe most importantly, the work ethic instilled by striving for success and working to achieve a common goal. Organized youth sports also contributes to our society, studies have shown a correlation between participation in sporting activities and doing well in school. Some studies indicate that reduction in gang activity can be partially attributed to refocusing at-risk youth into organized, supervised activities such as youth sports.

I applaud the Fairfax County Youth Football League for the opportunities that they provide to all of our children to succeed and be a part of a team. I also congratulate the following students, coaches and community leaders who are being recognized at the 21st Annual Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame:

Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame 2011 Inductees: Will Montgomery (NFL Washington Redskins, Virginia Polytechnic University, Centreville High School, Southwestern Youth Association), Bill Yoast (Hammond High School, T. C. Williams High School), George Casey (Vienna Youth Incorporated).

Football Official of the Year—Youth Sports: Arnold Palmer (Fairfax County Football Officials Association).

Karl Davey Community Achievement Award: Betty Powell (Fairfax County Youth Football League).

Tom Davis Meritorious Service Award: Lee Ann Pender (Director, Office of Administrative Services, Fairfax County Public Schools).

Gene Nelson Commissioner of the Year Award: William Barry Thompson, III (Fairfax Police Youth Club).

FCFHF Awards—$1,500 Scholarships: Lisa Kinston (West Potomac High School–Cheerleading), Andrew Weidinger (Lake Braddock High School–Football), Scotty Nicoll (Westfield High School–Football), John "JP" Theodorakos (Herndon High School–Football).

High School Players of the Year: Marcus Harris (Stone Bridge High School), Anthony Taylor (Washington-Lee High School), Michael Nebrich (Lake Braddock High School), Jared Velasquez (Robinson High School), Kevin Hogan (Gonzaga High School), Dominique Terrell (At Large–Osbourn High School).

High School Coaches of the Year: Mickey Thompson (Division V–Stone Bridge High School), Mark Cox (Division VI–Battlefield High School).

Youth Players of the Year—Youth Sports: Kyle Hamrock (Braddock Road Youth Club), Jelani Shakir (Ft. Belvoir Youth Football), Zachary Braskamp (Reston Youth Football), Kyle Phox (Springfield Youth Club), Guy Myers (Manassas Youth Football), Brandon Lessard (McLean Youth Football), Garrett Snedeker (Chantilly Youth Association), Benjamin Davenport (Lee-Franconia Football), Devon Patterson (Gainesville/Haymarket Football), Jack Caldwell (Braddock Road Youth Club), David Im (Herndon Optimist Club), Glenn Rushing (Ft. Hunt Youth Football), Sean Fitzgerald (Vienna Youth Inc.), Christian Abenes (Ft. Belvoir Youth Football), Nick Donlon (Southwestern Youth Association), Hayden Burke (South County Athletic Association).

Coaches of the Year—Youth Sports: David Curtis (Alexandria Youth Football), Todd Casey (Vienna Youth Inc.), James Passmore (Herndon Optimist Club), Mike Anderson (Fairfax Police Youth Club).

Cheerleaders of the Year: KC Buckley (Vienna Youth Inc.), Annie Cowman (Vienna Youth Inc.), Tristen Davenport (Gainesville/Haymarket Football), Meghan Henry (Herndon Optimist Club), Kathleen Winkert (Dulles South Youth Sports).

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Fairfax County Youth Football League as well as those students, coaches and community leaders who are being honored at this 2011 Hall of Fame celebration.

A TRIBUTE TO MARO KECHICHIAN 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2011

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in Honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women during the month of March.

Today, I rise to commend Maro Kechichian of Burbank, whose tireless efforts have benefited her community and beyond. Ms. Kechichian was born and raised in Lebanon, where she received her early education and simultaneously became an active member of the Zavarian Student Association. With a passion for learning, Maro pursued a higher education, and received a Bachelor's Degree in Armenian Literature from St. Joseph University in Beirut, Lebanon. Prior to moving to the United States, Maro taught at Aksor Kassardjian, an Armenian school in a predominantly Armenian suburb of Beirut. She proved to be a valuable asset to the school, and was promoted to Director—a position she held for eight years.

Maro immigrated to the United States in 1984 and joined Homenetmen's Los Angeles Chapter, where she is an active member. She has served as a board member of Homenetmen Western Regional Executive Committee as a secretary for six terms. As a professional, she is a trusted team member who helps organize regional and international events, including the renowned annual Navasartian Games of Southern California.

Ms. Kechichian is a dedicated participant in all her endeavors and she brings a dynamic energy to all her activities. Maro has been elected as a Regional Executive member for Homenetmen numerous times. Her expertise with issues related to Homenetmen leads her to take frequent part in its Central meetings. These meetings take place every four years, and allow Homenetmen leaders from around the world to gather and plan upcoming nationwide activities. It is also noteworthy that Maro was a reporter for Asbarez Armenian Daily Newspaper for 20 years, and covered news from Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh.

In 1990, Maro was appointed to a special project aimed at establishing a Homenetmen region in Armenia. She stayed in Armenia for three months and was solely committed to this effort. Ever since then, Maro not only continues supporting the region she visited, but also extends a helping hand to Nagorno-Karabakh.

Currently, Maro serves as an Executive Secretary at the Armenian Relief Society, ARS, of the Western Region, and is an advisor for Homenetmen's Los Angeles Chapter. She is also an active volunteer, and spends numerous hours helping Armenian Relief Society's Araz chapter and various fundraising committees.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring a remarkable woman of the 29th Congressional

District, Maro Kechichian, for her exceptional service to the community.

IN HONOR OF 2011 BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Brain Awareness Week and the benefits of this informative week in educating students on brain science in my congressional district and across the country. During Brain Awareness Week, which is held March 14–20, neuroscientists around the globe educate K–12 students, senior citizens and the public at large on the wonders of the human brain. These activities include tours of neuroscience laboratories, museum exhibitions and classroom discussions on the elements of the human brain.

In my congressional district, neuroscientists at Washington University recognized Brain Awareness Week during their annual NeuroDay on March 5. Nearly 5,000 of my constituents walked through the St. Louis Science Center to learn about brain research and treatments in the area. The daylong event included exhibits called Hands-on Human Brains, The Buzz about the Electric Dish, Spying Tips from Horseshoe Crabs, The Teenage Brain on Prism Goggles, and The 6th Sense.

Today, in recognition of Brain Awareness Week, I would like to highlight a devastating neurological condition that affects millions of Americans: Multiple Sclerosis, MS. As a co-chair of the Congressional Multiple Sclerosis caucus, I understand firsthand how this devastating and chronic disease can rob people of their ability to walk, talk, or even tie their shoes. Today, MS is the most common central nervous system disease among young adults after epilepsy and is a lifetime ailment of unknown origin that affects more than 400,000 Americans. MS is diagnosed mainly in individuals between the ages of 20 and 50, with 2 of 3 cases occurring in women. Although a cause has yet to be found, MS is thought to be an autoimmune disease in which the body's natural defenses react against the myelin and nerve fibers in the central nervous system as though they were foreign tissue.

Mr. Speaker, both genetic and environmental factors are probably involved in the cause. Previous studies had suggested that MS susceptibility peaked before the age of 15; more recent, larger studies suggest that there is no exact age cutoff. Thanks to research conducted through the National Institutes of Health, NIH, and the National Science Foundation—our premier scientific enterprises—which continue to provide hope to the 50 million Americans who suffer from neurological disorders annually. For example, the NIH is leading the way to promising new treatments for MS. One NIH-funded study showed that so-called ''progenitor'' cells in the brain might be used to help regenerate areas of the brain that have lost myelin.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Brain Awareness Week and the contributions that scientists who study the brain and nervous system are making to understanding more about the onset of MS and the innovation of potential treatments that can more effectively ease the pain and suffering of individuals who grapple with this crippling illness during the prime of their lives.

CONGRATULATING PARKVIEW HIGH SCHOOL AND SIMPSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. ROB WOODALL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I proudly congratulate two schools from my district, Parkview High School and Simpson Elementary School, for having earned the prestigious 2011 Georgia School of Excellence Award.

The Georgia School of Excellence award is an annual honor awarded by the Georgia School Superintendent to the schools showing the greatest improvement or highest achievement across the state. Parkview High School and Simpson Elementary, both in Gwinnett County, tied as the 7th District school showing the highest achievement as measured by being in the top ten percent in reading and mathematics assessment scores. Each of the schools will receive a grant from Georgia Natural Gas.

I am extremely proud of the work being done at both of these schools and want to recognize Principal David Smith of Parkview High School and Principal Bron Gayna Schmit of Simpson Elementary School and their hard-working faculty and staff for their excellence in providing each and every student with a superior education and enabling each student to meet his or her full potential.

These two schools are in the Gwinnett County School District, a national leader in education and winner of the 2010 Broad Prize for Public Education, an award a competitive, nationwide award given to one school district each year that exemplifies superior overall student and administrative performance.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 1818 AND CUB SCOUT PACK 1818

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pack 1818 and Troop 1818, the Jewish Cub Scout Pack and Boy Scout Troop that are based in my neighborhood in Mantua in Fairfax. Cub Scout Pack 1818 now boasts 34 boys ranging from Grade 1 to Grade 5. Chartered by the Olam Tikvah Men's Club since 2000, Pack 1818 provides an opportunity for these boys to take in a variety of sports, crafts, and outdoor activities, like hiking and camping.

This year, Tiger Cubs include: Jacob Boyett, Elijah Fischer, Benjamin Golden, Ari Pearlstein, Nathan Rothberg, Isaac Saiger, and Matthew Wurmser. Wolf Cubs include Jacob Book, Nathan Chernys, Ben Engler, Daniel Fertel, Alex Frame, Zach Grossman, Sebastian Jones, Aidan Jupiter, Jacob Hemmerdinger, Rueben Hemmerdinger, Solomon Hutchins, Ben Neifeld, and Zachary Shmargal-Ellison. Bear Cubs include Mitchell Akawie, Samuel Goldberg, Jared Johnson, Michael Krasovsky, Ilan Nabatkhorian, Lars Rosen, and Jacob Rutzick. First year Webelos include Solomon Jones while second year Webelos include Joshua Ackerman, Kenny Book, David Chernys, Daniel Dorlester, Jordan Lamar, and Aaron Shurberg.

I am especially pleased to note that these last six boys—the second year Webelos—will transition to Boy Scouts during a ceremony this evening. Each of those boys has earned the Arrow of Light award.

After they become Boy Scouts, the number of Boys in Troop 1818 will equal 18, which in Jewish tradition corresponds to Life. Troop 1818, which is only three years old, has emerged as an important force for so many boys' lives. Troop 1818 provides opportunities to build lifelong skills and values, and make lasting friendships through weekly activities and a variety of outdoor programs. The boys have a chance to earn merit badges in such diverse areas as engineering, camping, orienteering, nuclear science, and first aid. This past year, boys from Troop 1818 got to learn CPR, build and sleep in a snow igloo, and attend the 100th anniversary National Jamboree with Scouts from around the country and world.

Troop 1818 currently includes Benjy Ackerman, Max Chernys, Jamie Frame, Josh Hone, Casey Lamar, Ezra Lapidus, Levi Meerovich, Josh Rutzick, Sam Rutzick, Ezra Postelnek, Yosef Postelnek, and Zach Watts. These boys have made significant accomplishments over the past year—earning merit badges and multiple rank advancements—which they will receive at their semi-annual Court of Honor this weekend.

Finally, I'd like to also recognize Robert Book, who founded Troop 1818 and current serves as Committee Chair for Pack 1818. An Eagle Scout himself, Robert is being recognized this weekend for his accomplishments by being presented with the Shofar Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise and join me in congratulating these scouts and also in thanking the troop leaders, parents and families for their dedication to our youth.

A TRIBUTE TO ANITA MARTIN, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2011

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women during the month of March.

I stand today to pay tribute to Anita Martin of Altadena, who for many years, has spent an extraordinary amount of time and energy helping our nation's veterans. Every other week, Anita and her husband of 23 years, Walter, volunteer at the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System's West LA Domiciliary. They assist veterans with the necessary paperwork for benefits claims, advocate for their health care, help them find shelter, lend a

hand to homeless veterans, and act as liaisons with veterans' families and the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. In addition, the Martins raise funds, have donated clothing, computers, a washer and dryer for women veterans, arranged for a bank to provide direct deposit for the veterans at the West LA Domiciliary, and visit veterans on a regular basis.

Anita is active in several military service organizations. She is currently President of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Unit 1898, Junior Vice President of the Department of California's Ladies Auxiliary Military Order of the Purple Heart, and Senior Vice President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 280 in Pasadena. In addition to Anita's contributions to veterans, she has volunteered extensively in Altadena for years with such organizations as the Altadena Sheriff's Station, where she ran their program for abused women, the Altadena Old Fashion Days Parade, Christmas Tree Lane Association, and Franklin Elementary and Eliot Middle Schools. Along with her husband, Ms. Martin formed a Neighborhood Watch Program in their Altadena neighborhood, provided guidance to others in forming their own Neighborhood Watch Programs, and for their leadership the Martins received the Governor's Award for Best Crime Prevention in 1992 from then-Governor Deukmejian.

Anita and Walter's business, Martin's Famous Louisiana Sausages (formerly Martin's BBQ) has donated food for years to organizations such as Sacred Heart Church, various homeless shelters, the American Legion, the Altadena Sheriff's Station, and the USO. Most recently, Anita and Walter organized a program where several economically challenged senior citizens received gift cards and shopped for food at a local grocery store, with the assistance of JROTC students.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Anita Martin, for her service to the community and especially to our nation's veterans.

HONORING GEORGE E. NORCROSS, III AND HIS COMMITMENT TO COOPER UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George E. Norcross, III for his service to Cooper University Hospital and the health care community of South Jersey.

Mr. Norcross, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Cooper Health System, was named the "2011 Healthcare System Trustee of the Year" by the New Jersey Hospital Association.

A member of the Board of Trustees of the Cooper Health System since 1990, and Chairman since 2006, Mr. Norcross has brought significant improvements to the South Jersey health care community. Among his accomplishments are the expansion of the South Jersey and Camden Health Sciences Campus and the establishment of the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, which plans to open its doors in 2012.

Through his strong leadership and dedication to Cooper University Hospital, Mr. Norcross has helped influence development of the surrounding neighborhoods, including new and revitalized housing, the establishment of three parks and aesthetic improvements to streets and landscaping.

In addition to his work on the Board of Trustees of Cooper University Hospital, Mr. Norcross serves as Chairman of the Annual Cooper Norcross Run the Bridge, a 10k race that supports the Larc School in New Jersey, a school for children with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. Norcross on his receipt of the "2011 Healthcare System Trustee of the Year" award and thank him for the service he has provided to Cooper University Hospital and the residents of South Jersey.

HONORING DARRYL VANDERVORT

HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Darryl Vandervort of Dixon, Illinois. Darryl has served as President and CEO of Katherine Shaw Bethea Hospital in Dixon, Illinois since 1989. During his tenure, Darryl oversaw significant organizational growth, including five major hospital additions, the opening of seven satellite locations, and the formation of the 65-physician KSB Medical Group. KSB Hospital employed 394 people when Darryl was named CEO in 1989; it's now the largest employer in Lee County, with 1,112 employees. Darryl's focus has always been to provide the best possible medical treatment and patient experience. His contributions at KSB Hospital have improved the local quality of life and strengthened the local economy.

Darryl has also been a true community leader. Darryl was recognized for his exemplary commitment to community service when he was named Citizen of the Year in 1996 by the Dixon Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Darryl's contribution to the Sauk Valley area is a permanent reminder of his community spirit, vision, and hard work.

As Darryl Vandervort concludes his 28-year tenure at KSB Hospital, the people of the 14th Congressional district recognize his distinguished career and wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. BOB MORGAN

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Mr. Bob Morgan, this year's recipient of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick's Man of the Year Award.

Mr. Morgan was born in Carbondale, PA. He graduated from Wyoming Valley West High School and King's College. Bob is currently employed as a Financial Advisor, Assistant Vice President with PNC Investments where he specializes in providing advice on asset/liability management, retirement and wealth transfer needs for clients of the Kingston and Edwardsville branch offices of PNC. Bob and his wife, Marcella, have two children.

Bob is currently beginning his 13th term as the Treasurer for the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. Bob has also served as President of the Society, on the Awards Committee, and on the Planning Committee for the Friendly Sons Annual Golf Tournament. Bob is a Past President, Vice President, and member of the Board of Trustees of the Wyoming Valley Serra Club. He is also a member of the St. Conrad's Young Men's Society, Plymouth Council 984 Knights of Columbus, and Bishop Hafey Assembly Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. Bob currently serves as an officer of the Holy Redeemer Football Parents Club, and he and his wife, Marcella, served as Chairpersons of the March of Dimes Signature Chefs Auction in 2007 and 2008.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Morgan has dedicated himself to serving our community. His avid volunteerism has helped many of his neighbors, and his continued mission to stand up for his fellow citizens should be admired. Mr. Speaker, today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Bob Morgan on receiving this year's Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Son's of St. Patrick's Man of the Year Award.

RECOGNIZING MARCIA CARR AS THE 2011 OKALOOSA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Marcia Carr as the 2011 Okaloosa County Educational Support Professional of the Year. I am honored to recognize her achievements and her dedication to the students and teachers of Northwest Florida.

Mrs. Carr has spent twenty years in the Okaloosa County School District, including seventeen years at Riverside Elementary School in Crestview, Florida, where she is the Media Specialist. While Mrs. Carr is responsible for organizing and managing the Media Center, her contributions at Riverside Elementary go far beyond her duties in the Media Center.

Each morning Mrs. Carr braves the elements to supervise the safety of students who walk and ride their bikes to school. Mrs. Carr's day does not end when school lets out. She helps to coordinate the after school tutoring program, providing snacks and taking attendance. When the tutoring is finished, Mrs. Carr manages the transportation for each student. She knows exactly how each student is supposed to get home, and she rides the bus route twice a week to make sure that every student arrives home safely.

Marcia Carr goes above and beyond the call of duty. In her role as the Media Specialist, she is the consummate professional. Her commitment to serving the students of Riverside Elementary is evidenced by the hours she puts in before and after school.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Marcia Carr as the Okaloosa County Educational Support Professional of the Year. Her passion for the students of Riverside Elementary is laudable and her dedication to her profession is exemplary. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mrs. Carr, and we wish her all the best.

STATEMENT ON BILL TO APPROVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS DESIGNED TO TEST INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES IN STATE CHILD WELFARE PROGRAMS

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today, I reintroduced legislation that would allow the Department of Health and Human Services to grant State waivers from certain Federal requirements under the foster care and adoption programs, so States can test innovative strategies to serve children better. Representative GEOFF DAVIS (R–KY) is an original cosponsor of the bill. The legislation is identical to the bill I introduced in September 2010, which passed the House last fall by voice vote. Child welfare waivers will allow interested States to test interventions that help children and families, but they are only a first step toward the comprehensive child welfare financing reform that began with the Fostering Connections Act of 2008. Additional resources and improvements are needed to ensure we provide critical services to all children and families at risk.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to achieve this important goal.

IN MEMORY OF CLARISSA MAE ROGERS WALKER

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I rise today to mourn the passage of my dear friend and fellow Minnesotan, Clarissa Mae Rogers Walker. Driven by a desire to change the world for the better, Ms. Walker spent her life serving many in need in the Twin Cities community.

Clarissa Walker began working as an operating room technician at the University of Minnesota Hospital. A few years later, Clarissa began working for Sabathani Community Center in 1968. It was at Sabathani that she discovered her passion for social work and she moved up the ladder in the organization because of her dedication and drive. She began as a youth supervisor, moving up the ranks to become a counselor, assistant director, acting executive director, and finally agency director of the Center.

Ms. Walker strengthened the Sabathani community by becoming involved in organizations geared towards helping the disadvantaged. For example: Ms. Walker created and led tax preparation programs which led to thousands of low-income residents receiving millions of dollars in tax refunds. This program, like so many others she influenced in her community, is still operational today. Ms. Walker was an active volunteer and board member on a number of national and local organizations devoted to social services for low income families.

Ms. Walker proved that one person can truly make a difference in a world where small deeds and individual strength can be overlooked and underestimated. Clarissa serves as an inspiration to all of us and has shown us that one person's determination to help those in need can truly change the world and the way we live in it. Her spirit of gracious fortitude will be remembered in Minnesota, and I ask that we draw on her strength and struggles in the work that we do for the American people at large.

IN HONOR OF PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ANDREW HARPER

HON. DAVID B. McKINLEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. McKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, this past week, all of West Virginia experienced a tremendous loss. 19-year-old Private First Class Andrew Harper died from injuries he sustained while serving our country in Afghanistan. It deeply saddens me to see anyone hurt while serving our country, let alone lose their life such as Private First Class Harper did. Andrew was a dedicated hero who defended our country with the utmost dignity and I am proud to call him a West Virginian.

Andrew, a graduate from University High School, was stationed in Kandahar province when he sustained his fatal injuries during a non-combat incident. This brave young man enrolled in the Army to protect our freedom and our country's fundamental beliefs. The true heroes of our time will be these brave men and women who have stood up for America and defended our freedom.

This young man who was from Maidsville, West Virginia served our country with pride and dignity. He represented our community in that same manner. The admiration our community felt for this young man and his service are immense. Andrew's passing has left so many shocked and distraught. This brave young man's life was so very promising. There is no question that Andrew left a great legacy and his memory should be honored.

Andrew serves as a great example of the American spirit. My thoughts and prayers are with Andrew's mother, Deanna Wells of Middleburg, Florida, his father, Steven Harper of Maidsville, West Virginia, his extended family, friends, and his entire unit, the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment as they continue to protect our freedom in Afghanistan.

AMERICAN HEALTH SECURITY ACT

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I believe that there should be a family doctor for every American family. That shouldn't be hard in the richest country in the world, but it's not a reality for too many Americans. There is nothing worse than having to worry about how you are going to pay for something that you absolutely need like health care.

That is why for the past century, leaders from Teddy Roosevelt, Richard Nixon, Lyndon Johnson, Bill Clinton to President Obama have tried to advance varying forms of comprehensive health care reform. At every opportunity conservatives have warned that ensuring comprehensive care would be the end of freedom and usher in a new era of socialism. Despite this alarmism, Medicare passed in 1965 and thank God for that. Seniors and others such as people suffering from diseases like End Stage Renal Disease have a low cost way of accessing high quality of care.

With the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) last year, the promise of more access and fairer rules are being realized for all Americans. We have more to do, though. There has been a lot of attention made towards the supposed lack of flexibility in the ACA. States argue, correctly in my view, that they are in the best position to evaluate and address the specific needs of their communities. The ACA gives states a great deal of flexibility, but some states believe they can build on it to do even more to expand access, lower costs and raise the quality of health care. For example, in Vermont, there is a grassroots movement that has swept into the State House to move the State of Vermont towards a single payer system.

The people in Vermont are fed up with insurance companies and want more progress. They think it's ridiculous and shameful for insurance companies to post their highest profit margins ever this year while also charging higher premiums to consumers.

The American Health Security Act I am introducing today would give states the ability to increase quality and get control of costs by taking out the profiteering middle-man—insurance companies—and letting doctors focus on what they do best: treat patients. I believe this bill builds on the ACA by offering states an excellent option in moving our country towards a health care system that finally puts the patient first.

TYLER MARTINEZ TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tyler Martinez of Alamosa, Colorado. Mr. Martinez earned the Youth of the Year award at the Boys and Girls Club of the San Luis Valley for the second year in a row.

It is rare to find a youth like Mr. Martinez who is so involved in helping less fortunate kids. The Alamosa High Junior lends his effort and time to the Boys and Girls Club, though. The fact that he was selected for the honor two consecutive years is a testament to his dedication. As a student and player on the Alamosa High basketball team, it is even more impressive that Mr. Martinez finds so much time to volunteer.

Mr. Martinez will once again enter the statewide competition for Colorado Youth of the

Year. He joins many deserving honorees across the state and will certainly be a serious contender. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Tyler Martinez, today, and I have no doubt this young man will continue to be a leader in his community.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr Speaker, Happy St. Patrick's Day! Originally a religious holiday, today St. Patrick's Day is largely an international celebration of Irish culture. I urge my colleagues and fellow Americans to embrace this day. Today, one in four Americans traces at least part of their ancestry to Ireland. Irish-Americans have provided the backbone of our workforce, enlivened our art and culture, defended our country, and served in this Congress and as President of the United States. Great Irish-Americans such as Eugene O'Neill and F. Scott Fitzgerald transformed American literature, innovators like Henry Ford helped revolutionize American transportation, and who can forget Presidents like Andrew Jackson, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, and Ronald Reagan, each Irish-American alike. Irish-Americans continue to contribute to our nation as they ably serve in their communities in numerous capacities. It is for all of these reasons that I support the designation of March as Irish-American Heritage Month and encourage Americans to celebrate Irish-American heritage. I'm proud to stand today with my colleagues, those lucky enough to be Irish-American, as well as those who aren't, and honor this group that has been so important to our nation on this St. Patrick's Day.

INTRODUCING THE THRIFT SAVINGS FUND IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Thrift Savings Fund Improvement Act. This legislation expands the investment options available to congressional and other federal employees by creating a precious metals investment fund in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). Adding a precious metals fund to the TSP will enhance the plan's ability to offer congressional employees a wide range of investment options that can provide financial security even during difficult economic conditions.

The Thrift Savings Plan is one of the most important benefits offered to Congressional employees. A strong TSP can obviously play a key role in attracting and retaining talented individuals to serve in the legislative branch. Adding a precious metals option will strengthen the TSP. In the last year, the price of gold rose by over 23 percent and silver by over 94 percent, while the Dow Jones and S&P 500 each only rose by around 8.5 percent.

Recent gains aside, precious metals have a number of features that make them a sound part of a prudent investment strategy. In particular, inflation does not erode the value of precious metals is not eroded over time. Thus, precious metals can serve as a valuable "inflation hedge." Precious metals also maintain, or even increase, their value during times of stock market instability, such as what the country is currently experiencing. Thus, investments in precious metals can help ensure that an investment portfolio maintains its value during times of economic instability.

Federal employees could greatly benefit from the protection against inflation and economic downturns provided by prudent investments in precious metals. I therefore once again urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Thrift Savings Fund Improvement Act.

HONORING SERGEANT KRISTOPHER JAMES GOULD

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of Sergeant Kristopher James Gould of Frankenlust Township in Michigan. Kristopher paid the ultimate price in service to his country on February 27, 2011 in Afghanistan.

Sergeant Gould joined the Michigan Army National Guard in 2003. He served in Iraq from 2005 to 2006. He joined the US Army in 2007 and was serving his second tour of duty in Afghanistan when his unit was struck by an improvised explosive device. Kristopher was assigned to the B Company, 2nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Knox, Kentucky. He was a 2004 graduate of Valley Lutheran High School and his funeral was held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on Saturday, March 12th.

James and Ann Gould, Kristopher's parents, would like to thank the Casualty Assistance Officer, Sergeant Angelina Saldana, of the Michigan Army National Guard for her assistance during this time. She escorted them to Dover Air Force Base, and coordinated the military honors with the church. Mr. and Mrs. Gould were touched by her compassion and her support of the family during this time.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to stand with me in a moment of silence and remember the life of Kristopher James Gould and the service he rendered to our country. His sacrifice for the United States of America cannot be measured, and we owe him our thanks and gratitude. Please join me in offering prayers and condolences to his parents, sister and family for their loss.

STEPHEN F. MESTAS TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Warrant Officer Stephen F. Mestas of Pueblo, Colorado. Officer Mestas is a helicopter combat pilot who just finished his second tour of duty in Afghanistan, and his fifth tour overall. His return is a reminder of the sacrifice our soldiers and their families make to ensure our freedoms.

Officer Mestas and his unit, Alpha Troop 2–17 Cavalry, were recently deployed into some of the most dangerous territory in the world. They put their lives in danger every day so that we may live safely and freely in America. The fact that officer Mestas has been deployed five times in that pursuit is both humbling and inspiring. We are truly indebted to these brave men.

I also feel profound respect for the wives, children, parents and siblings of our American soldiers. They are put through incredible difficulties and we owe them the same gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Stephen Mestas, today. He and his family keep this country strong, along with all of the other men and women we charge with protecting the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR DAILY BREAD

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Our Daily Bread, and to congratulate them on their 26 years of service in the Northern Virginia community.

Our Daily Bread is a volunteer-based organization dedicated to providing critical services to families and individuals suffering from financial hardship. Through robust community support from local faith-based groups, community organizations, local businesses, schools and universities, Our Daily Bread has grown to provide food, financial literacy education and assistance, school supplies, and holiday cheer to thousands of people in our area.

Our Daily Bread's mission is to identify and address the unmet fundamental needs of Fairfax area residents, and to empower the community to help our neighbors maintain self-sufficiency. This mission of sustainability and self-sufficiency evolved from humble beginnings. Our Daily Bread was founded in 1984 as a temporary homeless shelter that rotated among several area churches. When Fairfax County opened a county-run shelter in the Reston area, Our Daily Bread refocused its energies on feeding the homeless and opened a soup kitchen to serve those most in need. Recognizing the difficulties faced by those patrons unable to benefit from this service, Our Daily Bread again reinvented itself first by delivering sandwiches made by volunteers and later to delivering supplemental groceries directly to homeless families who were living in motels along Route 50 in Fairfax.

Our Daily Bread has a history of being dynamic in the face of changing demographics. Beginning in the 1990's and largely fueled by the high cost of rental housing, a new urgent need emerged. Families who were not homeless, families in which one or both parents were often juggling multiple jobs, were finding themselves unable to meet their basic needs and were just one crisis away from homelessness. Our Daily Bread rose to meet this challenge and began a program offering emergency financial assistance in the form of a modest one time grant of up to $350.00. More recently, Our Daily Bread expanded their services to provide financial mentoring, a back to

school program and holiday meals and gifts. It is a testament to talent and commitment of the volunteers, staff, and supporters who make Our Daily Bread's what it is today; an organization with the foresight and readiness to take on new problems, while continuing to deliver on core initiatives.

Today, Our Daily Bread provides critical services to the elderly, the working poor, the disabled and the homeless in the Fairfax area. In 2010, Our Daily Bread provided food assistance to 425 families, an 18% increase from the previous year. In addition, 333 families benefited from financial assistance and over 385 families took part in financial literacy training and mentoring, a 73% increase over last year. 4,584 families were served by the holiday program, and 337 children received supplies for school. Over half of those assisted by our Daily Bread's program were children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Our Daily Bread for their commitment to the community. I would also to express my sincere gratitude to the volunteers and staff who contribute their time and energy and also to the Fairfax area business community for the support they provide to this worthwhile cause.

A TRIBUTE TO MAUREEN WALSH, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2011

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women during the month of March.

Today I pay tribute to Maureen Walsh of Glendale. Along with a successful career in marketing and press relations, from which she is now retired, Maureen has always found time in her life to volunteer. A native New Yorker, when she moved to Glendale in 1988, she became active on the Women's Committee of the Glendale Symphony Orchestra, where she worked on a program that brought music to students in Glendale schools.

For the last several years, Maureen has been enthusiastically involved with the Cabrini Literary Guild in Glendale. The Cabrini Literary Guild is a philanthropic organization organized in 1943, whose mission is to raise funds to support various charities in the Glendale area, such as Loaves & Fishes, YWCA of Glendale, literacy programs, as well as to promote a Writing Award Program with the high schools in the Catholic Diocese of Los Angeles. A member since 1994 and a board member since 1995, Maureen has held the offices of Membership Chair, Writing Awards Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and President. Currently she is First Vice President in charge of programs at the association's monthly meetings and is a participant in the Guild's annual fundraisers.

Maureen joined Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center's Guild in 1999 and went on their board shortly afterward. The Guild's mission is to financially support the Medical Center with its fundraising by making annual pledges—profits from the Gift Gallery and the Guild's annual benefits help make it possible for the Guild to provide these monetary pledges. Maureen has served as First Vice President and Press Chairman of the Guild, and has acted as Chair or Co-Chair of the annual fundraising events, and is currently involved in the operations of the Gift Gallery.

One of Ms. Walsh's most rewarding activities at the Medical Center is her participation in the Pets with Purpose program. She accompanies her poodle/bichon mix dog, Beau, a participant for nearly five years, as he "makes his rounds" visiting patients in the medical center two Saturdays a month. Maureen is delighted to have the opportunity to help impact the patients' lives and to see the happiness that Beau's visits bring.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Maureen Walsh, for her service to the community.

TRIBUTE TO NATHANIEL PETERSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a South Carolinian who works every day to make his community a better place for all its residents. Nathaniel Peterson is a well-respected community leader in the Myrtle Beach area and is especially effective as Worshipful Master of Silver Star Lodge No. 333. I believe Mr. Peterson is deserving of our appreciation.

Nathaniel Peterson was born and raised in New York City. He studied at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He worked for nearly a decade with New York City Human Resources Administration/EVR as a Fraud Investigator before relocating to North Myrtle Beach. He currently serves as a financial counselor at Grand Strand Regional Medical Center/Hospital Corporation of America, a position that reflects his dedication to helping others.

When he came to North Myrtle Beach in 2003, Mr. Peterson saw opportunities to be of benefit to the community. He immediately joined Silver Star Lodge No. 333, and within four years was elected Worshipful Master. During his three and half years as the Lodge's leader, Mr. Peterson has organized various events which provide assistance, as well as, recognize individual achievements within the community.

His giving spirit has prompted Mr. Peterson to sponsor a holiday toy drive and initiate outreach programs for families in need. He continues to sponsor the Lodge's annual food drive. He is also responsible for developing the "The 100 Men in Black Unity Service." This program honors men of all creeds regardless of lodge affiliation.

Mr. Peterson believes in giving back to his community, and looks for opportunities to honor others who are doing good works. He has recognized clergy, senior citizens, widows/widowers, teachers, and government officials within the community for their commendable services.

He is also passionate about providing opportunities to young people. In addition to recognizing students for their outstanding academic achievement, Mr. Peterson began an annual scholarship program in 2009. Each year, the scholarship program assists a graduating high school student achieve his or her dream of going to college.

Wherever there is a need in the community, Mr. Peterson helps to find a way to address it. He recently encouraged members of his Masonic lodge to join him in restoring the home of an elderly woman and her disabled son in the Popular community. He is also a sponsor of the March of Dimes and the Paul Chester Children's Hope Foundation.

Besides his tremendous work with the Silver Star Lodge No. 333, Mr. Peterson is also affiliated with the Holy Royal Arch Masons (Harry T. Ross Chapter No. 54); John 0' Floyd Consistory No. 189; A.E.A.O.N.M.S. Shriner Kaaba No. 89; Member of the Order of the Eastern Star Moonlight Chapter No. 168; Knights of Pythagoras Youth Organization JT. Chestnut Council No. 46; and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. (Conway/Myrtle Beach Alumni)

Mr. Peterson and his wife, Erica, are the proud parents of five beautiful children, which include two sets of twins; Brittany and Briana, 21, Brandon, 16, and Jared and Jordan, 12.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in applauding the community service of Nathaniel Peterson. To all who know him, Mr. Peterson is an encouraging, inspiring, and persistent individual who works tirelessly to improve the quality of life for others. His leadership is a guiding light in the Myrtle Beach community.

JAMES VASQUEZ AND CHRIS WEAVER TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize James Vasquez and Chris Weaver for their accomplishments at Pueblo Community College. Both were awarded Rising Star Awards, which are given to students demonstrating leadership and academic excellence.

Mr. Vasquez is president of the Pueblo Community College associated student government, and participates in a number of other extracurricular activities. Most notably, he led the school's Thanksgiving food drive, which helped 206 students in need. During that semester he also maintained a 3.2 GPA as a single parent.

Mr. Weaver also held an exemplary GPA and served as vice-president of the associated student government, under Mr. Vasquez. He also represents the school government at the State Student Advisory Council and was named the board's legislative liaison to the Colorado Commission on Higher Education.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize James Vasquez and Chris Weaver for their accomplishments in higher education. There is no doubt they will continue to be leaders in their communities.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALFRED EMIL KLINGENFUS

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on March 10, 2011, Alfred ''Al'' Klingenfus of Crestwood, Kentucky passed away after a lifetime of humbly serving the people of Oldham County.

Mr. Klingenfus was born in 1918 in Crestwood, and graduated from Crestwood High School.

In addition to being a lifelong dairy farmer, he served for decades on the Oldham County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Committee and the Oldham County Zoning Appeals Board. He also played a key role in establishing the Oldham County Water District.

In 2008, Mr. Klingenfus was named one of the county's ''Living Treasures'' by the Oldham Era newspaper and the Oldham County Historical Society.

He was the loving husband of his wife, Etta, for more than sixty-six years, the father of five sons, the grandfather of eleven, and the great-grandfather of twelve.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Al's extended family and his many friends as they mourn his loss and celebrate his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF U.S. ARMY MAJOR GENERAL (RETIRED) ROBERT C. GASKILL AND U.S. MARINE CORPS MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT (RETIRED) JOHN W. JONES JR.

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Prince William County Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and its 2011 ''Salute to Veterans'' Freedom Fund Banquet. U.S. Army Major General (Retired) Robert C. Gaskill and U.S. Marine Corps Master Gunnery Sergeant (Retired) John W. Jones Jr. will receive special recognition at the banquet for their service to our nation.

The NAACP was established in 1909 to eliminate racial prejudice and remove barriers of racial discrimination that prevent equal opportunity for all members of society. The Prince William County Chapter seeks to implement outreach initiatives, educational programs and victim services that address issues of discrimination in the local community. The local chapter hosts an annual Freedom Fund Banquet to raise funds to support the chapter's activities. This year, the program will honor veterans of the United States armed forces.

It is my honor to join the Prince William County Chapter of the NAACP in giving special recognition to two veterans and residents of Prince William County, Major General Gaskill and Master Gunnery Sergeant Jones.

General Gaskill was born in Yonkers, N.Y., on April 12, 1931, to John and Armania Gaskill. The Gaskill family later moved to Arlington, Va. General Gaskill completed Reserve Officer Training as a Distinguished Military Graduate, and received a bachelor of science in business administration from Howard University in 1952. He was commissioned into one of the last all-black battalions in the United States Army. General Gaskill had a distinguished and decorated career in the Army before his retirement in 1981, to which he credits the support of his late wife Erotida Gaskill. General Gaskill is a Life Member of the NAACP, member of Unity in the Community, and an elder at his church.

Sergeant Jones was born in Memphis, Tenn., on September 3, 1930, to Mattie and John W. Jones, Sr. Sergeant Jones' mother passed away when he was nine, and he was raised by Laura Belle Jones, his father's second wife. In 1956, Sergeant Jones joined the United States Marine Corps. While in the Marine Corps, Sergeant Jones went to night school to complete his high school degree and enrolled in college courses. His service in the Corps included tours in the 1958 Lebanon Crisis and the Vietnam War. Sergeant Jones is married to the former Anne Tankins of Quantico. He is active in the NAACP and volunteers in his church, First Mount Zion Baptist Church, where he serves as Deacon Emeritus and sings in the choir.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Prince William County Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and its 2011 ''Salute to Veterans'' Freedom Fund Banquet. I extend my personal appreciation to Major General U.S.A. (Retired) Robert C. Gaskill and Master Gunnery Sergeant U.S.M.C. (Retired) John W. Jones, Jr. for their service and sacrifice on behalf of our country.

EDI SHELDON TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Edi Sheldon of Walsenburg, Colorado. Ms. Sheldon worked for several years in the Huerfano County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Committee before serving as mayor of Walsenburg.

Ms. Sheldon grew up in the small town of Walsenburg before moving to Alamosa with her husband, Frank. In Alamosa, she worked on the local newspaper that her husband published. After his death, she spent a number of years publishing her own magazine in Denver.

She eventually returned to Walsenburg and became very active in the local government. She worked as the secretary for the Huerfano County Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Sheldon also sat on the local hospital board for two years. In 2005 she won her mayoral bid in the small town, and worked tirelessly advancing Walsenburg's economic interests and the prominence of her city. The commitment she had to building her community through public service is inspiring.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize Edi Sheldon today. Her public service was exemplary and her presence can still be felt in the community.

A TRIBUTE TO EMILY MAYORGA, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2011

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in Honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women during the month of March.

I stand today to pay tribute to Emily Mayorga of Alhambra. A successful career woman, Emily has also always been a superb and selfless volunteer. From a very young age, Emily wanted to make a positive impact in her community. As a teenager, she volunteered at her Catholic church, and assisted her mother in numerous important projects. At the age of twelve, Emily began teaching Sunday school at the church. By, she had launched a program designed to teach adults in the church to read and write.

Emily was also committed to receiving a higher education. Upon graduating from high school, she attended California State University, Los Angeles, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. She continued her education at the University of Phoenix in Pasadena, and received a master's degree in Organizational Management.

Ms. Mayorga's career took shape at an early age. Her perseverance led her to attain various positions at the West San Gabriel Valley YMCA. What began as a summer job soon escalated into Emily holding the title of Associate General Director. After spending over two decades at the YMCA, she was hired as the Manager of Volunteers at the American Red Cross. Three years later, she was promoted to Human Resources Director. After working for the American Red Cross for four years, Emily was hired to work for the U.S. Department of Commerce/U.S. Census Bureau for one year as Assistant Manager for Recruiting. Ms. Mayorga supervised nearly twenty full-time employees, where her team recruited and tested over nine thousand individuals in the San Gabriel Valley for the 2010 Census.

Emily's accomplishments in the community are many. Ms. Mayorga joined the Soroptimist Club of Alhambra-San Gabriel-San Marino over a decade ago, and has served as President twice. From 1995 to 2000, Emily served as a spokesperson for the San Gabriel Valley United Way, and became a Board Member of the Alhambra Educational Foundation from 2004 to 2007. Currently, Emily serves as a delegate for the Soroptimist Club and as an Auxiliary Board Member for the Alhambra Retirement Community. Moreover, she is also a tireless volunteer for the Tzu-Chi Foundation and the Alhambra Public Library.

I ask all members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Emily Mayorga, for her exceptional service to the community.

A TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT RICHARD ''DICK'' SULLIVAN, USMC

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fellow United States Marine, Mr. Richard ''Dick'' Sullivan, who died at the age of 79 on Thursday, February 3, 2011, from complications of lung cancer. Mr. Sullivan was part of a generation of Marines that, still to this day, all Marines continue to uphold as some of the greatest ever to wear a uniform and call themselves leathernecks.

Mr. Sullivan grew up in Colorado Springs, CO, and enlisted in the Marine Corps at 17 years of age. Sergeant Sullivan bravely served his country as a machine gunner in the Korean War, alongside the other Marines of 1st Marine Division, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, George Company. With George Company, Sergeant Sullivan fought in Seoul, Inchon, and the historic Battle of Chosin Reservoir—where Marines faced incredible odds and demonstrated amazing tenacity and grit against a formidable enemy.

Just like many of the Marines that survived the Chosin Reservoir campaign, Mr. Sullivan considers those 17 days of fighting as the most important days of his service to the nation. In the period between November 27th and December 13, 1950, the United National troops, which were nicknamed the Chosin Few under the command of Major General Edward Almond, were surrounded by as many as 100,000 Chinese troops.

Fighting in extremely cold temperatures that reached −35 degrees below Fahrenheit, Sergeant Sullivan engaged the enemy on frozen ground and persevered frostbite, limited supplies and weapon malfunctions. The military historian Patrick K. O'Donnell highlights the valor of George Company in his book ''Give Me Tomorrow,'' by detailing how a small group of Marines, against all odds, made five separate stands against enemy units despite being severely outnumbered.

During a critical point in combat, George Company put together a task force to break through to Haguaru-ri. George Company went down an 11-mile stretch of road, which became a shooting gallery. The Chinese had the high ground and started peppering vehicles with machine guns, bazookas and mortars. Many of their 150 vehicles were destroyed and over half the company was either captured or killed.

Mr. Donnell states in his book that if the task force would not have taken the initiative to advance their position to Haguaru-ri, then the 1st Marine Division would not have been able to consolidate at Chosin Reservoir. There is a good chance the United States would have lost the Korean War.

Thanks to George Company, the 1st Marine Division did consolidate their forces and managed to decimate 10 Chinese infantry divisions in its fighting withdrawal eastward to the North Korean port of Hungnam. The fighting withdrawal of the 1st Marine Division from the Chosin Reservoir is considered one of the greatest moments in the history of the Navy, the Marine Corps and the British Royal Marines.

Mr. Sullivan was honorably discharged from the United States Marine Corps on August 1, 1952.

Over the next four decades, Mr. Sullivan worked for Ronson Hydraulic Units and Sargent Aerospace. After retirement, Mr. Sullivan was very active in Arizona's Leisure World. He renewed his love of golf playing at Heron Lakes with the men's club on Mondays, the Donut League on Wednesdays, with friends on Thursdays at the Nine Hole, and always played on Saturdays. In the final year of his life, chemotherapy treatments never kept him from indulging in his favorite sport of golf. Even while he served on Leisure World's Architectural Committee for a number of years, his heart was always with other Marines who lived in Leisure World. He was instrumental in keeping the celebration of the United States Marine Corps birthday on November 10th by being involved with an annual dinner, a welcome back party in September and a barbeque at the close of the season in April.

Although he only spent four years in the Marine Corps, his mind and body were always with the United States Marines. He was proud of the fact that wherever he went, he would always meet up with another Marine, giving and receiving the recognizable hello of those who served in the Corps. He is survived by his wife, Sydele E. Milgrim and his sons Rick Sullivan of Mesa, AZ and Stuart Sullivan of Redmond, WA.

Mr. Sullivan is truly an inspiration, embodying the honor and tradition of the Marine Corps and its motto of Semper Fidelis. And I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to such a fine American, who we all owe a debt of gratitude.

ANNA MAE RAEL-LINDSAY TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is important for me to stand in tribute and praise the ongoing educational career of Anna Mae Rael-Lindsay. Mrs. Rael-Lindsay continues to enlighten and enrich the lives of others through her relentless dedication to her students, Trinidad State Junior College, and southern Colorado.

Anna Mae Rael-Lindsay was born and raised in the San Luis Valley, and her large tightly knit family put a premium on education and hard work. After graduating from Adams State College, Mrs. Rael-Lindsay started in Rocky Ford Public Schools, and never looked back from there. Never losing sight of her roots, it was not long before Mrs. Rael-Lindsay was back in the San Luis Valley, teaching at the Trinidad State Junior College's Alamosa Campus. Anna Mae Real-Lindsay is now the director of the learning resource center at TSJC's Alamosa Campus, which specializes in adult basic education, general education development tests, and English as a second language classes. This allows her the chance to stress the importance of a complete education to countless students who might not otherwise understand all the opportunities that a degree provides. For her decades of hard work, Anna Mae Rael-Lindsay has rightfully earned the honor of Trinidad State's Employee of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Rael-Lindsay is an inspirational educator who has dedicated her professional life to improving the lives of those around her, and the livelihood of her community. It has been an honor to rise in tribute to the scholarly career of Anna Mae Rael-Lindsay.

HONORING DR. ELNORA HAMB, DR. BARBARA SHAW, DR. JAMESINA EVANS

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the work and legacy of three phenomenal women for their service to the organizations that they serve and their efforts to eliminate health disparities in their communities. Dr. Elnora Hamb, International President of the Women's Missionary Council, The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (CME); Dr. Barbara Shaw, International President of the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society, The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church (AMEZ); and Dr. Jamesina Evans, International President, Women's Missionary Society, The African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) simultaneously served in their respective roles for eight years and collectively served over seven million members worldwide—including members in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

These women and their respective organizations serve as examples of how community champions are helping our country to achieve health equity. Seeing the deleterious effect of health conditions such as HIV and cervical cancer on their congregants, these women took unprecedented action to help eliminate health disparities in their community. As a result of the transformative leadership of these women, each organization entered into an innovative partnership with the Balm in Gilead, Inc. to address the health concerns of black women, focusing attention on issues disproportionately impacting the community, and developing the organizational capacity of each denomination to utilize its existing structures to deliver HIV services and other programs addressing health disparities that have long disproportionately affected African American communities. This partnership represents the first time that any black church denomination has partnered with a national technical assistance organization to implement and deliver public health strategies to the African American community.

The leadership of these phenomenal women has resulted in thousands of women and men receiving education and interventions in areas of HIV/AIDS, cervical cancer, and other health disparities. For example, each Missionary Society has established an office of a National Health Director whose purpose is to coordinate health promotion and disease prevention throughout the denomination. Further each Missionary Society has utilized their information organs to distribute critical information on HIV, cervical cancer, and other health issues which has reached readers worldwide. Additionally, each Missionary Society offers HIV testing and workshops on-site at their annual leadership trainings and many of their affiliated

local churches offer HIV testing as a regular activity nationwide. As a result, the visionary leadership of these women undoubtedly has saved thousands of lives through these health interventions.

Finally, it does not escape me that I am honoring these three great women during Women's History Month whose theme, "Our History is Our Strength," pays tribute to the millions of women who helped create a better world for the times in which they lived as well as for future generations. These women are continuing the tradition of the great women who came before them by standing up and taking action to address one of the pressing issues of our day and to improve the health of African Americans today and in the future. Unfortunately, many of the women who are deserving of recognition remain un-named and unknown. We cannot let the same occur to these three trailblazing women. Thus, it is my honor on behalf of the women of this body, the Congressional Black Caucus and the entire Congress of the United States to recognize the tremendous work and leadership of Dr. Elnora Hamb, Dr. Barbara Shaw and Dr. Jamesina Evans and thank them for their selfless service to their congregants and their transformative work to eliminate health disparities in the African American community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I missed a vote on Monday and I wish to state for the RECORD how I would have voted had I been present:

Rollcall No. 175—"yes."

Rollcall No. 176—"yes."

ED SAJBEL TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ed Sajbel of Pueblo, Colorado. Mr. Sajbel is an integral part of Pueblo's art community and will showcase his work in an "introspective Retrospective" display this spring. Though the display is a testament to Mr. Sajbel's artistic abilities, his greatest success has been nurturing a strong artistic community in Pueblo and the aspiring artists of the area.

From an early age, Mr. Sajbel loved to draw, a hobby that quickly earned him recognition. After a brief furlough in the U.S. Coast Guard, he returned to Pueblo to attend Pueblo Community College. He eventually transferred to the University of Northern Colorado to become a teacher, which allowed him to pursue his career in art while also guiding youngsters with a similar passion. Mr. Sajbel went on to teach at Colorado State University-Pueblo for over thirty years. His success can be measured by the exponential growth of Pueblo's artistic community.

Mr. Sajbel did not limit his guidance only to the classroom. He created and served on a number of boards and councils in Pueblo meant to foster the growth of the arts, including the Colorado Arts and Humanities Council. He also developed grants for artists in the area and put on shows featuring their work.

Mr. Speaker, the impact that Ed Sajbel has had on the arts in his community is profound and it is an honor to recognize him today. There is no doubt that he will continue to inspire young artists while he pursues his own creative passion.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 21ST ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING YOUTH ORATORICAL CONTEST

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 21st Annual Martin Luther King Youth Oratorical Contest hosted by the Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and its Education Foundation.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. left an indelible mark on the way Americans engage in civil dialogue. Despite the violence perpetrated against the Civil Rights Movement, Dr. King responded with oratory and nonviolent resistance to condemn the injustice of social inequality. His legacy is one of tolerance and steadfast commitment to principled and peaceful communication.

The MLK Youth Oratorical contestants pay tribute to Dr. King's legacy with their ability to exercise the strength of the spoken word. This is a skill inseparable from their character and will serve them well as they tackle leadership opportunities and build personal relationships.

I congratulate and applaud the following contestants of the 21st Annual Martin Luther King Youth Oratorical Contest:

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONTESTANTS

Hannah Wied—Pennington School

Jacob Gonzalez—Parkside Middle School

Jawuanna McAllister—Stonewall Middle School

HIGH SCHOOL CONTESTANTS

Seth Opoku-Yeboah—Osbourn Park High School

Alice Gyamfi—C.D. Hylton High School

Attiqah Syeda—Gar-Field High School

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for recognizing the benefit that Dr. King's teachings bring to the development of our youth. We lay the foundations of a more tolerant society when we nurture the ability to engage and communicate with one another in a way that respects our common humanity.

A TRIBUTE TO NANETTE FISH, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2011

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women during the month of March.

Today I pay tribute to Nanette Fish of Temple City, an extraordinary woman of California's 29th congressional district. A 26-year Temple City resident, Nanette's passion for volunteerism is evident in the countless organizations to which she has donated her time and energy and she has made the city of Temple City a better place to live.

Nanette began volunteering with Temple City's schools in the early 1990s, when her children were young. She served on the Executive Boards of the local PTAs, the Temple City Youth Football Board, the Temple City High School Ramrodders Football Executive Board, and the Temple City American Little League Board. In addition, Ms. Fish was a "Team Mom" for Temple City Youth Cheer, AYSO Soccer, Junior Varsity Girls Basketball, Junior Girls Softball and Youth Football, served as Chairperson and Member of the Cloverly Elementary School Site Council, volunteered for 5 years on the High School Grad Nite Committee, and was a Western Association of Schools and Colleges' Parent/Community Committee member for Temple City High School. In 2010, she received the Temple City Unified School District's Temple City High School VIP Volunteer Award.

Currently, Ms. Fish, employed as the Temple City Camellia Festival Director, finds time to volunteer for several organizations including the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association, Saint Luke Catholic Church and the Temple City Chamber of Commerce, where she serves on the Miss Temple City Pageant Committee, and the chamber's Golf Tournament Committee. In 2009 and 2010 she received the chamber's Community Service Award. In addition, Nanette is a Temple City Parks and Recreation Commissioner and enjoys participating in various fundraising walks for cancer awareness.

Nanette and her husband, Kevin, have been married for 26 years and have 2 children, Cameron and Lainie.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of my district, Nanette Fish, for her selfless service to the community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill that would give the mayor of the District of Columbia authority over deploying the D.C. National Guard, after consultation with the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard, with the President retaining final authority. In local emergencies, including natural disasters and civil disturbances unrelated to national or homeland security, the mayor of the District of Columbia should have the same authority that governors exercise over the National Guard in their states. Each governor, as head of state, has the authority to mobilize the National Guard to protect his or her state, just as local militia did historically. The National

Guards in the 50 states operate under dual federal and local jurisdiction. Yet only the President and the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard currently have the authority to deploy the D.C. National Guard for local and national purposes, respectively. Today, the most likely need for the D.C. National Guard here would be for natural disasters and to restore order in the wake of civil disturbances. The mayor, who knows the city better than any federal official and who works closely with federal security officials, should be able to call on the D.C. National Guard for local natural disasters and civil disturbances, after consultation with the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard. The President should be focused on national matters, including homeland security, not local D.C. matters. Homeland security authority, with respect to the D.C. National Guard, would remain the sole province of the President, along with the power to nationalize the D.C. National Guard at will. It does no harm to give the mayor this authority for civil disturbances and natural disasters. However, it could do significant harm to leave the mayor powerless to act quickly. If it makes sense that governors would have control over the mobilization and deployment of their National Guard, it makes equal sense for the mayor of the District of Columbia, with a population the size of a small state, to have the same authority.

The mayor of the District of Columbia, as head of state, should have the authority to deploy the D.C. National Guard in instances that do not rise to the level of homeland defense activities. My bill requires that the mayor only deploy the D.C. National Guard after consultation with the Commanding General of the D.C. National Guard. The bill is another important step toward completing the transfer of full self-government powers to the District of Columbia. Congress itself began with the passage of the Home Rule Act of 1973, when it delegated most of its authority to the District of Columbia. The bill follows that model.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE HEROES OF THE BATTLE OF CRETE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation to honor and recognize the heroes of the Battle of Crete and commend the PanCretan Association of America for preserving and promoting the history of Crete and its people.

During the Battle of Crete in May 1941, Allied forces and the people of Crete joined together to fight against an advancing Nazi army. Although unsuccessful in defeating the Nazi invaders, this coalition of forces inflicted enormous casualities to the airborne Nazi assault, resulting in more than 3,700 German troops killed and the destruction of multiple transport aircraft. In addition to these losses, the Allied forces were able to hold off the Nazi victory long enough to ensure that the German army would face a harsh and destructive winter as it proceeded to Russia.

This resolution observes the memory of the brave men and women who perished and honors the living that fought in the Battle of Crete.

TRIBUTE TO THE NOVI WILDCATS

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the Division 1 State Champion Ice Hockey team from Novi High School. On March 12, 2011 the Novi Wildcats won the first state championship in the team's 13 year history with a 4–0 shutout over the Orchard Lake St. Mary's Eaglets.

Following a successful regular season in the Central Division of the Kensington Conference in the Kensington Lakes Athletic Association the Wildcats claimed both the division and conference titles before narrowly dropping the KLAA crown to the Lakes Conference champion, Howell by a slim 4–3 margin.

Novi's first pre-regional game, played at Plymouth's Compuware Arena, produced a 6–0 win against South Lyon and paved the way to play long time rival Detroit Catholic Central in their 2nd pre-regional matchup. The Wildcats squeaked by the Shamrocks in a hard fought contest, winning 4–3. Moving on to regional competition the Wildcats savored the chance to avenge the earlier loss KLAA nemesis Howell. This time Novi iced the Highlanders 3–0, happy to let Howell have the KLAA trophy as the Wildcats pursued the bigger prize.

Head Coach Todd Krygier's skaters advanced to quarterfinal action at Perani Arena in Flint. This matchup pitted brother against brother as Todd Krygier's Wildcats decimated younger brother Bryan Krygier's Clarkston Wolves, 9–1. Coach Krygier along with Assistant Coaches Jim Lewis and Travis Malott brought the Green and White back to Compuware to face off against Lake Orion in the semi-final round. The Wildcats didn't allow the Dragons a goal and came away with a 3–0 win.

Advancing to the championship, Novi met the storied Orchard Lake St. Mary's on the ice for the first time ever. The Wildcats convincingly rose to their final challenge and soared to a 4–0 victory raising the Division 1 trophy in triumph.

Mr. Speaker, with a regular season record of 24–5–1, the Wildcats carried an astounding 171 goals while giving up only 61 and a playoff run of 6–0 with 29 Goals compared to 4 for their opponents, the 2011 Novi Wildcats deserve to be recognized for their determination, achievement and spirit and I am very proud of their effort. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Wildcats for obtaining this spectacular title and honoring their devotion to our community and country.

TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF CHAMBERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of the City of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. They well deserve recognition for their generous and humane extension of a helping hand to their sister city, Gotemba, Japan.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those in Japan who are coping with the aftermath of a truly tragic disaster. We stand in support of our friends and allies in Japan who are doing everything they can to recover from the devastating earthquake and tsunami.

In my district, the Mayor of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, Pete Lagiovane, announced this week that his city will offer assistance to their sister city in the wake of the earthquake and tsunami that has devastated Japan. While fortunately the people of Gotemba were not as severely impacted as those in the northeast part of Japan, they are dealing with heavy hearts for their friends, families, and countrymen as well as serious disruptions to their power supply and transportation system.

Mayor Lagiovane has offered assistance in a joint effort to assist Gotemba in providing relief to the victims of the earthquake and tsunami. He put forward the idea of starting a local relief fund with the proceeds going to Gotemba to disburse as they see fit.

Chambersburg and Gotemba have been sister cities for 50 years. Their relationship started when a Japanese student at Penn Hall and Wilson College returned home after World War II. The student wanted to maintain a bond with Chambersburg, so she and her son came back and conducted several meetings with the city council and established a sister city relationship in 1960. The two cities have exchanged visits every 5 years since then.

The spirit of sisterhood and love between these two cities—separated by thousands of miles and a vast ocean—encapsulate the attitude we should all have toward our fellow man. I commend Chambersburg for their selfless attitude and generosity.

WISHING THE UW MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM THE BEST OF LUCK

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today is St. Patrick's Day—a day that is universally associated with good luck. Calling on my Irish heritage, I would like to convey continued good luck to the University of Washington men's basketball team. This past weekend they won the Pac–10 Championship and tomorrow they seek to continue their run in the NCAA tournament when they open against the University of Georgia.

Good luck and go Dawgs.

HONORING NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding service The National Exchange Club provides the citizens of Dallas County, Texas.

The National Exchange Club, a service organization with 700 clubs and approximately

22,000 members throughout the United States and Puerto Rico will celebrate its 100th anniversary on March 27, 2011. For 100 years, its volunteer efforts have supported the needs of the country and of local communities, making it the country's oldest American service organization operating exclusively in this country.

I would like to specifically recognize the clubs in the Fifth Congressional District of Texas—Garland Noon Exchange, Mesquite Noon Exchange, Rowlett Noon Exchange, and Lake Highlands Exchange. Members of these clubs give countless hours to the prevention of child abuse, youth projects, and other community service projects. Exchange Club members also promote the American spirit through their core values of family, community, and nation.

This organization provides an invaluable service to those in the community who truly need assistance. Over the years, thousands of individuals and families have been blessed by the men and women of the Exchange Clubs.

I am pleased today to recognize the Exchange Clubs for their contributions to Dallas County. To all the men and women who give of their time and efforts so generously, on behalf of all the constituents of the Fifth District, I would like to extend our most sincere gratitude.

IN HONOR OF JIM MANNASSERO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today to raise a glass of scotch in memory of Jim Mannassero, who died late last year following a brief illness. Jim was a giant among giants in the Salinas Valley's $4 billion produce industry. He was involved for decades in vegetable production at all levels and was admired as a true leader by colleagues and competitors alike. So while you may have never heard of Jim Manassero, I can guarantee that every member of Congress has eaten something that Jim helped to grow.

Those fortunate enough to know Jim will remember his gravely voice—a voice that he never hesitated to use to tell it as he saw it. Jim was always free with his opinions and observations, but he never let those opinions stray from his own deep knowledge and wisdom. When Jim spoke, you always knew that there was thought behind his words, even if those words came with a kick in the pants. He never left you in doubt about where you stood with him. But Jim's leadership and authority didn't come from being loud or pushy, it came from unfailing honesty and deep integrity. So while you may not have agreed with Jim, you always trusted him. Jim's friends will also remember his sense of style, with one pant leg tucked into his boot and accessorized whenever he could with a glass of scotch.

Jim worked for D'Arrigo Bros. of California for thirty two years, serving as Vice President of California Operations for the last 25. He was a member of Class I of the prestigious California Ag Leadership Program. He was the current Chairman of the Monterey County Agriculture Advisory Group which counsels the Monterey County Board of Supervisors on issues facing the agricultural industry. He was a founding member, and past President, of the Salinas River Coalition, where he worked with other Salinas Valley land owners to reduce the flood risk to Salinas Valley Communities and the surrounding farmland. Since 1979, Jim served as a member of the California Lettuce Research Board, serving as the organization's Chairman from 1997 to 1999. Jim served as Chairman of the Board of the Grower-Shipper Association in 1985–1986. Just last year he was the recipient of the Association's highest honor, the E.E. "Gene" Harden Award for Lifetime Achievement in Central Coast Agriculture. The additional boards, commissions, organizations and committees on which Jim served are too numerous to mention but, it is enough to say that Jim did the work of a dozen people. The United States is a better place for Jim's efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Jim leaves behind his wife, Ginny, his two children, Victoria and Paul, and one grandson, Julian. I know that I speak for the whole House in extending to them and to Jims friends and colleagues our deepest condolences.

HONORING SHEVCHENKO AND ALDRIDGE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, March is a month when Ukrainians worldwide pay tribute to Taras Shevchenko, whose monument here in Washington, D.C. bears testament to his prescient writings, prophetic visions for human dignity, and aspirations for the worth of each individual. It is with deepest respect for his life after purchase out of serfdom, and that of his friend Ira Aldridge, purchased out of slavery; that the very idea of liberty took flame out of the repressive conditions Of their forbears. Their lives deserve recognition and revelation, decade after decade, so the world remembers and honors those whose paths cleared the way for our own.

[From the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation Update, Mar. 8, 2011]

HONORING A FRIENDSHIP BONDED IN DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS FROM ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA TO WASHINGTON, DC

(By Robert A. McConnell)

While February is Black History Month, a month when attention is given specifically to the contribution of Afro-Americans to our country, our society, and culture, March is the month that Ukrainians worldwide honor Taras Shevchenko. For Ukrainian-Americans, both months are a time of reflection on a very special and unique friendship between one of Ukraine's greatest historical figures, Taras Shevchenko, and a famously talented black American, Ira Aldridge.

Although both men died in the 1860s, one in Russia and the other in Poland, and though both are little known to the general public in America, both of their images are present in the capital city of the United States. A mere two and a half miles apart here in Washington DC stand monuments to Taras Shevchenko and to Ira Aldridge. The first was born a Ukrainian serf who was purchased out of bondage in order for his immense talents to blossom; the second was born a Negro in New York who, because of the color of his skin, had to leave his country to find the full glory of his God-given talent.

At the corner of 22nd and P streets in Northwest Washington stands the figure of Taras Shevchenko, a monument to the man, his writing, his profound commentaries on human dignity, pleas of help for the plight of the downtrodden and his aspirations for his country, struggling under tsarist repression. Engraved in the granite is his hope for Ukraine: "When shall we get our Washington, to promulgate his new and righteous law?" On the other side of the city stands The Ira Aldridge Theatre on the Howard University campus, constructed in memory of a great thespian talent and as a symbol of challenges overcome, paths revealed for other talents to follow.

Portraits of both men hang in that theater, portraits painted by Taras Shevchenko and donated to Howard University in 1967 from the archives of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the United States.

Born a serf in Ukraine, Shevchenko was destined for a lifetime of servitude. Yet when his owner left Ukraine for St. Petersburg, Russia, he took the young Shevchenko along. In St. Petersburg, Shevchenko's artistic talents were revealed. In 1838, the city's artistic circles succeeded in raising 2,500 rubles to purchase Shevchenko's freedom. Once free, he became a student at the Imperial Academy of Arts and his artwork and poetic writing flourished. His poems glorified Ukraine and demanded freedom and justice for all oppressed nations and classes of people.

Shevchenko returned to Ukraine in 1845 to find great injustices. His poems criticized the tsarist regime and chided the aristocracy's oppression of the peasants. For these expressions, he was arrested and deported from Ukraine to exile in a remote part of Asian Russia, incarcerated in a military penal facility and, by the decree of the Tsar, denied writing and drawing materials. Despite the Tsar's orders and the incarcerations terrible cost to his health, Shevchenko secretly composed some of his most powerful works while imprisoned and in political exile. Moreover, at the same time, Shevchenko's Ukrainian and Russian friends, including Count and Countess Fyodor Tolstoy, worked to secure his freedom again. Finally, ten years after his arrest, Shevchenko was released. Forbidden to return to Ukraine, he returned to St. Petersburg, where he soon met the American Ira Aldridge.

Although Aldridge had been born in New York, as his immense talents became apparent, he found his opportunities limited due to the significant discrimination against blacks. He chose to emigrate to England in 1824 and began acting in small London theatres. Receiving notice and praise, he was soon performing in England's finest theatres and began to tour outside London. By 1852, Aldridge, the first black to act in white roles in Shakespeare's plays, left for his first European tour. Receiving acclaim everywhere he traveled, he returned to London a theatric hero.

In 1858, Aldridge accepted an invitation from the Russian Imperial Theatre to perform in St. Petersburg. Shevchenko attended the opening performance and the two men were introduced.

There are numerous letters and notes commenting upon their meeting and friendship. One of Tolstoy's daughters, Katherine, served as an early translator between Aldridge and Shevchenko and wrote about the experience and their friendship. Shevchenko attended Aldridge's performances. Aldridge visited Shevchenko's studio and posed for the artist. They visited one another often and spent time in the same social circles, one that included many artists, performers, intellectuals.

Their friendship was unique since they had in common not only the creativity of their

personalities and their love of the arts, but their shared experiences of social oppression and their dreams of a better future for their people. Though free, famous, with powerful friends, living in the world of Russian aristocracy, neither seemed able to forget his past, the plight of his people.

Those who wrote about their friendship noted that they often sang together. Aldridge greatly appreciated the sorrowful and melodic Ukrainian songs that captured the unfortunate plight of the people of Ukraine. Shevchenko, in turn, loved the songs of the Negro South, no doubt to great extent for the same reasons.

When Aldridge returned to England, he took with him a portrait of Shevchenko by a Russian artist. Aldridge returned to Russia several years later but by then Shevchenko had passed away. Between 1861 and 1866, Aldridge made several tours of the tsarist empire including three trips to Ukraine, to Shevchenko's homeland, trips that had been denied to the great poet, artist, and patriot. Ira Aldridge never returned to the United States, however, he did live to know of President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and the end of the Civil War.

Both of these men, historic giants in their artistic fields and in their messages about the struggles of mankind for dignity and the perseverance of individuals, died on foreign soil far from their homelands. Aldridge's body remains in Poland. Eventually, Shevchenko's body was returned to Ukraine from Russia. Their unique friendship remains a story for the ages; it is fitting that among the monuments to their lives and contributions there are the two in Washington, DC, just two and a half miles apart. A friendship that brought them together thousands of miles from here, eventually finds them in the capital of Aldridge's native land, respected and honored, with Shevchenko's question still unanswered: when will Ukraine get its ''new and righteous law?''

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2011 DALE CITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 2011 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards.

The Dale City Civic Association was founded in 1967. Citizens formed the organization to give a voice to community initiatives and collective action in Dale City. Today, the organization's purpose is to represent the interests of the residents of Dale City in a manner that benefits the entire community. Members do this with robust beautification efforts, land use advocacy and volunteer responses to community needs.

The Association hosts an annual awards banquet to honor individuals and organizations that show an exceptional devotion to their community and public service. It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of the recipients of the 2011 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards:

High School Teacher of the Year: Major William Brannen.

Middle School Teacher of the Year: Amy Crotty.

Elementary School Teacher of the Year: Terri Faulkner.

John D. Jenkins Youth Citizen of the Year: Alexis Simpson.

Youth Environmental and Conservation Scholarship: Shaila Bills.

Kathie Feeney Nurse of the Year: Gail D. Russell.

Prince William County Police Department, Police Officer of the Year: Officer Dave Endrizzi.

Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Officer of the Year: Captain Linda Wortham.

Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Emergency Medical Service Provider of the Year: Sergeant. Dennis Oden.

Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Firefighter of the Year: Firefighter Tinashe Banda.

Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Cadet of the Year: Michael Cajayon.

Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, Emergency Medical Service Provider of the Year: Lieutenant Chris Eddy.

Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, Firefighter of the Year: Technician I Andrew Marsh.

Deputy Sheriff of the Year: Deputy Timothy Angels, Master Deputy Wayland Thompson.

Catherine Spellane Citizen of the Year: Susan Canfield.

Kathleen K. Seefeldt Community Service Award: Timothy J. Rupert.

Ernestine S. Jenkins Lifetime Volunteer Award: Lillian Garland.

Business of the Year: DEP Copying and Printing Center.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the winners of the 2011 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards for their dedication to building and maintaining a healthy community. Each recipient has made an impact on Dale City, and with these awards we hope to show them that their contributions have not gone unnoticed.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. ANA MARIA GRACE, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2011

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women during the month of March.

Today, I pay tribute to Dr. Ana Maria Grace of South Pasadena. As a physician, Dr. Grace has dedicated her career to helping individuals and patients in need, in addition to assisting them in attaining a better understanding of various medical conditions.

Dr. Grace discovered her passion for helping others at an early age. Upon receiving a Bachelor of Science in biochemistry from California State University, Fullerton, she went on to attend medical school at the University of Wisconsin. Ana completed her residency at the University of Southern California and the University of Arizona.

Currently, Dr. Grace is an attending physician at two locations. She works in the Cecilia Gonzalez De La Hoya Cancer Center at White Memorial Medical Center, WMMC, and at the Radiation Oncology Services at Albert C. Mak, M.D., Inc. In addition to being a dedicated physician, Ana simultaneously has various roles within her profession. She is currently a member of the WMMC Cancer Committee, serving as the committee's chairperson since 2008, and Director of WMMC's Cancer Center.

Dr. Grace's primary focus has been senior citizens and the Spanish speaking population. As a committee member of WMMC's Senior Center, Dr. Grace has helped with setting outreach and service goals which have included making presentations to senior citizens regarding cancer awareness, screening and prevention. With her Spanish speaking skills, Dr. Grace has also been able to communicate medical information about common malignancies to the public, with the ultimate goal of reducing the risk for cancer and emphasizing early diagnosis. On Spanish news stations such as Univision, Telemundo, and Azteca Dr. Grace has discussed various topics such as cancer awareness, and the effects of secondhand smoking.

The list of Dr. Grace's public presentations is impressive. Since 2005, in addition to appearing on television interviews, Ana has lectured at nursing homes and at health fairs where she has spoken about lung cancer, breast cancer, and colon cancer awareness and prevention. Dr. Grace also holds professional society memberships with the Los Angeles Radiological Society, American Medical Association, and Glendale Adventist Medical Center Cancer Committee, among others.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an extraordinary woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Dr. Ana Maria Grace, for her exceptional service to the community.

2011 BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK

HON. JON RUNYAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. RUNYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Brain Awareness Week (BAW) and the benefits of this informative week in educating students on brain science in my congressional district and across the country. Brain Awareness Week, launched in 1996, brings together the Society for Neuroscience, the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives and 2400 other organizations in 76 countries which share a common goal of improving public awareness of brain and nervous system research.

During Brain Awareness Week, which is being held March 14–20, neuroscientists around the world educate K–12 students, senior citizens and the public at large on the wonders of the human brain. These activities include tours of neuroscience laboratories, museum exhibitions and classroom discussions on elements of the human brain. In my congressional district, Shawnee High School in Medford Township will recognize Brain Awareness Week during their 6th annual Brain Day on March 24. High school students enrolled in the psychology course will be displaying interactive exhibits and explaining functions of the brain to their community. Today, in recognition

of Brain Awareness Week, I would like to highlight a devastating neurological condition that affects millions of Americans: Alzheimer's disease.

As a former board member of the Delaware Valley Alzheimer's Association, I know firsthand the burden Alzheimer's disease places on families in my congressional district, our healthcare system and our local and national economies. Alzheimer's disease is not only an emerging problem in the United States, but around the globe. As the world population grows and life expectancies rise, the number of people suffering from age-related neurological diseases like Alzheimer's may skyrocket. According to the National Institutes of Health, experts suggest that between 2.6 million and 5.1 million Americans 65 years and older may suffer from the disease, with annual treatment costs estimated to exceed $100 billion. However, research is paving the way to promising new treatments, providing hope for millions.

With age as the biggest risk factor for Alzheimer's disease, health officials estimate that due to the aging of the population, its prevalence could triple by 2050 if progress is not made. These forecasts make unraveling the mystery of Alzheimer's disease all the more important. While scientific research has brought us a long way, we still have a long way to go. Every day, neuroscientists are working to better understand and to treat this debilitating and terrible disease.

Mr. Speaker, is Alzheimer's disease preventable? Neuroscientists are not sure. But because it typically strikes later in life, they recognize that even delaying disease onset by several years would greatly limit the harmful effects of its reach. Achieving this goal will require the efforts of a global community of scientists and clinicians, sensitive to both similarities and unique needs of patients around the world. For this reason, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Brain Awareness Week and the outstanding contributions the field of neuroscience is making to uncover the mysteries of brain-based diseases such as Alzheimer's disease.

VIRGINIA DESIGNATES ANNUAL ''CANCER PREVENTION DAY''

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to my colleagues' attention recent action in the Virginia General Assembly to designate February 4, 2011, and in each succeeding year, as ''Cancer Prevention Day'' in Virginia.

The Virginia Senate joint resolution introduced by Senator Jill Holtzman Vogel, who represents many constituents from the 10th congressional district, reads:

''Whereas, cancer is the leading cause of death around the world; and

''Whereas, during the 10-year period from 1995 to 2004, the rate of new cancer cases in Virginia increased by 10 percent; and

''Whereas, the most common cancers in Virginia—prostate, lung, and colorectal for men and breast, lung, and colorectal for women—are also among the most preventable; and

''Whereas, the 2008–2012 Virginia Cancer Plan developed by the Virginia Cancer Plan Action Coalition contains specific goals and strategies related to prevention in the hopes of reducing the rates of cancer in Virginians; Now, therefore, be it

''*Resolved* by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, that the General Assembly designate February 4, in 2011 and in each succeeding year, as Cancer Prevention Day in Virginia.''

I applaud Senator Vogel for her efforts to raise awareness in the Commonwealth on the fight against cancer, and also salute our mutual constituent Bill Couzens of Middleburg, founder and president of the nonprofit Next Generation Choices Foundation and the Less Cancer Campaign, who worked with Senator Vogel in the effort to secure passage of the resolution in the state legislature. As she noted, ''The more energy and resources that we direct toward awareness, education and prevention, the more lives we save.''

QUILEUTE TRIBE TSUNAMI PROTECTION ACT

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Quileute Tribe Tsunami Protection Act. This legislation will provide Park Service land to the Quileute Tribe to enable the re-location of many facilities outside the tsunami zone. The tragic events in Japan that we have sadly witnessed over the last week illustrate the need for this legislation.

The threat of tsunamis is a harsh reality that the Quileutes face every day. The Tribe lives on a one-square mile reservation along the Pacific coast of the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State. It is a spectacularly beautiful place. Many of you, or at least your children or grandchildren, recognize the Quileute Tribe from the Twilight series of novels and movies.

But there is nothing romantic about the tsunami threat. Much of the Tribe's infrastructure, including a day care center, the elder center, government offices and Quileute Tribal members', homes are in the direct path of a potential tsunami. In addition, the Tribe faces a nearly annual flood threat from the Quillayute River.

The purpose of this legislation is to help the Quileutes move their people and buildings to safer land. The Olympic National Park would transfer land that is out of the tsunami zone to the Tribe for the development of new infrastructure.

The legislation also settles a long-standing dispute between the Olympic National Park and the Tribe over the northern boundary of the Reservation. The resolution of this dispute benefits the Tribe, the Park Service and the general public. The bill also guarantees access for the public to some of the most beautiful Washington State beaches, and will designate as wilderness thousands of acres currently in the Olympic National Park.

I want to thank the Quileute Tribe, National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis and Olympic National Park Superintendent Karen Gustin for their hard work over many years to resolve this dispute and provide safer land for the Tribe.

I ask my colleagues to consider the present danger to the Quileute Tribe and to support this bill.

IN HONOR OF ARMY CORPORAL LOREN MILES BUFFALO

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. ROSS of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero who died in service to this great country. On March 9, 2011, U.S. Army Corporal Loren Miles Buffalo was killed in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. According to initial reports, Cpl. Buffalo died of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol.

Cpl. Loren Buffalo, 20, of Mountain Pine, Arkansas, was assigned to B Troop, 1st Squadron, 75th Cavalry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Kentucky. His mother resides in Ward, Arkansas, and his father resides in Mountain Pine, Arkansas.

Cpl. Buffalo joined the Army in May 2009. He had a passion for learning and for music and was always willing to help those around him. From playing his guitar to organizing the delivering of presents for the Salvation Army, Cpl. Buffalo left a lasting impact on everyone he met. As a dedicated soldier and as a great American, he made this nation a better and safer place to call home. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

When we think of inspiring leaders and American patriots, each of us should look to the too short life of Cpl. Buffalo for guidance. He risked everything to defend freedom and serve this nation and we will always be grateful for his selfless sacrifice. My thoughts and prayers go out to his parents and the rest of his family and friends during this very difficult time.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me as we honor the life and legacy of Army Corporal Loren Miles Buffalo, 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.

THE HOME AFFORDABLE MODIFICATION PROGRAM TERMINATION ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 839, the Home Affordable Modification Program Termination Act.

The Home Affordable Modification Program is designed to help struggling homeowners avoid foreclosure by providing homeowners with financially responsible and affordable loans.

The program provides incentives to loan investors and servicers in consideration for the loan modifications, and incentives for homeowners to continue to make on-time payments.

At the end of January, there were 539,493 homeowners with permanent Home Affordable Modification Program loan modifications.

New permanent Home Affordable Modification Program modifications have averaged around 29,000 per month over the last six months of 2010.

This program saves homeowners on average 527 dollars per month.

If this bill is passed it would deny modification loans to more than a half million homeowners at risk of foreclosure.

I encourage my colleagues to stand up for homeownership in your districts and vote against this irresponsible bill.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. SUSAN C. PARKS, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2011

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women during the month of March.

Today, I pay tribute to Dr. Susan C. Parks. As an educator and current Superintendent of the San Gabriel Unified School District, Susan has assisted in educating hundreds of students in the 29th Congressional District. A native Angelino, she spent her early years in Los Angeles City schools, where she proved herself to be a quick learner. Early on, Susan realized that many people held inherent beliefs that girls could not accomplish certain feats simply because they were girls. Determined to prove them wrong, Susan applied herself throughout high school and, as a result, received numerous scholarship offers. Thereafter, Dr. Parks decided to attend the University of Southern California (USC), where she was named a Trustee Scholar.

At USC, Susan Parks witnessed the struggle of the civil rights movement, encouraging her desire to promote peace throughout the world. After the Watts riots, Susan volunteered to help a pre-school recover and found that she had the potential to change the world by teaching young children. After graduating from USC Magna Cum Laude, she began teaching in Los Angeles where she strived to one day become a principal and eventually superintendent. She became the principal at Walnut Grove Elementary School and, after the passage of Proposition 13, she provided leadership to begin Hollow Hills Elementary School, a magnet school that achieved tremendous success. Her experience proved invaluable as she went on to hold positions as a Deputy Superintendent in Simi Valley, the Superintendent of Schools in the Baldwin Park Unified School District, and, in 2006, as the Superintendent of the San Gabriel Unified School District.

Today, Dr. Parks continues to work tirelessly for the students in San Gabriel schools and has taken large steps to give students in the 29th Congressional District the same opportunities for a superb education that she has enjoyed. She and her husband, Gary Parks, have three children and six grandchildren.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Dr. Susan C. Parks, for her service to the community and to our nation's children.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION'S COMMUNITY APPRECIATION AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the Prince William Ministerial Association's Community Appreciation Awards.

The Prince William Ministerial Association brings together church communities across ethnic, social and sectarian boundaries to celebrate their common faith and promote fellowship and action in the Prince William community. In keeping with that mission, the Association is awarding the First Annual Community Appreciation Awards to individuals who have made significant contributions to the areas of education, public safety and community activism in Prince William County.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names and accomplishments of the recipients of the Prince William Ministerial Association's Community Appreciation Awards.

Police Officer of the Year: Master Police Officer John Lavely (Ret.) served 24 years in the Prince William County Police Department, including 13 years as a School Resource Officer.

Edward Kelly Teacher of the Year: Paulette Jones has taught at Gar-Field High School for 20 years and has dedicated her time to creating and sustaining a program that helps students perform community-based service projects and engage in self esteem-building activities.

Sheriff's Deputy of the Year: Deputy Thomas C. "T.C." Williams is being recognized for his service to the citizens of Prince William County and his ability to set a positive example for the community's troubled youth.

Firefighter of the Year: Deputy David Wood has served as a volunteer firefighter in Prince William County since April 26, 1976, and is an active member of the Coles District Volunteer Fire Department in his current capacity as Deputy Fire Chief.

Community Volunteer of the Year: Ernestine S. Jenkins is a dedicated community activist. She serves as the 1st Vice President of the Dale City Civic Association, Chairman of the Dale City 4th of July Parade Committee, Education Co-Chairman of the Bel Air Woman's Club; life member and Past President of VFW Post 1503 Ladies Auxiliary; charter member of Disabled American Veterans Chapter 48; Sun Shine Chairman of the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department; life member of American Legion Post 364 Ladies Auxiliary; Vice Chairman for Project Mend-A-House; and a member of the Finance Committee for Bethel United Methodist Church.

Vernon Williams, Jr. Young Person of the Year: Steven Blakely is a senior at Osbourn Park High School and captain of his school's swim team. Mr. Blakely created the "Foster Care Children's Gift Fund" to help the Department of Social Services purchase Christmas presents for foster children. During the past four years, the program has raised $55,000 to help children in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the recipients of the Prince William Ministerial Association's Community Appreciation Awards. I extend my personal appreciation to the recipients for their contributions to effect positive change in our community.

INTRODUCTION OF BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION TO GRANT HOLOCAUST RAIL VICTIMS JUSTICE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing bipartisan legislation along with my colleagues Representatives ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, JERROLD NADLER, TED DEUTCH, LUIS GUTIERREZ, MAURICE HINCHEY, ALLEN WEST, GARY ACKERMAN, ELIJAH CUMMINGS, CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, and DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ that will finally grant holocaust rail victims justice in their lifetimes.

During World War II, more than 75,000 Jews and other "undesirables" were transported from France to Nazi death camps aboard trains operated by the Societé Nationale des Chemins de fer Francais ("SNCF"). Among those transported to death camps on SNCF trains were American airmen shot down over France. SNCF operated the trains as a commercial venture and were paid per head, per kilometer to deliver thousands to their ultimate deaths.

In the 66 years since the end of World War II, SNCF has never made restitution or reparations to its victims, and recently went so far as to tell a member of the California Assembly that "SNCF will never pay the survivors anything" and that the company "would rather not do business in California" than pay reparations.

Hundreds of known survivors and family members of those who have perished live in the United States today—although the number of living survivors is rapidly growing smaller—and litigation seeking to hold SNCF accountable for its actions during World War II has been ongoing for over ten years. SNCF has unfortunately thus far succeeded in cloaking itself in the veil of foreign sovereign immunity and thus evaded jurisdiction in United States courts.

This legislation would simply preclude, in this one limited instance, the defense of foreign sovereign immunity from being raised. As the facts make clear, this is not the type of situation foreign sovereign immunity was intended to cover.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation that would finally hold SNCF accountable for its wartime actions and provide survivors with what is likely their last opportunity for justice in their lifetimes.

TO HONOR JOHN M. GILLIS, RECIPIENT OF THE HENRY W. BOSWORTH, JR. MEMORIAL CITIZENSHIP AWARD

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished and revered public servant of Quincy, Massachusetts, Mr. John M. Gillis. John has served as a Norfolk County commissioner since 1992, but has been an active member of the Massachusetts community for many decades.

A lifelong resident of the Quincy area, John attended Adams Elementary School, Quincy Point Junior High School, and Quincy High School. Motivated by service to his country, he enlisted in the Marines during World War II and fought bravely in the Battle of Saipan. John then enrolled at Northeastern University and received his accounting degree in 1953.

John's exemplary background in public service spans from his dedication as a Quincy firefighter stationed at Central Headquarters following World War II to his post as City Clerk in Quincy. Of his nearly four decades as clerk, John asserts they were his best in city government because he was able to champion the ''little guy.''

In recognition of his commitment to the common good, John will be the honored recipient of the Henry W. Bosworth Jr. Memorial Citizenship Award— aptly named in memory of Quincy Sun founder Henry Bosworth, John's long-time friend—on March 27th. I extend to John my most heartfelt congratulations, and I urge my constituents and all Americans to follow his example of service and leadership.

HONORING TOM BRYSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Tom Bryson upon his retirement as President and CEO of WJRT–TV. Tom retired on February 28th with over 25 years of service.

After graduating from the University of Missouri's School of Journalism, Tom worked with Group W Radio in Washington, DC covering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s ''I Have a Dream'' speech. Over the years he has worked for various stations throughout the United States before accepting a position at WJRT–TV and has called it home for the past 25 years. Tom has accepted several leadership roles within the Michigan broadcasting industry including President of the MAB Board of Directors, and Chairman of the MAB Foundation. He was inducted into the Michigan' Broadcasting Hall of Fame in 2007 and received the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Michigan Association of Broadcasters.

Communities served by WJRT are better because of his dedicated service. He has provided guidance and direction to several organizations including: United Way of Genesee County, the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, the School of Health Professions and Studies for the University of Michigan-Flint, Goodwill Industries of Mid-Michigan, Genesys Charity Classic, Kiwanis Club of Flint, the Flint Salvation Army, the Flint Area Chamber of Commerce, the Genesee Focus Council, and the Genesee County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Tom and his wife, Mary, have three daughters and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Tom Bryson and wish him a happy retirement. He has been a great influence on Flint and on me personally. I am a better person because of Tom Bryson. I wish him the best in the future and thank him for his service to our community.

HONORING WES LEONARD

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Wes Leonard, the Fennville Blackhawks Basketball Team, and the entire community who came together in the aftermath of tragedy that has been followed by our entire nation.

The Blackhawks finished their season this Monday, capturing a Class C District Championship trophy before their season ended with a 23–1 record.

But theirs was no ordinary run for a high school state basketball title.

Their star player, Wes Leonard, collapsed and tragically passed away after scoring the game-winning basket for his team on March 3, the final game of the regular season.

With that basket, Wes Leonard led his team to a perfect winning record during his junior year. According to all who knew him, this 16-year-old student exhibited the character, discipline, and affability that made him both respected and loved within the Fennville Community. His school superintendent described him as ''the quintessential all-American kid.'' While attending Wes's family visitation, I was struck by how many members of rival school teams in their letter jackets came to pay their respects to Wes, the team he led, and his family. More than 1,500 people attended his funeral service at Christ Memorial Church in Holland. These facts are sure testaments to what this young man meant to the Fennville community.

In a massive outpouring of support from his community and even people across the nation and world, fans came out in record numbers to cheer on the Blackhawks, who played their first District playoff game on March 7, just three days after Wes's death. Even in this chamber, as I wore this orange ribbon in Wes's memory and in support of the team, colleagues and strangers who asked about its meaning knew the story of Wes and the Blackhawks and asked me to pass along condolences and encouragement.

Sellout crowds packed the Hope College DeVos Fieldhouse to witness the team's playoff games in person, and scores more followed along online and saw highlights on such programs as SportsCenter on ESPN.

The Blackhawks played on honorably through it all, and I want to congratulate them on an outstanding, admirable, and courageous finish to their season. The true mark of character is how one responds to adversity. These young men have shown unbelievable character.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this House to join me in honoring this team and commending all who rallied around them. I would like to express condolences on behalf of myself and the people of the 2nd District to the family, friends and teammates of Wes Leonard. And I would like to honor this young man for his leadership that was an inspiration to all who knew him.

A TRIBUTE TO CAROL NAOMI TANITA, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2011

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the accomplishments made by our nation's most distinguished women during the month of March.

Today, I stand to laud the tireless efforts of Carol Naomi Tanita of Monterey Park. Born in the Boyle Heights region of Los Angeles, Carol grew up committed to her education. Upon graduating high school with honors, she attended the University of Southern California, where she attained her bachelor's and master's degrees in the field of education, and earned her specialist credential in bilingual cross-cultural education in Japanese.

Carol has maintained an active spirit for all her passions in life, and continues to be involved with the community as a tireless volunteer and parent. She served as a member of the PTA of Brightwood and Repetto Elementary Schools for 12 years, and received numerous awards, including the title of Parent of the Year at Repetto Elementary School for her exemplary service.

In 2007, Ms. Tanita was presented with the Community Service Award by the Alhambra Educational Foundation. Her continuous efforts were always appreciated, as she repeatedly received the Honorary Service Award and Continuing Service Award at Mark Keppel High School. Upon the graduation of her children, Carol continued to be active with the PTSA and the Mark Keppel Alliance. As a result of her unwavering commitment, she was awarded the Golden Oak—the highest award the California PTA gives for outstanding service to schools and communities. During 20 years of committed service, Carol has surpassed 9,000 volunteer hours.

Ms. Tanita also serves the community beyond the realm of education. For two years, she served on the F.A.C.E.S.'s Board at Pacific Clinics and the Family Advisory Council at the Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center, which serves individuals with developmental disabilities. Currently, Carol dedicates her time to Parents In Community Inclusion (PICI), a group which mentors families and educators in creating an inclusive community for special needs individuals.

Carol served as a parent volunteer for the Boy Scouts of America as well, when her son Nicholas enrolled as a Cub Scout. Over the years, she served as the Parent Committee

Chair, Treasurer, and now is the District Finance Chair for the Mission Amigos District of the San Gabriel Valley Council Boy Scouts of America, which serves the cities of Monterey Park, Alhambra, San Gabriel, Rosemead, El Monte and South El Monte.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Carol Naomi Tanita, for her outstanding service to the community.

TO HONOR AND CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ALVIN D. UNGERLEIDER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of a true American hero, Brigadier General (RETD) Alvin D. Ungerleider who recently passed away at the age of 89.

General Ungerleider honorably served our country in uniform for 36 years, beginning when he was drafted in November, 1942. He received his commission and was assigned to the 115th Regiment, 29th Infantry Division of the National Guard. On D-Day, June 6, 1944, at the age of 22, then Lieutenant Ungerleider led 50 men into battle on the beaches of Omaha.

The Invasion of Normandy changed the course of World War II and of history. During the intense fighting in the opening days of the Normandy invasion, Lt. Ungerleider was wounded twice. He reluctantly left the battlefield for only two weeks to recover from his wounds, and then returned to continue fighting throughout France and into Germany. He led his men through minefields and joined the battles to free the town of St. Laurent-sur-Mer and the city of Brest from Nazi occupation.

Nearly one year later, during the spring of 1945, Lt. Ungerleider received orders to capture part of an industrial complex and liberate Dora-Mittelbau, a slave labor concentration camp that was a subcamp of Nordhausen prison. In April, 1945, after taking heavy fire from the Nazi soldiers guarding the prison, Lt. Ungerleider and his men liberated the camp. Years later, General Ungerleider said that although he had become battle hardened, nothing had prepared him for what he encountered at Nordhausen. To quote General Ungerleider, "We thought we had entered the gates of hell."

At Nordhausen, he and his men freed approximately 300 prisoners, most of whom he described as "living skeletons." He and his men shared the small amount of food that they had with the prisoners. Lt. Ungerleider then led them in reciting Kaddish, the Jewish prayer for the dead. Only then did the prisoners accept that the horror of the Nazi death camp had ended.

General Ungerleider continued serving our country in the United States Army for several more decades, in times of both war and peace. He commanded an armored tank unit during the Korean War and a Tactical Unit during the war in Vietnam, where he spent his free time working with a Vietnamese orphanage. Later in his military career, he commanded the Aberdeen Proving Grounds and eventually retired in 1978.

In recognition of his distinguished military service, General Ungerleider received three Legion of Merit awards, the Four Chaplains Award, 2 Bronze Stars for bravery and meritorious service, and a Purple Heart. While commanding at Aberdeen, he established Equal Opportunity programs, and he was recognized by the Secretary of the Army and the NAACP for these innovations. The Brigadier General also received decorations from the Korean and Vietnamese governments, and he is one of only 99 Americans to be awarded the French Legion of Honor for his role in D-Day and the eventual liberation of France.

On June 6, 1994, in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of D-Day, General Ungerleider was selected to escort President Clinton at the American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer in Normandy France. There he walked alongside the President and together they laid a wreath to honor all who fought and died to liberate Europe.

As committed as General Ungerleider was to serving our country, he was equally committed to his family, Jewish faith, and community. He was a loving and devoted husband to Ruth Golden Ungerleider for more than 66 years, a dedicated father to Neil, Ilene and Daniel, and a doting grandfather to his grandchildren. In 1955 while still on active duty stationed in Monterrey, CA, he started that city's very first Jewish Sunday School. He worked with the Jewish Welfare Board to find new homes in America and Palestine for displaced Jews. The National Holocaust Museum recognizes the 29th Infantry as Liberators due to the efforts of General Ungerleider and the men he led in Europe.

He was also active in his temple, Olam Tikvah, and served for 8 years as an administrator, helping to build the membership of the temple and increase its involvement in the community.

I would like to personally thank Mr. Bruce Waxman, an officer of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 227 and a member of Congregation Olam Tikvah, for bringing the extraordinary contributions of General Ungerleider to my attention.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of Brigadier General Alvin D. Ungerleider and in expressing our deepest condolences to his family and friends. Often we hear a person described as a hero, but rarely does that moniker fit as well as it does in this case. General Ungerleider dedicated his life to serving his country, his family, his faith, and his community. He rightfully earned the appreciation and respect of all Americans for his lifetime of honorable service to our nation, as well as the gratitude of many others around the globe who owe their lives and their quality of life to this true American hero.

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT BLOOD THINNERS AND POTENTIAL RISKS TO PATIENTS

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of a constituent of mine, Shannon Elizabeth Mudd from Mt. Sterling Kentucky, who died due to complications from treatment she received by medical personnel who were not aware of an underlying medical condition and the use of blood thinners. Shannon was 17 years old and today would have been her 19th birthday. Mr. Speaker, this tragedy should prompt us to look more closely at protecting people who use anti-coagulant drugs to treat blood clots and deep vein thrombosis (DVT). It is my hope that more awareness and better labeling might help prevent what happened to Shannon from happening to other patients on anti-coagulant drugs.

Shannon was diagnosed on September 4, 2009 with neuroendocrine carcinoma, a rare form of cancer, and was beginning to respond well to new treatments when a visit to her doctor revealed she had deep vein thrombosis (DVT), or a blood clot, in her chest. Rather than put Shannon through an invasive procedure, her doctor instead prescribed an anti-coagulant drug used to treat DVT. Like any anti-coagulant drug, the medication included a warning that there was a risk of severe bleeding associated with it. However, the medication warning did not alert her to the risk associated with internal bleeding that could become life threatening if a minor injury were left untreated.

When Shannon received some encouraging news about her cancer prognosis, she went to lunch with her father to celebrate. While at the restaurant, Shannon fell and hit her head. Because her father was not informed of the danger of internal bleeding associated with the drug Shannon had been taking, paramedics were not made aware of her history with the anti-clotting medication. Since it appeared it was a minor injury, Shannon was not taken to the hospital. Later that day, Shannon complained of dizziness and exhibited signs of a stroke. Her father called 911 and Shannon was flown to the University of Kentucky Medical Center where emergency physicians began treating her for massive brain hemorrhaging. By this time, little could be done for Shannon and she slipped into a coma. Shannon passed away almost a month later and just 5 weeks shy of her 18th birthday.

In memory of her daughter, Shannon's mother, Angela Visone Mudd, took up the cause of educating the public about the risk of traumatic brain injury associated with anti-coagulant drugs and minor head injury. Ms. Mudd developed bands for patients taking these medications to wear, communicating the risk of internal or external bleeding to medical personnel in the event of an accident.

Shannon was taken from her family much too soon. I applaud Shannon's mother and her many supporters for their courage and efforts to help other families avoid the same tragic set of circumstances that ultimately led to Shannon's death a year ago. Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that through sharing Shannon's story, more tragedies like this can be prevented and more lives saved.

SPOKANE VALLEY REMEMBERS BOB McCASLIN

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of my friend Bob

McCaslin, an outstanding leader for the Spokane Valley, who sadly passed away on March 13. Bob was one of my colleagues in the Washington State Legislature—a place where he proudly served for thirty years—and I can personally testify that he was one of our most well-liked, well-respected members. He will be dearly missed.

A U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, Bob McCaslin graduated from Washington State University, worked for Kaiser Aluminum and later owned a real estate firm. He was first elected to the State Senate in 1980 and was re-elected easily every four years, sometimes with only token opposition. While there, he opposed most tax increases and supported most efforts to shrink state government.

He also earned a reputation for being ''the master of a well-timed story or joke,'' as Senate Minority Leader Mike Hewitt recently told our local newspaper, the Spokane Spokesman-Review. ''Bob was always the one who, when things were going badly in caucus, could get things calmed down. He'd tell a little story.''

At the start of this year's session, Bob was the longest serving Republican State Senator. However, Bob resigned his seat in January due to ill health. He continued serving, however, as a Spokane Valley city councilman. News of his passing was greeted with sadness by the Spokane Valley community and also by his many friends in Olympia and throughout Washington State—regardless of party.

Bob McCaslin was a great leader and his passing is a great loss for Eastern Washington. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Bob's memory and to keep his family in their thoughts and prayers.

THE MARINE DEBRIS ACT REAUTHORIZATION AMENDMENTS OF 2011

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the bipartisan the Marine Debris Act Reauthorization Amendments of 2011 which was introduced earlier today by my friend and colleague Congressman SAM FARR, from California. I sponsored similar legislation in the 111th Congress and I commend Congressman FARR for recognizing the importance of this legislation and his efforts toward its reintroduction.

Marine debris comes in many forms and from many sources, each posing as a threat to birds, fish and other wildlife, while also affecting navigational safety, and polluting our beaches. Once passed, this legislation will serve to reduce the adverse impacts marine debris has on our marine ecosystem, the economy, and public safety. NOAA's existing Marine Debris Program supports important projects throughout the country, including beach cleanups, derelict fishing gear location and removal, and educational campaigns. Oftentimes these projects will enlist the assistance of out-of-season fishermen and other members of coastal communities. The program helps to locate and track marine debris to avoid threats to navigational safety. This reauthorizing language would serve to streamline these programs by avoiding any overlaps or conflicts with other federal agencies.

NOAA's Marine Debris Program directly benefits the environment and the economy of coastal communities throughout the nation. Our fisheries, recreation, and tourism industries are dependent on clean beaches and healthy marine ecosystems.

Guam would greatly benefit from the passage of the Marine Debris Reauthorization as it would give states and local communities the additional tools we need to effectively protect our marine environments and wildlife. Again, I would like to thank Representative FARR for introducing this legislation, as well as Rep. DON YOUNG, Rep. DANA ROHRABACHER, Rep. DONNA CHRISTENSEN, and Rep. PEDRO PIERLUISI for joining me as original cosponsors. I encourage my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I was detained from voting on Wednesday, March 16, 2011. If present, I would have voted ''yea'' on the following rollcall votes: rollcall 183, rollcall 184, rollcall 185, rollcall 186, and rollcall 187.

I would have voted ''nay'' on the following rollcall vote: rollcall 188.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I missed rollcall vote number 175 on H.R. 793, and rollcall vote number 176 on agreeing to H. Con. Res. 27. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye'' on both votes.

IN HONOR OF GREG DAVIS, CEO OF DAVIS BROADCASTING, INC.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great organization and two friends of long-standing, Greg and Cheryl Davis. Davis Broadcasting began Twenty-Five years ago with a vision and determination to make the world a better place to live. But, to understand where Davis Broadcasting is today, you have to understand the man behind the vision.

Greg Davis was born in Fort Smith, Arkansas. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology from Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee, and went on to faithfully serve in the United States Army. He later furthered his education and received his Masters Degree from Eastern Michigan University.

The scripture says in proverbs that: ''Trust the lord with all your hear heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge him and he shall direct your path.'' Greg Davis has always kept God in the forefront of his life. God directed his path to find a life partner who stood with him in his life's work. And that in turn led to birth of his three children: Geniece, Michelle, and Greg, Jr.

God also directed his path from a Community School Director in Michigan to a 37-year career in T.V. and Radio Broadcasting. He began his career in broadcasting, spending 12 years in marketing and sales management. His television career took him from Flint Michigan to Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Detroit; concluded in Cincinnati, Ohio as General Sales Manager of Multimedia Broadcasting.

He started Davis Broadcasting, Inc. in June of 1986 by acquiring radio stations in Columbus and Augusta, Georgia. Most people would have been happy with these two stations, but Mr. Davis wanted to expand his presence in radio by reaching diverse audiences all across the country. He went on to purchase stations in Macon, Georgia, Columbus, Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia and Charlotte, North Carolina. In 2000, he sold the radio stations in Charlotte and Augusta to expand his operations in the Columbus community that he has grown to love.

His radio stations touch the lives of all people from all walks of life. The different music genres that his stations encompass include urban contemporary, gospel contemporary, music focused on the Hispanic population and sports. His station WFXE–FM, better known to all of us as Foxie 105 has remained as the number one Arbitron rated radio station in the Columbus media market for 24 of the 25 years it has existed.

Finally, Greg and Cheryl Davis and Davis Broadcasting have given back to their community with service on numerous community boards. The Company also puts on annual events such as the Family Day in the Parks and the Needy Children's Christmas party, which provides three to four thousand needy children with a gift at Christmas. They truly understand the words of Shirley Chisholm when she said that, ''Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth.''

Mr. Speaker it gives me great pleasure to stand before you to honor the legacy of Greg and Cheryl Davis and the 25-year legacy of Davis Broadcasting—a legacy that endures, and whose best days are yet to come.

HONORING REV. DR. HENRY THOMAS SIMMONS

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. MEEKS. Mr Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize a respected leader in my community, Rev. Dr. Henry Thomas Simmons, who is celebrating twenty years of dedicated service to the St. Albans Congregational Church in my district.

Since March 1, 1991. Dr. Simmons has served as Senior Minister of the St. Albans Congregational Church in St. Albans, New York. Under his visionary leadership the congregation has grown from 400 to 1,200 active

members who share mutual labors sponsoring just over fifty ministries for congregants and the community. In addition to his role as an ordained minister, Dr. Simmons has played an important continuous role as a father, husband, and grandfather. Dr. Simmons continues to serve as an advocate for his community by committing to serving his members within the church as well as the wider St. Albans community, which encompasses a variety of Queens' diverse population.

Dr. Simmons began his public service as an ordained minister of the gospel as Associate Minister with the Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ in Washington, DC, from 1973–1977. In August 1977 he was called to serve as Senior Minister of the Mayflower Congregational Church in Detroit, Michigan. After six years of leading that congregations' renewal as a vital urban church, Dr. Simmons was elected in 1983 as Secretary for Racial, Ethnic, and Minority Church Development for the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries in New York City. For eight years he assumed primary staff leadership for the denomination's evangelism efforts in new and urban church renewal for African American, Latino, American Indian, and Pacific Islander-Asian American churches before moving to Queens, NY.

Dr. Simmons has served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries; Chair of the United Church of Christ Search Committee for General Minister and President; and President of the Southeast Queens Clergy for Community. Empowerment, Inc, now known as Clergy United for Community Empowerment. Among the awards and honors Dr. Simmons has received are citations for outstanding ministerial leadership from the Michigan State Legislature, the Detroit city Council, the New York City Council, and honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees for contributions to racial and social justice from the Ursinus College and Huston-Tillotson College.

Through his leadership, Dr. Simmons continues to represent wisdom and strength for the entire congregation of St. Albans Congregational Church. I am sure Dr. Simmons has faced many joys and challenges during his twenty year tenure at St. Albans Congregational Church, and I wish him continued success throughout the remainder of his time there. I applaud Dr. Simmons for all he has accomplished and for his unrelenting commitment to God, his family, public service, and the community of St. Albans.

HONORING CESAR CHAVEZ'S BIRTHDAY

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true American hero and a remarkable public servant, Cesar Chavez. Chavez is revered by people across our nation as a humble activist who led a monumental fight to improve labor conditions for migrant farm workers. His nonviolent crusade for social change was inspired by the hardship and injustices that he witnessed growing up as a farm worker. As a result of that upbringing, he led a movement to achieve fair wages, worker protections, human rights and human dignity among the most underrepresented in our society. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for those efforts, and today, almost two decades after his passing, he continues to inspire young people to dedicate their own lives in service to others. In his words, ''the end of all education should surely be service to others.'' His impact is timeless and cannot be understated. On behalf of my constituents in New Mexico's First Congressional District, I am proud to honor him before my colleagues in Congress.

CELEBRATING NOWRUZ

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Nowruz, the traditional Iranian New Year, and take the opportunity to celebrate Iranian Americans' contributions to America. I wish Iranian Americans and the people of Iran a prosperous new year.

Nowruz originated in ancient Persia, and dates back more than 3,000 years. Nowruz means a ''New Day'' which occurs on the vernal equinox and celebrates the arrival of spring. It symbolizes a time of renewal and community, and it harkens the departure from the trials and tribulations of the previous year and brings hope for the New Year.

Nowruz is celebrated by nearly 300 million Iranians and other peoples all over the world, including in the United States, Iran, and other countries in Central Asia, South Asia, Caucasus, Crimea, and Balkan Regions. It is also celebrated by more than 1 million Iranian Americans of all backgrounds, including those with Muslim, Jewish, Christian, Baha'i, Zoroastrian, and non-religious backgrounds.

Nowruz embodies the tradition that each individual's thinking, speaking, and conduct should always be virtuous, and the ideal of compassion for our fellow human beings regardless of ethnicity or religion, and symbolizes a time of renewal and community.

In 539 B.C., Cyrus the Great established one of the earliest charters on human rights, which abolished slavery and allowed for freedom of religion, and this marker in Iranian history has had significant impact on the respect for human rights that Iranian Americans carry today.

Iranian Americans continue to make contributions in all sectors of American public life, including government, military, and law enforcement officials, who proudly serve to uphold the Constitution of the United States and to protect all people in the United States.

The United States is a melting pot of ethnicities and religion and Nowruz contributes to the richness of American culture and is consistent with our founding principles of peace and prosperity for all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I missed rollcall vote No. 181 on H. Res. 170. Had I been present, I would have voted ''no'' on this vote.

CONGRATULATING TIFFANY FLYNN ON HER 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of my District Chief of Staff, Tiffany Flynn. Twenty five years ago today, I hired Tiffany as a receptionist in my Flint office. Tiffany, who grew up in Lapeer, Michigan and graduated from Lapeer West High School, worked her way up in my district office to eventually become my District Chief of Staff. She now oversees my district staff and manages my offices in Flint, Saginaw, and Bay City.

Tiffany is a reliable and focused manager. She has been instrumental in helping foster growth and revitalization throughout my district. Tiffany played a critical role in ensuring that the Flint Main Post Office Processing and Distribution Center and the Social Security Administration office remained downtown. She also played a leading role in the redevelopment of downtown Flint. Tiffany has not only been a great asset to my office, but also to the people of mid-Michigan.

Even after her workday is done, Tiffany continues to give back to her community by participating in a number of local activities and charities. Tiffany has been a member of the Rotary Board of Directors and is now president-elect of the Rotary Club of Flint. She works with the United Way and Muscular Dystrophy Association and supports the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Flint and the YWCA. Tiffany is also active in Women in Leadership, the League of Women Voters and in 2008 she received the ATHENA award by the Women's Business Council of the Genesee Regional Chamber of Commerce for mentoring and inspiring young women.

Today, I want to thank Tiffany for her years of service, hard work and dedication to my office and to the people of mid-Michigan. Throughout the years, she has made a significant impact on my office and the lives of my constituents. I have been very fortunate to have had Tiffany on my staff for the last 25 years.

CELEBRATING OUIR LOCAL HEROES

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to salute the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce and the fine people being recognized at

its annual awards gala, So Proudly We Hail—Celebrating Our Local Heroes.

The Dulles Regional Chamber is located in one of the top technology corridors in the nation and is the largest chamber in Fairfax County. Each year it recognizes first responders in the region who have gone above and beyond the call of duty.

This year's honorees are Capt. Kathleen Stanley with Fairfax County's International Urban Search and Rescue and the late Sgt. Phillip Farley with the Herndon Police Department.

Capt. Stanley has served the citizens of Fairfax County for nearly 20 years, most recently in Battalion 401 which serves the Reston/Herndon area of Fairfax County. In 2010, she deployed with the county's Urban Search and Rescue team to Haiti, where she served for the entire deployment as a medical specialist, often administering care to patients critically injured in the earthquake.

Sgt. Farley is being recognized for his contributions from 2001 to 2010 to the Herndon Police Department. Because of his efforts, the Herndon Police Department is one of the first law enforcement agencies in northern Virginia to implement a seamless transition in its electronic records management, computer aided dispatch and mobile computer terminals to enable effective communication and records management solutions. Sgt. Farley also was instrumental in the research and testing of the department's transition from revolvers to automatic weapons. In addition, he introduced scenario-based training to coincide with annual range training.

In addition to recognizing local first responders, the chamber invited and saluted seven service men for their contributions to our country. They are: Chief Warrant Officer 5 Bradley Garfield, U.S. Marine Corps; 1st Sgt Michael Barrett, U.S. Marine Corps; Gunnery Sgt. Alain Frederique, U.S. Marine Corps; Gunnery Sgt. Josue Magana, U.S. Marine Corps; Staff Sgt. Hugh Davis, U.S. Army Reserve, retired; Technical Sgt. Christopher Frost, U.S. Air Force, and Sgt. John Eubanks, U.S. Marine Corps.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the accomplishments of these honorees. We owe them all our thanks.

TRIBUTE TO MASTER SERGEANT DAN CALDARALE

HON. JON RUNYAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. RUNYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Master Sergeant Dan Caldarale and recognize his safe return home on Sunday, March 20, 2011 from his tour in the Middle East.

Dan began his career in the Army National Guard in the summer of 1981 at basic training in Ft. Benning, Georgia. During his 30 years of service to our country, he served as both active duty and Army Reserve. Currently, Dan is an Inspector General Investigator with the Army National Guard.

In addition to his career as a Master Sergeant, Dan has served as a local patrolman and crash investigator for over 16 years. He graduated from the Police Academy in 1995 and has served as a member of the North Hanover Township Police Department since May of 2007. Through both his national and local positions, it is clear that public service is a top priority in Dan's life and one that he values deeply.

Today I join Dan's friends and family, and most notably his wife Erica, a former Army National Guard Soldier of 13 years, and their sons, Matthew and Ryan, in welcoming home this great American hero. The United States of America is truly a safer place because of Dan's dedicated and honorable service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in recognizing Master Sergeant Dan Caldarale and offering our sincerest appreciation for his successful tour of duty and his safe return home.

TRIBUTE TO DIVISION 1 ICE HOCKEY COACH OF THE YEAR, TODD KRYGIER

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Division 1 Ice Hockey Coach of the Year, Todd Krygier. A native of Chicago Heights, Illinois and resident of Novi, Michigan, Coach Krygier led his Novi High School skaters to their first state championship in the team's 13 year history.

As a left winger with the University of Connecticut, Todd Krygier was selected to the 1987 NCAA East Second All-American Team after scoring 48 points in 28 games for the Huskies. He was drafted by Hartford in the 1988 Supplemental Draft and played parts of two seasons with the Whalers before being traded to the Washington Capitals in 1991 and then to the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim in 1994. Having been reacquired by the Capitals during the 1995–96 season, Coach Todd Krygier brings the unique perspective of having closed out his 543 game NHL career by playing in the 1998 Stanley Cup Finals. Krygier went on to play two seasons with the Orlando Solar Bears of the IHL before retiring in 2000.

This season Coach Krygier and the Wildcats reached the pinnacle by dethroning perennial contender Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 39–24, earning their first state championship. Todd Krygier led his team to a 30–5–1 record including a 6–0 playoff run that saw the Wildcats score 29 goals to their opponents' total of 4. Five of Coach Krygier's players were selected to All State teams, four First Team and one Second Team, while another player was selected for Honorable Mention.

It is worth mentioning Coach Todd Krygier also earned family honors this year by leading his Novi Wildcats to a 9–1 win over younger brother, Bryan Krygier's Clarkston Wolves in the state quarterfinals; also, Bryan Krygier's assistant coach is their father, Roman Krygier.

Mr. Speaker, after earning his first state championship and being selected as the Michigan High School Athletic Association's 2010 Division 1 Ice Hockey Coach of the Year, Todd Krygier deserves to be recognized for his dedication to the young men of Novi High School. In recognition of his effort and the honor bestowed upon him, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Novi Hockey Coach Todd Krygier, his wife Kim and their children Brock, Natalie, Grace, Cole and Christian on Todd's accolades and in honoring his devotion to our community and country.

URGING TURKEY TO RESPECT THE RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation urging Turkey to respect the rights and religious freedoms of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

In 1993 the European Union defined the membership criteria for accession to the European Union at the Copenhagen European Council, obligating candidate countries to have achieved certain levels of reform, including stability of institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, and human rights, and respect for and protection of minorities. Turkey, which began accession negotiations with the EU on October 3, 2005, has failed to recognize the Ecumenical Patriarchate's international status as the spiritual home of the world's oldest and second largest Christian Church including more than 300 million Orthodox Christians worldwide. Moreover, the Government of Turkey has limited to Turkish nationals the candidates available to the Holy Synod of the Greek Orthodox Church for selection as the Ecumenical Patriarchate and reneged on its agreement to reopen the Theological School at Halki, thus impeding training for the Orthodox clergy in Turkey.

This resolution calls on Turkey to respect the rights and religious freedoms of the Ecumenical Patriarchate by granting it the right to train clergy of all nationalities, not just Turkish nationals, and respecting the human rights and property rights of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Additionally, the resolution encourages Turkey to continue the achievement of processes and programs to modernize and democratize its own society and prove that it is ready to meet the criteria set forth by the Copenhagen European Council prior to its accession into the EU.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MAJOR GENERAL DAVID F. WHERLEY, JR., DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD RETENTION AND COLLEGE ACCESS ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce a bill, the Major General David F. Wherley, Jr., District of Columbia National Guard Retention and College Access Act, NGRCA, to permanently authorize funding for a program that provides grants for higher education tuition to members of the D.C. National Guard. The NGRCA authorizes an education incentive program, recommended by the late

Major General David F. Wherley, Jr., and his successor, Major General Errol Schwartz, who suggested that education grants would be useful in stemming the troublesome loss of members of the D.C. Guard to other units, in part because surrounding states offer such educational benefits to their Guards. I am grateful that the Appropriations Committee has provided funds in some years, most recently in 2010. Authorizing funding is necessary to ensure that D.C. National Guard members receive the same treatment and benefits as other National Guard members, especially those in states which provide the higher education benefits we seek for D.C. National Guard members. The Guard for the Nation's Capital has a severely limited ability to compete for the pool of regional residents, who find membership in the Maryland and Virginia Guards more beneficial. A competitive tuition assistance program for the D.C. National Guard will provide significant incentives and leverage to help counteract declining enrollment and level the field of competition. The D.C. National Guard is a federal instrument that is not under the control of the mayor of the District of Columbia, which we are trying to change for local emergencies. The federal government supports most other D.C. National Guard functions and should support this small benefit as well.

The small education incentives in my bill would not only encourage high-quality recruits, but would have the important benefit of helping the D.C. National Guard to maintain the force necessary to protect the federal presence, including Members of Congress and the Supreme Court, and visitors if a terrorist attack should occur. I am pleased to introduce the bill based on the advice of Guard personnel, who best know what is necessary.

It is especially important for the D.C. National Guard to be able to attract the best soldiers, given the unique mission it has to protect the federal presence here, in addition to D.C. residents. This responsibility distinguishes the D.C. National Guard from all other National Guards. The D.C. National Guard is specially trained to meet its unique mission.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

CONGRATULATING JAN GONG

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent Jan Gong and congratulate her as she is named a finalist in the Intel Science Talent Search 2011. The Intel Science Talent Search is America's most prestigious science competition for high school seniors. Jan is one of only 40 finalists nationwide.

Jan's project, ''The Effect of High Glucose Levels On Morphine Signaling in Mytilus Edulis: Novel Implications for the Treatment of Obesity and Diabetes,'' studied the addictive nature of sugar by using blue mussel as an animal model and found that high levels of glucose can regulate morphine receptors and cause morphine release, suggesting that sugar can be addictive. She also found that high levels of glucose can greatly increase the release of nitric oxide (NO), whose metabolites can contribute to vascular damage, but that naloxone, which counteracts the effects of morphine, and L–NAME, a NO synthase inhibitor, can block the effect of glucose on NO release.

As a student at Garden City High School, Jan has participated in numerous science research programs including, Columbia University Science Honors Program, Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY), Research Science Institute and Intel Science Talent Search. In addition, Jan has perfect SAT score, is first in her class of 275 at Garden City High School where she is captain of both the math team and the varsity fencing team, president of the Latin Honors Society, and principal cellist in the chamber orchestra. She has been recognized by the National Honor Society, American Chemistry Society, and Latin Honors Society and is a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist.

As a senior member of the Education and Workforce Committee, I am truly impressed by Jan's accomplishments. I am pleased to see that Jan values not only her education, but also service and volunteerism within her community. In her spare time, Jan volunteers at the Winthrop University Hospital, arranges concerts at nursing homes and helps her fellow students as a peer tutor. Jan also expresses a deep affinity for the arts as an accomplished cellist. She has performed as the Principal Cellist with the Metropolitan Youth Concert Orchestra and has received perfect scores for five consecutive years during her participation with the New York State Scholastic Music Association.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride and admiration that I offer my congratulations to Jan Gong and commend her dedication to education and science.