

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-CARRY RECIPROCITY ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 822) to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a national standard in accordance with which nonresidents of a State may carry concealed firearms in the State:

Mr. KIND. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong support of the National Right-to-Carry Reciprocity Act, H.R. 822. Not only am I a proud cosponsor of this legislation but I am also a firm and committed supporter of Second Amendment rights. This legislation will ensure further protection of this vital right by allowing law abiding citizens to carry concealed weapons across state lines.

On November 1st of this year, Wisconsin became the 49th state to implement a concealed carry law. The first day the law went into effect, the Wisconsin State Department of Justice website had 400,000 hits and residents had downloaded 83,000 applications. It is clear that Wisconsinites were eager to take advantage of this new law. Given the strong interest this law has garnered in my state and in other states throughout the country, I believe that it is only logical to extend this right across state lines.

The bill allows law-abiding gun owners with valid state-issued concealed firearm permits or licenses to carry a concealed firearm in any other state that also allows concealed carry. In all actuality, with all but one state allowing concealed carry, this legislation doesn't break that much new ground. In fact, for the majority of states that have had concealed carry laws on the books for some time now; they have been recognizing permits from other states for years. As can be the case, the state by state approach has caused confusion. This legislation will eliminate any uncertainty by putting in place simple and concise federal policy.

This is a widely supported bill with 245 bipartisan House cosponsors. Given the strong support here in Congress and the increased interest in states throughout the country, it is my hope that the Senate will follow our lead and pass this legislation. It would be a great victory to have this become law this year.

DR. MANERT KENNEDY TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marine Corps Veteran Dr. Manert Kennedy. Dr. Kennedy was a professor at Adams State College and CU Boulder, where he

taught Genetics and Biology until retiring in 1995.

Dr. Kennedy is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. His career in education and in the military afforded him the opportunity to conduct research in over 48 different countries, including making 27 separate trips to Korea where he first visited while serving in the Marines in 1951.

Dr. Kennedy reflected upon his time in the military, including his participation in the battle of Chosin Reservoir, stating that it "defined [him] as the person [he is] today."

After his service, Dr. Kennedy attended Butler University where he played football, earned his bachelor's degree, and started a family.

Dr. Kennedy is a shining example of the honor and devotion that so many of our uniformed servicemen and women exemplify.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Dr. Manert Kennedy. His love for his country and sense of duty and responsibility is something we should all strive to replicate.

SUPPORT FOR THE ARTIFICIAL PANCREAS

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for advancement of the artificial pancreas, a transformative medical technology under consideration at the Food and Drug Administration that would help millions of Americans who suffer from diabetes.

In my home state of Ohio, approximately 900,000 people have diabetes—nearly 10 percent of the state's population. This unforgiving disease is not only the leading cause of kidney failure and adult-onset blindness, it also causes more than 80,000 amputations each year and increases the chance of suffering a heart attack.

The toll of diabetes is not limited to health. Americans spend \$174 billion each year in diabetes-related treatments, with a significant portion of that figure going toward addressing long-term complications. With millions of lives at stake and billions of dollars being spent, this is a disease that demands our attention and we must strive to find better treatments for it until a cure is found.

The artificial pancreas is one such technology that automatically adjusts blood sugar levels for people with type 1 diabetes. With this technology, people will see optimal blood sugar control and as a result, significant reductions in complications associated with type 1 diabetes. Furthermore, an independent study has projected that Medicare will save \$2 billion over 25 years once this technology is finally available to the diabetes community.

Currently, this technology is awaiting draft guidance from the Food and Drug Administration as to how clinical trials can proceed. The

FDA has a self-imposed deadline of December 1st to issue this draft guidance and it is my sincere hope that they will not only meet this goal, but will give full credence to clinical expert recommendations so as to assure that this life-saving technology can safely and quickly be put in the hands of the people who need it.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS TO COMBAT BULLYING IN SCHOOLS

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, a fundamental principle of our nation's education system is that all schools should provide students with a safe environment that allows them to learn without fear of harassment or discrimination. Unfortunately, we are not doing nearly a good enough job to provide this type of environment for our children, as far too many students go to school every day facing anti-LGBT bullying and discrimination. Allowing this sort of atmosphere to exist anywhere is unconscionable and wrong.

Over the last fifty years, the federal government has taken action to require that all schools receiving federal funds prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, and age. These laws are now in desperate need of updating, in order to expressly protect students from discrimination and harassment on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. This gap has left students and guardians with limited legal recourse in case of discrimination and harassment, and the federal government currently faces a dearth of information on how deep the problem runs. As a result, I am adding my name as a cosponsor to H.R. 998 and H.R. 1648 to help address these issues. While this law would place additional reporting requirements on cash-strapped school districts, I hope the federal government can work with states to share in this burden.

Studies have shown just how detrimental an impact this type of treatment can have on LGBT youth. Among the many potential consequences of anti-LGBT bullying are increased absenteeism, academic underachievement, and serious health consequences. The need for this legislative change has only been made more acute recently, as we have seen far too many tragic deaths arise from the terrors of bullying in schools. I refuse to stand by and let any more suicides occur among students who were not sufficiently protected from harassment at school.

While these bills address discriminatory activities occurring on school grounds, we must also encourage parents in every state to provide safe, healthy environments at home. This

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

is particularly important as we continue to see a steep rise in cyber bullying, which can further isolate youth in desperate need of an open and honest environment. I look forward to working with my colleagues to modernize our federal laws to recognize this serious and growing problem as well.

A TRIBUTE TO JEFF MANTO AND
THE 21ST CENTURY LEARNING
CENTER IN BRISTOL BOROUGH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jeffrey Paul Manto, former Major League Baseball player and longtime resident of Bristol, Pennsylvania. This Saturday, Jeff will be honored by the 21st Century Learning Center in Bristol Borough as "Person of the Year," for his community support and involvement with the center's After School Steering Committee.

Mr. Manto was born at Lower Bucks Hospital in Bristol, Pennsylvania on August 23, 1964. Jeff was the third of four children of Michael and Antoinette "Toni" Manto. His father was a Magisterial District Judge in Bristol Borough and his mother was a homemaker. Mike and Toni encouraged all of their children to excel in every arena in which they participated. This encouragement was the guiding force that helped Jeff develop his baseball acumen, which was the predominant sport played on the streets in his closely knit neighborhood, called the "Avenues." At Bristol High School, Jeff was a star athlete. He was the first student-athlete in Bucks County to pass for 1,000 yards in football and score 1,000 points in basketball in the same year. Often overlooked, Jeff also struck out nearly 100 hitters during the baseball season that year.

In 1982, Jeff Manto was selected to All League and All-County first teams in football, basketball and baseball. He was subsequently spotted by a scout and drafted by the New York Yankees, but instead chose to accept a baseball scholarship to Temple University after considering other colleges with equal or better offers to play either football or basketball. His passion was the game of baseball. At Temple, Jeff set the single season record for homeruns and still holds the all-time batting average of .441.

After three years playing Temple baseball, Jeff was drafted in 1985 by the California Angels. By 1990, Manto was a dominant player in the game. He made his Major League debut with the Cleveland Indians and later that year hit his first professional major league homerun, in front of dozens of family members and friends, at Yankee Stadium. By the end of his professional baseball career, Jeff played in three World Series on three different teams: the Philadelphia Phillies, the Cleveland Indians, and the New York Yankees.

Jeff retired from playing professional baseball in 2000 and is known today as one of the game's greatest all-around utility players, recognized for his power hitting and homerun swings. Often referred to as "Mickey Manto," Jeff is the only player from the area with his bat on display at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

On December 7, 1991, Jeff married Denise Louise Sabol of my hometown of Levittown. Jeff and Denise have three children, Gabrielle, Andrea, and Jeffrey Jr. Beyond his career in baseball, Jeff continues to be involved in various community activities in our area, including scouting, coaching, and helping out at the Learning Center in Bristol. Accordingly, for his outstanding athletic, civic, and charitable contributions, Jeff Manto is being honored today.

At the Bristol Borough 21st Century Community Learning Center, children have the opportunity to enrich their lives. Programs and services provided at the Learning Center, which are free and available to Borough residents in grades 6 through 12, include access to tutoring, academic, and cultural enrichment activities. Some of those activities include SAT Prep help, Hip Hop studies, sports, and community service projects. These programs provide opportunities for students to grow socially and emotionally and help them stay away from high-risk activities. Over 200 students attended programs and services in 2010-2011, and an independent report authored by the Bucks County Intermediate Unit that documents students' achievement gains substantiates the level of satisfaction with the Learning Center expressed by teachers and parents.

Thank you once again to Jeff Manto and the Bristol Borough 21st Century Community Learning Center for all that you do for our community. Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and devotion to bettering Bucks County. It is my pleasure to speak on your behalf today, and I am truly honored to serve you in Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to record my vote on the House floor for the McCarthy of New York Amendment No. 2 to H.R. 822 on Wednesday, November 16, 2011. I was in a meeting with U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, and others discussing how to move forward with the St. Croix River Crossing Project, a transportation project of critical importance to western Wisconsin. Had I been present, I would have voted against the McCarthy Amendment No. 2 to H.R. 822 (Roll No. 844).

CONGRATULATING CECILIO LAMAR
FOWLER, RECIPIENT OF THE 2011
MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Cecilio Lamar Fowler upon receiving the 2011 Milken Educator Award. Predicated on the maxim "The future belongs to the educated," the Milken Educator Awards have recognized over the last 25 years more than 2,500 teachers, principals, and specialists

who have made outstanding contributions to the education of K-12 students.

Fowler is a teacher of mathematics and geometry at Evans High School in Orlando, Florida. A native of Winter Park, Fowler graduated from Winter Park High School and the University of Florida. In only his second year at Evans High, Fowler has demonstrated a commitment to educating and mentoring, requesting the most challenging students be assigned to his classroom.

Fowler emphasizes the importance of education in student lives and believes nothing provides his students with greater opportunity in life than a good education. He has been praised by Evans High School Principal David Christiansen for reaching students previously considered "unreachable."

Fowler was awarded the Milken Educator Award for the dramatic improvement his students made on state and local tests and for the efficiency and industriousness of his model classroom, where Fowler encourages peer collaboration and works to help his students achieve confidence-building accomplishments, no matter how small. Fowler is the only 2011 Milken Educator Award recipient in Florida.

On behalf of the citizens of Florida's 8th Congressional District, I congratulate Mr. Fowler for his hard work, dedication, and leadership. He is most deserving of the 2011 Milken Educator Award. I hope his investment in Florida's students and Florida's future inspires others to follow in his footsteps.

CONGRATULATING THE ACADEMY
OF MODEL AERONAUTICS

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Academy of Model Aeronautics located in Muncie, Indiana, for their receipt of the prestigious National Aeronautic Association's Brewer Trophy for youth education. The Brewer Trophy is the nation's highest award for aerospace education and is awarded annually to individuals or organizations who make significant contributions to aerospace education in the United States.

The Academy of Model Aeronautics has a 75-year history of aviation education, and they have impacted millions of young people across the country. They have taught tens of thousands of teachers, community leaders, and students how to build and fly miniature aircraft. In addition to their educational programs, the Academy of Model Aeronautics has given nearly \$800,000 in scholarships to college-bound seniors pursuing careers almost exclusively in engineering, technical, and professional disciplines. The Academy is also strongly invested in science, technology, engineering, and math education programs.

I commend the Academy of Model Aeronautics for their receipt of the prestigious Brewery Trophy and thank them for their numerous contributions to the Muncie community, the State of Indiana, and the nation.

LIBERIA'S PRESIDENTIAL
ELECTIONS**HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Liberia on the completion of its second peaceful and democratic election. On November 15th, Liberia's National Elections Commission certified President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of the Unity Party as the President of the Republic of Liberia. The November 15 declaration followed a Presidential run-off election on November 8, which was required by the Liberian Constitution as no candidate received a majority of votes in the first round held on October 11.

I was encouraged by reports that the Liberian election process was deemed free, fair and transparent by some 4,800 domestic and international observers. The role that the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, the Carter Center and other institutions played was crucial in providing additional confidence in the process. I applaud the UN Mission in Liberia for providing a safe and secure environment in which voters were able to cast their ballots without incident on both October 11 and November 8. Furthermore, I applaud the Liberian people on demonstrating their commitment to peace and democracy.

I congratulate President Johnson Sirleaf and the newly elected members of the National Legislature, and I hope that they will work together to continue along the path to progress, peace, and prosperity that Liberia has already taken. At the same time, I express my deep regret over the decision of the Congress for Democratic Change, CDC, to boycott the run-off election based upon unproven allegations that the election process was fraudulent. I concur in the sentiments expressed by ECOWAS, the AU and the Carter Center that the CDC boycott deprived the people of Liberia of a dynamic vote in the runoff and created a climate of intimidation and fear in the country.

I was saddened by the violent protest that erupted on November 7, the eve of Liberia's runoff election, and I mourn the lives lost on that day, which will remain a shadow cast over an otherwise peaceful and democratic process. I'm pleased by President Johnson Sirleaf's efforts to set up an independent commission to investigate the incident and bring those responsible to justice. I firmly believe that reconciliation is essential to create a sense of national unity and purpose, and I call upon all political party leaders and their supporters to recognize the certified results of the Presidential and Legislative contests.

The United States will hold accountable any and all political leaders and their supporters seeking to undermine Liberia's peace and democracy by all means available, including the possible use of multilateral and bilateral sanctions.

It is now more important than ever that the United States continue to work with Liberia's elected leaders and stand by the Liberian people as they move to complete their journey into post-conflict success, and sustain the path

toward social stability and economic prosperity.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF MR.
BENJAMIN HICKMANN WRIGHT SR.**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Benjamin Hickman Wright, Senior who passed away on April 12, 2011. His beloved family is holding a memorial service on November 23, 2011. Throughout his lifetime, Mr. Wright exemplified the highest traits of fidelity to his country and family in a manner truly deserving of this great honor. Mr. Wright was an individual who came from a lineage that strove for excellence in all facets of their work. Over a lifetime of achievement and service to others, Mr. Wright embodied the ideals of hard work and dedication to his community, which is the bedrock of American values.

Mr. Wright was an individual who realized significant achievements throughout his life. This can be traced back to his family who attained advanced degrees in the early twentieth century. In fact Mr. Wright's grandfather and great uncle were the first African American physicians in Ohio. Mr. Wright's father was a top ranking life insurance salesman who also gave back to his community by teaching sharecroppers how to read, write and calculate the price of their produce and goods. After receiving a stellar education, Mr. Wright served in the armed forces during World War II in the European Theater as a First Class Petty Officer of the United States Navy. He was recently honored for his service with an Armed Forces Citation signed by President Obama.

From one generation to the next, it is evident that the Wright family has attained significant accomplishments and remained committed to excellence in their work. Mr. Wright maintained and advanced this work through his many accomplishments including his service in the military followed by his service as an Economic Advisor in Monrovia, Liberia. Mr. Wright would go on to become a business owner and an employee in several fortune 500 companies. By the 1980's he founded a nationwide coalition of civic and fraternal associations that served to empower and uplift others.

His commitment to serving his community and country and his accomplishments benefited and enhanced the lives of many citizens over several decades. His memory and work will be remembered by a grateful nation and I am pleased to add my voice as his family celebrates his legacy.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF RIALTO'S
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask Congress to join me in celebrating the City of

Rialto's 100th Birthday. Rialto has a long, rich history, and has grown into a city that is home to over 100,000 people. I have been fortunate enough to raise my family in Rialto. I am proud to live in this city, represent these people, and join them in celebrating this momentous event.

Ancient artifacts and traces of a village indicate that Native Americans inhabited this area between 1500 AD and 1800 AD. What happened to these people and settlements still remains a mystery. In 1769, the King of Spain awarded areas of Rialto as land grants to Spanish Dons. Following the cession of California to the United States, Mormons became the next wave of settlers in the San Bernardino valley. By 1854 some of these early pioneers settled in Rialto, constructing ranches and farms in their wake. This period gave birth to the international distribution of Muscat Grapes and the building of the oldest structure in Rialto.

The Semi Tropic Land and Water Company purchased 25,000 acres of land in 1887. The company helped develop and christen the town site. Hattie Merrill, daughter of the former Governor of Iowa, Samuel Merrill, named the town site after the Rialto Bridge in Venice, Italy. Within the same year, a railroad connector line was constructed in Rialto. Towns were located every 2,600 yards along the line, connecting Rialto to towns from San Bernardino to Pasadena. That year alone over 25 new towns were built. During the same year, a group of Methodists settled in Rialto. They originally came to build a college, but soon began to grow citrus in the beautiful climate of Rialto. Their farms quickly expanded to acres of citrus groves. In 1888, the Brooke School was built to educate the growing population. Many credit this group of Methodists for developing the Town of Rialto.

By the late 1800s, Rialto became home to a blacksmith, lumber yard, and a cement pipe manufacturing company. The first citrus association was established, and the first citrus packing house was built. Rialto's reputation for beautiful homes with shaded drives began to grow, and so did the population. In 1891, the Rialto School District was formed, and in 1907 the Chamber of Commerce was established. Over the next four years, the population grew to the point that the town supported 40 businesses and a newspaper. In 1911, Rialto was officially incorporated as a City.

For many years thereafter, the City of Rialto continued to grow, shipping citrus to every area in the country. Today those train tracks still run through the City, but are used on a much smaller scale—the area has matured and modernized. Throughout these changes, Rialto remains a great place to raise a family. My children grew up attending school and playing sports in the area. I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve this community both at the local and national level. My son, Joe Baca, Jr. still lives in Rialto and has the opportunity to serve our community as a City Council Member. On behalf of my wife, Barbara, and my children, Councilman Joe Baca Jr., Jeremy, Natalie, and Jennifer, we would like to join our neighbors in celebrating Rialto's 100th birthday.

HONORING NATIONAL ADOPTION
DAY

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, as a parent of two wonderful adopted children and a co-chairman of the newly established bi-partisan Congressional Caucus on Foster Care, I rise today in recognition of the 12th Annual National Adoption Day which is tomorrow November 19.

As we look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving, it is important to keep in mind there are over 400,000 children in foster care across the nation who will not be spending the holiday with a permanent family. Of these children, nearly 107,000 of them are eligible for adoption and waiting for a family.

In my home State of Pennsylvania, over 19,000 children are in Pennsylvania's foster care system. About 3,300 of these children await adoption.

Each year about 28,000 youth age out of foster care having never been adopted.

I want to issue a challenge those us here in Washington and around the country to make it easier for families to adopt children.

Our goal must be a loving, caring and safe permanent home for each of these children. For this to happen, courts, judges, attorneys, adoption professionals, child welfare agencies, religious and civic organizations needs to work together to finalize adoptions and find homes for children in foster care.

National adoption Day is an essential part of this effort.

For the past 12 years, National Adoption Day has been a nationwide attempt to raise awareness of the children in foster care waiting to find permanent homes and loving families. It is commemorated across the country with numerous events held each year to finalize the adoptions of children in foster care, and to celebrate all families who adopt.

The result is that since 2000, more than 35,000 children have been adopted from foster care on National Adoption Day. This year nearly 5,000 adoptions will be finalized in through these special events.

That is why I am gratified to be speaking in recognition National Adoption Day. I also want to thank foster and adoptive families across the country because of the important role that they play in the well-being of our children.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CANON
CITY NOON LIONS IN HONOR OF
THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 90th Anniversary of the Cañon City Noon Lions Club in my district in Colorado. For Ninety years, the Noon Lions have been dedicated to providing aid and assistance to the needy and less fortunate in their community. During the Lions Club International Campaign Sight First II, the Noon Lions were one of five Model Clubs within the

state of Colorado raising over \$32,000 for the program. This program helps under-privileged children from all over the world get much needed eye exams and medications. Last December, the Noon Lions raised over \$3,000 in a "Cash for Christmas" raffle in order to pay for appointments and surgery for a young girl with Amblyopic eye condition and a man with cataracts.

The Cañon City Noon Lions are dedicated to serving their community and the wider world. Ever since they started in the basement of a local YMCA building on November 22, 1921, the Noon Lions have tirelessly devoted their time, effort, and energy to fighting blindness, combating hunger, and aiding seniors and the disabled. With the introduction of the "Sight First" program the Noon Lions have screened the eyes of more than 5,000 children within their community and surrounding area. The Noon Lions look back at their legacy of community service with an eye on the future and on the service they will be a part of in strengthening their community. I am proud of the work they have done my district and I offer them my most sincere congratulations on their 90th anniversary.

A TRIBUTE TO THE FAMILY ALLIANCE FOR VETERANS OF AMERICA

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exceptional work that the Family Alliance for Veterans of America has been doing on behalf of our veterans, and to congratulate them on the recent launch of their cutting-edge website.

FAVA's Chairman, Rhonda Jordal, has been a tireless advocate for veterans and military families for numerous years. Because of her commitment, FAVA has been at the forefront of providing information, advocacy and support to our veterans and their families in their most crucial time of need. FAVA's nationwide assistance is aimed at helping with any difficult situation veterans or their families find themselves in. This program has found a niche that allows them to assist veterans through their own practices, as well as assisting government agencies in being more attentive and responsive to the needs of America's heroes.

FAVA's goal is to become a comprehensive repository of information that can assist veterans all over the globe, and the launch of their new website is a crucial step in that direction. At fava.westcare.com, families of veterans, and veterans themselves, can read and share their own stories regarding unexpected difficulties and experiences that they have faced. The message that FAVA wishes to convey to every veteran and their family is simple—you are not alone.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and an honor to represent Iowa veterans in the U.S. House of Representatives. No one has done more to secure the freedom enjoyed by every single American than our veterans and those currently serving in the armed services. It goes without saying that we must collectively do everything we can to deliver on the benefits and support our veterans deserve, and I am proud

to honor the Family Alliance for Veterans of America for supporting our veterans in such a tangible and meaningful way. Thank you.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 100TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE LUKENS
BAND

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The Lukens Band of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary.

Founded in 1911 by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lukens Huston, the first meeting of the Lukens Mission Band brought together fifteen youngsters with little or no musical ability. Today, they number in excess of 40 musicians. The Band performs about 60 times per year and has four subgroups known as the Lukens Marching Band, Lukens Concert Band, Lukens German Band and Lukens Small Ensemble. In its many forms, the Band plays for a wide variety of venues such as community concerts, the Coatesville VA Hospital, senior centers, retirement communities, corporate events and community celebrations.

In 1994, the Band incorporated as The Lukens Band, to reflect a broader scope as a non-profit public organization, the end of support by the Lukens Steel Company, and the start of support from The Huston Foundation and The Stewart Huston Charitable Trust.

Mr. Speaker, in light of its years of service to the community and outstanding entertainment and musical accomplishments, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing The Lukens Band in celebration of its 100 year anniversary.

HONORING ALEXANDER SCOTT
MASON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alexander Scott Mason. Alexander is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alexander has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alexander has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alexander has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alexander Scott Mason for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on November 14, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted on the following: rollcall No. 837—S. 1412 (Sen. KERRY), “aye”; rollcall No. 838—H.R. 298 (Rep. CARTER), “aye”; rollcall No. 839—H.R. 2422 (Rep. GRIMM), “aye”.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 855 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

RECOGNIZING MAYOR MARILYN STEPHAN'S LEADERSHIP IN THE CITY OF BERKLEY, MICHIGAN

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Mayor Marilyn Stephan, as she retires from her position as Mayor of Berkley, Michigan, after more than a decade of service to her community and region.

A longtime resident of Berkley, Marilyn's record of service long predates her involvement on Berkley's City Council and as Mayor.

In a demonstration of her commitment to building a stronger community, Marilyn dedicated her professional life to educating and nurturing the development of her students. As a teacher, first in Clarenceville and later in the Berkley School District, Marilyn made development of future generations her daily responsibility. Whether it was teaching English or home economics, Marilyn brought with her an unwavering commitment and passion for educating her students in the skills they needed to become successful. As a debate coach, Marilyn helped her students refine their critical thinking and public speaking skills, both of which are required for being an effective leader.

As a passionate educator in her community, Marilyn's work during her tenure did not end in the classroom. In her home, Marilyn raised her children with the same zeal she displayed in her teaching and today is a proud mother and grandmother. As an impassioned leader among her fellow educators, Marilyn also served a decade as President of the Berkley Education Association.

It is no surprise that a quiet retirement was unlikely for Marilyn and in November 1999 she was elected to the Berkley City Council and later as Mayor of Berkley in 2005. In her role as Mayor, Marilyn has been a strong voice of the needs of her community in important regional organizations like the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, the Woodward

Avenue Action Association and the South Oakland County Mayors Association. Under her leadership, Berkley has successfully implemented major road improvements, stabilized its financial outlook and updated its master plan, all of which made Berkley a better place to live for its residents. As a testament to the improvements she oversaw, Forbes Magazine and Business Week named Berkley one of America's best affordable suburbs in 2010.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Marilyn's lifelong career of service to Berkley, Michigan. I know that her dedication, passion and leadership will be greatly missed within Berkley's city administration and by its neighboring communities. I wish Marilyn many happy years with her children and grandchildren in retirement and I know she will continue to be a voice of positive change in her community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, I was detained in a meeting and inadvertently missed a vote in a series of recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on rollcall vote No. 850 (on agreeing to the Cicilline amendment to H.R. 822).

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL “DAN” SISEMORE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Daniel “Dan” Sisemore who passed away on November 11, 2011 in Newport Beach, California. Dan was a pillar of the community in Corona, California and he will be deeply missed.

Dan Sisemore was born on November 9, 1934, in California. In 1952, Dan and his father began work in the construction industry. With just one truck they founded the company More Truck Lines. The business grew and in 1969 they started All American Asphalt with an asphalt plant in Westminster, California. The company has grown exponentially over the years and now owns an aggregate quarry in Corona, California and six asphalt plants throughout the region. All American Asphalt is not only a material supplier but also a fully integrated road construction firm. All American Asphalt employs 850 employees, all of whom took inspiration from the founder and leader: Dan Sisemore. Dan was a visionary in the industry and the quintessential American entrepreneur.

Dan's hobbies and interests included golf, fishing, hunting and horse racing. He enjoyed the desert and spending time with friends at the beach. The way in which Dan lived his life should serve as reminder to others that the power of an individual with drive, perseverance and a stellar work-ethic can do great things.

Dan was the loving husband to Betty, brother to Cindy, father to Toni, Tracy, Donna and Mark and devoted uncle to Bob and Don. He was affectionately known to his grandchildren as “Papa.”

On Saturday, November 19, 2011, a memorial service celebrating Dan's extraordinary life will be held. Dan will always be remembered for his incredible contributions to business, his work ethic, generosity, and love of family. His dedication to his work, family and community are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Dan's family and friends; although Dan may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remains and will never be forgotten.

HONORING THE HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL OF PAINTING

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to represent a district along the Hudson River that is steeped in history and produced the first American school of painting in the mid-nineteenth century, called the Hudson River School of Painting. Its founder and spiritual leader was Thomas Cole, who, in 1825, sailed up the Hudson River to the Catskill Mountains and painted inspiring pictures of New York State sites that attracted instant acclaim. Thomas Cole was born in Bolton, Lancashire in northwest England in 1801. He emigrated to the United States in 1818, and around 1832, rented a small studio in my district called Cedar Grove. This is now known today as the Thomas Cole National Historic Site. Complementing Cedar Grove, and also located in my district, is the home and studio of Frederic Edwin Church, who was a student of Thomas Cole. During the last 40 years of Church's life, he created a 250 acre estate called Olana. Olana is a National Historic Landmark located in Hudson, NY, and I proud to represent this fine marker of our history, which is home to the Hudson River School of Painting. The painters that gathered here, among them Asher B. Durand, Jasper F. Cropsey, John F. Kensett, Sanford R. Gifford, formed the first coherent society of artists in America, and led the fine arts until the end of the Civil War. Today, their major paintings are seen in museums throughout the United States, including major federal buildings in Washington, D.C., such as the White House, State Department, and National Gallery of Art. They depict the landscape of America, and some have said these were the first environmental conservationists, who glorified our land and its contours in the mid-nineteenth century.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the effort to place creative bronze “Arches” historic markers along the Hudson River, marking where these artists painted. My colleague, Rep. ELIOT ENGEL, recently unveiled a Hudson River School of Painting historic marker at Hastings on Hudson, and others will be placed at Hook Mountain, on the Hudson River near Nyack, with a beautiful view of the Tappan Zee Bride and Haverstraw Bay, as well as at Newburgh, New York. Greg Wyatt, Director of the Academy of Art at the

Newington-Cropsey Foundation, has created these historic markers, and I encourage those that visit our region to view them, as well as the striking landscape and sweeping natural beauty of our Hudson River.

Mr. Speaker, it has been said that the Hudson River School of Painting led not only to the establishment of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, but also to the creation of the National Parks Systems begun under the late President Theodore Roosevelt. I salute the Hudson River School painters, who celebrated the ideals of American democracy, individuality, and illustrated themes such as nature, education, family, and chivalry. I urge my colleagues to take the time to review the influences of this American art movement and to have all Americans understand its impact on our culture. There are two paintings by Albert Bierstadt, a prominent member of the Hudson River School of Painting, that were recently placed on public view in the Capitol Visitors Center of the U.S. Congress. These works, "Discovery of the Hudson River" and "Entrance into Monterey," were purchased by Congress after the Civil War and are beautiful examples of this movement.

HONORING MICHAEL ANTHONY
MASON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Anthony Mason. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Michael has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on November 16, on rollcall No. 843, I mistakenly cast a "yes" vote in favor of the Woodall amendment to H.R. 822. I am submitting this statement for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to clarify that I am opposed to the Woodall amendment and had intended to vote "no."

I was delayed in reaching the House floor because of a meeting in my office and, as a result, I arrived on the floor just before the

vote was closed. Owing to this, I cast my vote in haste, which led to the resultant errant vote.

HONORING UNION COUNTY KEN-
TUCKY ON THEIR 200TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Union County in the First Congressional District of Kentucky on their 200th Anniversary. This momentous occasion not only celebrates the rich history of Union County, but the many thousands of residents who over the years have made it a vibrant and thriving community.

Union County was formed on January 15, 1811 and was likely named for the unanimous agreement of Henderson and Webster citizens to create a new county. Union County is rich in soil and farming is one of the industries that thrive in this part of Kentucky. Coal mining is also a large industry that continues to provide good jobs.

During World War II, Camp Breckinridge Training Center was established near Morganfield and between 1942 and 1946 more than 30,000 infantry recruits were trained there. In 1965 the Earle C. Clements Job Corps Center, which teaches vocational courses, was established on eight hundred acres of the original camp land. The Job Corps Center provided a labor pool for Union County industries and is the second largest Job Corps center in the nation.

Today, Union County attracts many tourists through U.S. 60, railroads, and a nine-foot navigation channel on the Ohio River. The county also hosts the annual Corn Festival and the Union County Fair. There are almost 16,000 people who are proud to call Union County their home.

To commemorate the county's 200th anniversary, community leaders and residents of Union County have planned over 16 different events to educate Kentuckians about the history of Union County and celebrate its residents and culture. It is my privilege to represent Union County in the U.S. House of Representatives and I hope my colleagues in Congress will join me in celebrating this community and its residents.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to attend votes on Thursday, November 17, 2011 as I was accompanying Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta on a visit to the Electric Boat shipyard in Groton, Connecticut. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Nay" on rollcall vote No. 854 (ordering the previous question on H. Res. 466, the rule providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules);

"Nay" on rollcall vote No. 855 (on passage of H. Res. 466, the rule providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules);

"Nay" on rollcall vote No. 856 (on passage of H. Res. 467, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2112, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes);

"Yea" on rollcall vote No. 857 (on agreeing to the Conference Report for H.R. 2112, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes).

THE WORLD DAY OF REMEM-
BRANCE FOR ROAD TRAFFIC
VICTIMS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, which will be observed on Sunday, November 20, 2011. I offer my thoughts and prayers to all those who have lost loved ones to road crashes. All over the world, in every country and locality, traffic accidents remain an ongoing peril and a source of preventable tragedy. As we embark on the Decade of Action for Road Safety, we should pause to remember who it is that we are fighting for.

Road traffic crashes kill nearly 1.3 million people every year and injure or disable as many as 50 million more. The leading cause of death throughout the world for people ages 10 to 29 is not disease or war, but road crashes. Even today, we can expect that 1,000 people under the age of 25 will die on the world's roads.

These numbers are dramatically increasing and place particular strain on developing nations, where crash rates are highest. In developing countries, road crashes have a dramatic impact on their fragile economies, costing an estimated \$100 billion and often exceeding the total amount received by these countries in development assistance. Furthermore, road crashes affect first responder services, health care services, and health insurance services, as many victims require extensive, and expensive, critical care, as well as follow-up care and rehabilitation.

In October 2005, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution which calls for governments to mark the third Sunday in November each year as World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims. The day was created as a means to give recognition both to victims of road traffic crashes and to the plight of their relatives who must cope with the emotional and practical consequences of these tragic events.

This Day of Remembrance also calls attention to the necessary policies needed to improve transportation management, infrastructure, vehicle safety, education, and post-crash care and rehabilitation. Here in the United States it is of the utmost importance that we continue to support public policies designed to reduce key risk factors like speeding, drunk driving, distracted driving, and the failure of

many Americans to use seat belts, child restraints, and other safety devices.

The Decade of Action for Road Safety has not been declared to merely raise awareness, but also to take action. We all use roads, cars, buses, and bicycles every day. It is easy to take our safety for granted. But too many tragedies remind us that road fatalities and injuries have an enormous impact on our lives. As Americans travel the world more and more and as our global society grows ever more close-knit, the pressing importance of our observance of the World Day of Remembrance only grows as well.

Mr. Speaker, no one should die because of entirely preventable traffic accidents. We must do everything we can to raise awareness and address the underlying causes. On this year's Day of Remembrance, let us pay extra attention to ways we can make the world a safer place.

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF
JON MARTHEDAL

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jon Marthedal, a third generation farmer from Fresno, California. Jon has been named Agriculturalist of the Year by the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce. Jon has been instrumental in enhancing the San Joaquin Valley by advocating for business opportunities and encouraging innovation in our community. A distinguished farmer and leader, Jon is certainly deserving of recognition by the Chamber.

Marthedal Farms has been a family operation since its inception in 1903. Upon immigrating to the United States from Denmark, Harold Marthedal, Sr. purchased 20 acres of property. Years later, his son Harold Jr. took over and worked to expand the size of the farm. Today, Marthedal Farms is operated by Jon and his son Eric. They manage about 700 acres of raisin grapes, table grapes, and blueberries.

Jon has been an important part of the agricultural community for many years. Upon earning his degree in Agricultural Business from California State University, Fresno, he began his career at Sun-Maid Growers in 1978. In ten years, he became Director, and then served as Vice Chairman before becoming Chairman in 1999. Through his progressive and innovative work, Jon has become a respected voice in matters pertaining to California agriculture.

Jon's passion and commitment to agriculture has been demonstrated by his enthusiastic membership and leadership within a number of agriculture-based organizations. He serves as Secretary of the Raisin Administrative Committee, Vice Chairman of the Agricultural Council of California, Chairman of the California Blueberry Commission, and is a member of the Board Restructuring Committee for CoBank—a lender to cooperatives. For over 100 years, Marthedal Farms has been an integral part of maintaining the San Joaquin Valley's status as the breadbasket of the world.

Jon and his wife Sandy have three children. Whether he is spending time with his family

and friends, or serving our community, Jon has always been known to be a man of principle and integrity.

I applaud Jon for his many years of work and congratulate him on his well-deserved recognition from the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in applauding and expressing appreciation for Jon's work.

NATIONAL NURSE PRACTITIONER
WEEK

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of National Nurse Practitioner Week.

This honorary week, November 13th through the 19th, celebrates the vital service that over 148,000 nurse practitioners provide to patients around the country. At a time when there is a shortage of primary care physicians, more and more Americans are turning to nurse practitioners to help with their medical problems.

Nurse practitioners are highly educated, licensed clinicians that provide a broad range of patient-focused care. Besides treating medical needs, nurse practitioners also focus on health promotion and disease prevention as well as health education that helps guide patients and assist them in making healthy choices in their day-to-day lives. Nurse practitioners improve the lives of Americans and help reduce health care costs. We should celebrate nurse practitioners as a crucial part of our healthcare system and a solution to many of the problems it faces.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing the important work of nurse practitioners across the nation.

HONORING MICHAEL DUANE
CURTIS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Duane Curtis. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Michael has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

MIKE WHITT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MINGO COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I want to call to my colleagues' attention, during these times of budgetary debate, the significant savings realized by the taxpayers of our country by the vision and work of one of my constituents, Mr. Mike Whitt, the Executive Director of the Mingo County Redevelopment Authority.

In pursuit of sound, forward-thinking economic development initiatives, Mike was light-years ahead of other jurisdictions when he began forging public-private partnerships to save taxpayer dollars, leveraging public funding and above all creating good paying sustainable jobs for families. No slick financing schemes; no hocus pocus accounting tricks here. Mike did his homework and did it well. He still does. Anyone, who has ever had the good fortune to participate in one of his project presentations, knows they have to be on their toes to answer detailed questions about what they can bring to the table.

Mike has travelled the country sharing his valuable time with agencies and associations to spread the word about how some old-fashioned hard work in planning economic development ventures upfront can save millions in the end. He has given freely of his experience and expertise so others can adopt his sensible and thoughtful approach to investing public funds to address citizen's needs for a darn good return on the taxpayer's dime.

As we debate ways to improve our budget in the coming weeks, I hope my colleagues will look to the results sound public investment can yield when that investment is married with private investment and properly managed. I am certain the Mingo County Redevelopment Authority will be happy to share their accomplishments.

In a larger sense, Mike Whitt serves as a bright beacon to all who strive to serve the public, administer public programs, and manage public funds. Our country owes Mike a debt of great gratitude for his work and his years of sacrifice away from family and friends to serve the public good.

Recently, Mike has been battling some health issues. Mike is a man of great faith, a strong fighter, who has the courage of his convictions. We know though he appreciates the power of partnership, so we welcome your thoughts and prayers for Mike and his family as he tackles this personal challenge.

TAIWAN AIRPOWER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, China should not dictate what America can or cannot do. But, when it comes to our Taiwan policy, it seems we kowtow to the wannabe empire of the East. China has over 1,400 missiles pointed at Taiwan, and military experts agree that Taiwan is losing its ability to even slow China

down if it chooses to attack. Yet China tells the U.S. “don’t sell F–16s to Taiwan” and so we don’t.

On September 21st, the Administration officially notified Congress of its decision to only offer Taiwan an upgrade of existing F–16A/Bs, rather than sell 66 new F–16 C/Ds as the Government in Taipei had requested. The C/D aircraft would’ve gone to replace the 30-year-old F–5s. Now, the Ft. Worth, Texas production line may close because of lack of new orders. This should not be an issue. Our good friends, the Taiwanese, want to buy them.

The U.S. needs to boost its economy and prevent Chinese aggression. This sale would’ve been good for everybody. Everybody, that is, except China. America has to do what is in our best interest. And, it is not in our best interest to give in to a brutal, communist regime while forsaking our democratic ally. I fully support selling modern aircraft to Taiwan.

And that’s just the way it is.

HONORING THOMAS MORAN AND
THE HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL OF
PAINTING

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important role played by the artists of the Hudson River School in the development of the conservation movement and the creation of America’s National Park System. In particular, I rise to honor the painter Thomas Moran, who came to prominence in the United States in the 1870’s for the landscapes he painted while accompanying the geological and geographic survey of America’s West headed by Ferdinand V. Hayden. During that era, the promotion of settlement and commerce in America’s West was a centerpiece of federal domestic policy, with a special focus on exploiting the area’s vast natural resources. However, watercolors by Moran sent back to Washington with Hayden’s scientific data helped convince Congress that certain areas of exceptional beauty in the West should be preserved in their natural state.

Shortly after Congress established the first National Park at Yellowstone, Moran’s 7 by 11 foot canvas “The Grand Canyon of The Yellowstone” was unveiled to the public at the U.S. Capitol. If any pictorial representation could do justice to the West’s natural treasures, it was the large-scale landscape style of Moran and his contemporaries. These massive paintings captured the popular imagination, compelling Congress to expand federal land holdings in the West and establish Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks in California and Mount Rainier National Park in Washington before the close of the 19th Century.

Moran later accompanied John Wesley Powell’s survey of the Utah and Arizona Territories, documenting the natural formations of what are now Zion and Arches National Parks. On this expedition, Moran encountered the natural wonder that would fascinate him for the rest of his life: the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River. In 1874, Congress purchased

Moran’s massive canvas: “The Chasm of the Colorado,” which he produced along with two dozen wood engravings for a widely read account of the Powell expedition published in Scribner’s Monthly magazine. Moran wrote of the Grand Canyon, which joined the ranks of the National Parks in 1912: “Of all places on Earth the great canyon of Arizona is the most inspiring in its pictorial possibilities.”

Mr. Speaker, later in life, Moran spent many years living and working in East Hampton, in New York’s First Congressional District, where the unique quality of light has attracted some of our Nation’s finest painters. However, we are truly fortunate that his prodigious talent found a fitting subject in the incomparable majesty of the American West. Along with his contemporary Albert Bierstadt and the other members of the Hudson River School, Moran introduced millions of Americans to our western lands and played a vital role in encouraging his generation to preserve America’s Crown Jewels—our National Parks—for the enjoyment of generations to come.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2112,
CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER
CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2011

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, this is not a perfect bill, but it is certainly worthy of our support. H.R. 2112 represents a fair compromise between both parties and is an example of how we can achieve concrete results for the American people if we roll up our sleeves and get to work. Earlier today, I called on Congress to skip the upcoming planned recess so we can accomplish the business of the American people. Passage of this bill will represent the first step forward in that regard.

There is much to be proud of in this legislation. H.R. 2112 provides \$2.5 billion for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which is \$334 million above the House-passed version of the legislation. This bill will give FDA the necessary resources to continue the implementation of the Food Safety Modernization Act, of which I am the author and will help keep tainted food off of our shelves. We will also restore our commitment to the most vulnerable among us by providing \$6.6 billion for the Women, Infant and Children (WIC) nutrition program, which is \$570 million over the House-passed level.

I have called on my colleagues to pass legislation that will invest in our infrastructure and H.R. 2112 will make small progress in that area. It includes \$500 million for a third round of TIGER grants, which have been critical in helping state and local governments to move forward on large, regional projects that will have significant impacts on their communities. The federal-aid highway program will receive \$39.8 billion, which is \$12.1 billion more than the House proposal, an investment that will result in 400,000 more jobs than what House Republicans supported. This bill will also include \$10.5 billion for transit programs, \$2.5 billion more than the House bill, which means DOT will be able to continue to support

projects that help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide commuters with an alternative to their personal vehicles when traveling to work or to run errands. I am, however, disappointed that this bill contains no funding for high-speed rail. I would remind my colleagues that we are continuing to cede innovative ground on this development to the Chinese, Japanese and French, and it is imperative we do not halt progress on President Obama’s vision to create national high-speed rail network.

H.R. 2112 will also invest in innovation by providing an increase of \$173 billion, or \$7 billion, for the National Science Foundation. This investment is critical to ensuring that the United States is supporting high-risk, high-pay-off ideas that the private market cannot or will not invest in. Such innovation will also be supported through an increase in funding for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, which helps small to medium-sized manufacturers to become more efficient and more competitive in a globalized economy. It also maintains funding for research efforts in the Great Lakes, a national treasure we must preserve and which provides countless opportunities for recreation, conservation, and jobs.

Compromise is never perfect, and quite often neither side is fully satisfied with the outcome. But everyone will need to make sacrifices if we are to adequately address the unfinished business of the American people. And that is what this bill is—unfinished business. H.R. 2112 will ensure that Congress is back here to have the same debate on a different set of appropriation bills on December 16th. If Congress had passed the 12 appropriations bills individually, we would not be debating H.R. 2112 today.

We were elected to be civic leaders who could put public interests before self interests. It is not in America’s best interest to sit here refusing to support a bill that does not mirror each of our individual priorities. What is in America’s best interest and helps move us forward is to come together today and support a compromise that, while imperfect, gets the job done. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to serve that purpose by supporting this bill and continue to find ways to make meaningful agreements to pass legislation that will put Americans back to work and help rebuild our economy.

MISSISSIPPI AND VIRGINIA MAKE
HISTORY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, history was made last week in off-year elections with Republicans gaining a majority in the Mississippi House for the first time in years and Republicans gaining a majority in the Virginia Senate, along with the State House and the Governorship for the first time in 130 years.

With these gains, Republicans are now state legislative majorities in both houses in all states from Texas to Florida to Virginia and all states in between except narrowly in Arkansas.

I am grateful my home state of South Carolina is symbolic of change. Fifty years ago this

August, Charlie Boineau of Richland was elected the first Republican legislator of the Twentieth Century and the next year, State Rep. Floyd Spence was the first party switch ever leading in 1994 to David Wilkins elected the first Republican Speaker in the South. In 2010 all nine Republican statewide candidates were elected with the Governor being the first female in 341 years and only the second Indian American in national history. Seven out of eight federal officials are now Republicans.

Encouraging the extraordinary change are transplants from the Northeast and Midwest who have relocated for a milder climate and lower taxes.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GREATER
BEULAH BAPTIST CHURCH'S
108TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, It is my pleasure and honor to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of the Greater Beulah Baptist Church in Columbus, as the church's membership and leadership celebrates 108 years of providing spiritual guidance, moral counseling and dedicated community service to the residents of Muscogee County, Georgia. The congregation of Greater Beulah Baptist Church will celebrate their 108th anniversary on Sunday, November 20, 2011 at service ceremonies on the church's campus at 631 Sixth Avenue in Columbus, Georgia.

This upcoming anniversary ceremony will enable church members, local religious leaders, elected officials and other individuals throughout the Columbus, Georgia metropolitan area to pay tribute to the members of Greater Beulah Baptist Church who have positively contributed to the spiritual maturation and personal development of those in the Columbus, Georgia metropolitan area and beyond.

As one of Columbus, Georgia's long-standing institutions of Christian excellence, the Greater Beulah Baptist Church traces its historical roots back to 1903.

Throughout the last two centuries, the church's edifice has gone through numerous transformations, renovations and relocations. In the early 20th century, the church was located in a one-bedroom house on the corner of Dry Avenue and 12th Street. In 1904, the church relocated to a red church building on Magnolia Street and in the late 1940s, the church was reconstructed before moving to 6th Avenue.

Over the years the church has expanded its external and internal outreach efforts through the establishment of a Senior Choir; Gospel Choir; Junior Choir; Inspirational & Mass Choirs; Chester Medley Hayes Young Adult Choir; Golden Age Ministry; Layman Ministry; Prayer and Praise Team; Intercountry Prayer Ministry; Women Outreach Ministry; Greater Beulah Women Inreach Ministry; and Children's Church.

Over the years, the Greater Beulah Baptist Church has remained a dedicated community leader and supporter of projects that have assisted individuals in need. The church's Evangelistic Committee and Catherine Gordon Scholarship Fund have helped to advance educational charitable opportunities for students throughout Muscogee County, Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Greater Beulah Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia for all the many things this church's members have done and will continue to do to positively impact the lives of those seeking spiritual guidance and in need of charitable assistance.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF MS. SARAH BOYD

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the birthday of Ms. Sarah Boyd who turns 100 years old on November 22, 2011.

Born to Sanders Aye and Annie Aye on November 22, 1911, in Eastover, South Carolina, Ms. Boyd is the youngest of her four siblings, two brothers, and two sisters. She received her education from The Weber School in Eastover, South Carolina and lived in the city of Columbia, South Carolina where she met and married Ernest Boyd. In 1945, they moved to my Congressional District in Harlem, New York where she has remained ever since.

Nicknamed "Doll", it is remarkable to imagine all that she has been able to witness during her remarkable life. When she was born, the 27th President William H. Taft was in office and Jim Crow Laws ruled the land. She lived through the Civil Rights Movement during the Sixties and saw President Barak Obama elected as 44th President of the United States of America. She has seen our great nation in times of peace and in times of wars. She has lived through the Great Depression, and has been part of our country's strength and resolve during this past century. Let us look to her today for inspiration as we face many challenges.

A couple of her anecdotes are: "Make sure to get plenty of rest" and "Don't eat meat a few hours before going bed." But most of all, she often says: "God is Good" and "He will make a way! If you take one step, God will take two."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor such an extraordinary member of our community on her 100th birthday. I wish Ms. Sarah "Doll" Boyd, as well her daughter Annie, son-in-law Levi Carter, four grandchildren, five great grandchildren and twin great, great granddaughters many more joyous days.

RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 15 AS
AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize, along with my col-

league, Rep. GEOFF DAVIS, the date of November 15 as America Recycles Day, an annual event intended to raise awareness and promote the social, environmental, and economic benefits of recycling and purchasing products made from recycled materials.

I also wish to highlight the automotive recycling industry, which reduces our need for already scarce landfill space, and makes important strides toward preserving precious natural resources. During the recycling process, more than 80 percent of an entire automobile by weight can be reused, remanufactured or recycled. This process saves an estimated 85 million barrels of oil, which would have otherwise been used in the manufacturing of new or replacement parts.

In addition, the automotive recycling industry employs more than 108,000 workers throughout the United States. A majority of the businesses in this industry are small, and in many cases are owned and operated by families.

The Automotive Recycler's Association (ARA) is an international trade association which represents businesses in an industry devoted to the removal and reuse of still-viable automotive parts, and to the safe disposal of inoperable motor vehicles. Our Nation owes a great debt to the 4,500 automotive recycling facilities represented by the ARA, which help to recycle more than 11 million retired vehicles each year. ARA also serves as a regulatory body, utilizing a program that ensures each automotive recycling facility meets specific business, environmental, safety and licensing standards.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the annual occurrence of America Recycles Day, and in my commendation of the automotive recycling industry for all that it does to protect our environment.

HONORING TIMOTHY AARON
MASON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Timothy Aaron Mason. Timothy is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Timothy has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Timothy has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Timothy has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Timothy Aaron Mason for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

EXTENSION OF PORT SECURITY
GRANT PROGRAM THROUGH 2015**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, each day, U.S. ports move both imports and exports totaling some \$3.8 billion worth of goods through all 50 States. Additionally, ports move 99.4 percent of overseas cargo volume by weight and generate \$3.95 trillion in international trade. Given the importance of ports to our national economy, they must remain competitive and secure.

Thus, we must remain vigilant and make sure we are giving States the resources necessary, so they can address the constant security threats that continue to loom at our Nation's ports. Whether its scanning foreign cargo for nuclear material or patrolling essential waterways, port security has become increasingly important as we expand into a 21st century global economy. However, funding for these efforts continue to be a challenge as maritime security continue to expand and broaden with ever-evolving threats. Additionally, the economic downturn has forced cash-strapped States to cut funding for these vital security initiatives.

That is why I am introducing the Port Security Grant Act, which will extend the Port Security Grant Program through 2015. The Port Security Grant Program addresses these problems by allowing States to receive the Federal funding they need in order to secure their vital ports of entry. The program provides up to \$400 million for states to train personnel, expand port recovery and resiliency capabilities, and increase their capacity to detect, respond to, and recover from attacks involving explosive devices.

However, Congress has failed to extend this vital program beyond 2015. By not extending this program, we risk compromising the critical progress that has been made in port security and increasing the overall risk.

By passing this bill, we will ensure that States continue to receive the funding they need in order to protect our Nation's gateways to the rest of the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 854, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

ACKNOWLEDGING WORLD
REMEMBRANCE DAY 2011**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take a moment to pay my respects to road traffic victims in honor of World Remem-

brance Day, this Sunday, November 20th. Since 1993, this special Remembrance Day responds to the great need that road crash victims and their loved ones harbor for public recognition of their loss and pain.

The sense of grief and distress of this large group of people is all the greater because many of the victims are young and many of the crashes could have been prevented. The response to road death and injury is often experienced as inadequate, cruelly unsympathetic, and inappropriate to a loss of life or quality of life. In 2005, the United Nations took it global, endorsing it to be the third Sunday in November each year, encouraging NGOs, such as the Association for Safe International Road Travel to commemorate this day.

I am proud to say, this past July, Indiana became the 32nd state to ban texting while behind the wheel. On May 11, Gov. Mitch Daniels signed the legislation which became effective July 1, 2011. Distraction is still a factor in too many serious crashes, and the new law is a small step to help make Indiana roads safer—and a small initiative which I hope will inspire road safety initiatives worldwide.

It is estimated that 1.3 million people die in road crashes each year. Unless action is taken, road traffic injuries are predicted to become the fifth leading cause of death by 2030.

It is my hope that recognizing Remembrance Day will signal the importance the issue of reducing road danger to government.

GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP
WEEK**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Global Entrepreneurship Week, a celebration of the innovators and job creators who launch new companies. These innovators bring forth new ideas, drive economic growth and expand human welfare. This year, I am pleased to announce that Global Entrepreneurship Week, supported by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation in my district, will be celebrated in 123 different countries, directly engaging more than seven million participants.

During this week each November, Global Entrepreneurship Week inspires Americans from all walks of life through local, national and global activities designed to help them explore their potential as self-starters and imaginative innovators. These activities, from large-scale competitions to intimate networking gatherings, connect participants to potential collaborators, mentors and even investors—introducing them to new possibilities and exciting opportunities.

But G.E.W. is more than just an awareness campaign supported by world leaders and celebrity entrepreneurs. It is a rallying cry, calling us to unleash ideas and bring them to life—recognizing opportunities, taking risks, solving problems, being creative, building connections and learning from both failure and success. It is about challenging young people to think big and to make an impact on the world.

Entrepreneurs do three things—they advance innovation, build wealth for society, and create jobs. In fact, research from the Kauffman Foundation shows that almost all

net new jobs in the United States over the past 25 years have come from firms less than five years old. It's not surprising that policy-makers are looking to reinvigorate their economies by focusing on ways to stimulate new firm formation.

I invite my colleagues to take part in Global Entrepreneurship Week in your community. Support the innovators and engage the entrepreneurs that are a driving economic force in each of our districts. Together, we can encourage and empower aspiring and existing entrepreneurs to unleash their ideas and create the startups of the future that will change our country forever.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. BOBBY
MUKKAMALA**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend congratulations to Dr. S. Bobby Mukkamala as he completes his term as the youngest president of the Genesee County Medical Society.

Bobby and his family have dedicated their lives to providing health care to our community. His parents, his wife, his sister and brother-in-law are all physicians. Bobby fondly remembers playing as a child on the grounds of Hurley Medical Center while his mother, Dr. Sumathi Mukkamala made her hospital rounds. The twin sons of Bobby and his wife Dr. Nita Kulkarni, Nikhil and Deven, play today on that same playground while they wait for their parents to finish rounds.

Despite his young age, Dr. Mukkamala has extensive leadership experience. Bobby served on the Michigan State Medical Society Board as Young Physicians Section Chair in 2002 and was elected as a District Director to the Board earlier this year. Governor Jennifer Granholm appointed Bobby to the Board of Audiology for the State of Michigan. In 2008, Bobby received the American Medical Association Foundation Leadership Award.

Dr. Mukkamala was tapped in October of 2010 to serve as President of the Genesee County Medical Society where in his tenure he dramatically increased membership while encouraging his colleagues to focus on the many diverse needs of the Flint community. This was a realization of his dream to serve as President as his father, Dr. AppaRao Mukkamala, did in 1994. His commitment is best illustrated by the scholarship that was created by Bobby and his wife Nita at the University of Michigan-Flint and the endowment fund they established for the Community Foundation of Greater Flint.

Mr. Speaker, I find Dr. Mukkamala's dedication and leadership in the community a great inspiration and I am a better person for knowing him. That is why I ask You to please join me in congratulating Dr. Mukkamala on his many accomplishments as President of the Genesee County Medical Society. We graciously thank him for the leadership and vision he continues to bring to our community.

NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

HON. ROBERT T. SCHILLING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Adoption Day and to celebrate the many families who graciously open their homes and their lives to the most vulnerable and often forgotten children in our communities. As the father of 10 children I understand the importance of family, I also understand the many sacrifices parents make to provide the best opportunities for their kids. This is why I deeply respect adoptive and foster parents; they so readily take on additional expenses and sacrifices to provide a safe home for a child.

I recently joined the Congressional Caucus on Foster Care which is dedicated to protecting and promoting the welfare of the more than 424,000 children who are part of the foster care system in the U.S. The Caucus provides a forum where Members can come together to discuss ways we can improve the system and help these children make a successful transition out of care and into society.

Tomorrow, National Adoption Day will be celebrated across the country. There are more than 400 events planned to highlight the need for more families to open their hearts to children in need and to show gratitude to those who have taken that step. I want to thank each and every foster parent and adoptive parent for opening your safe and loving home to a child. Thank you for taking the time to enrich the lives of those children who need it the most.

ON THE OCCASION OF MARY LOUISE PETERS-HUGHES' 100th BIRTHDAY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the most special purpose and privilege of honoring the life of Mary Louise Peters-Hughes on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Mary Louise Peters-Hughes is a most remarkable woman, having lived through 100 years of the most changeable times in human history; she is also my aunt, big sister to my late father Herb, and the matriarch of our family.

Born on September 20, 1911, Mary came of age amidst the burgeoning era of women's rights. Her achievements embodied the kind of progress and leadership envisioned by that movement; throughout her life, Mary has held herself to a high standard of achievement and leadership.

In 1929, she graduated valedictorian from Rochester High School, after serving in the National Honor Society and as president of her senior class. Mary matriculated at Alma College, during a time when only 10% of young people sought higher education. Mary studied English and Latin and continued to be

a leader among her peers by serving as President of the Wright Ladies Hall and member of the Philamathion Ladies Social Society. Within four years, she graduated with a near-perfect grade point average. Finally, before embarking upon a career in teaching, Aunt Mary obtained her Master's Degree from the University of Michigan.

Aunt Mary was a devoted teacher, always encouraging her students to fulfill their best potentials. She did the same with family, too. Ever the supportive big sister, she sent my father money every week as he worked to get his own degree from her alma mater, Alma College. My father often talked of his deep gratitude for her vital support of him during those lean depression. After marrying my uncle, Halley Hughes, Mary took a leave from her career and devoted herself full time to family and raising her three sons: Bob, Dick, and Jim.

Later in life, Aunt Mary returned to her beloved career and for another 21 years. And as a passionate educator, Aunt Mary joined both the National Education Association and Delta Kappa Gamma to enhance the status and fight for the rights of her fellow teachers across Michigan and the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, though she is my beloved aunt, by any objective measure Mary Louise Peters-Hughes has lived an exceptional life, marked by academic excellence, an admirable professional career and a most compassionate and strong family life. Her story and path is truly one we can all look to as an example for our own lives. I, my wife and children and Mary's three children, six grandchildren and nine great grandchildren are grateful for the 100 years she has lived and the lessons and love she has shared with each of us. We wish for many more lived in health and happiness.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2112, CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2011

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Fiscal Year 2012 Conference report for the Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, and Transportation-HUD appropriations bill.

However, I regret the process that brought this bill to the floor. A full one third of this bill, the Transportation-HUD appropriations, has never been considered by the House before. This bill was not written in an open process and members were not allowed to offer amendments to improve the bill.

I am pleased that this bill included the funding I fought for to help our local residents recover and rebuild from the flooding which caused so much destruction in New Jersey. This bill provides \$2.3 billion in needed disaster assistance to ensure Central New Jersey's businesses and home owners have the resources they need to mitigate the damage and put in place preventative measures in advance of future disasters.

Further, this bill rejects the dangerous attempt by House Republicans to end the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and provides the program with almost \$200 million to help local police departments keep our communities safe despite the local budget constraints. While this represents a steep cut in funding from last year, these funds will help some local departments who are having to make tough decisions about firing police officers for a lack of resources. Going forward, we must do far more to get more cops back on the beat.

In these difficult times, this bill also denies an attempt to reduce funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Women, Infants and Children (WIC). SNAP and WIC help our fellow Americans during their most difficult times with some food assistance to help make ends meet. As millions of our fellow Americans are struggling in this difficult economy, this bill provides \$105 billion for domestic food assistance programs, an 18 percent increase from last year, to make sure they are at least able to keep some food on the table.

As a research scientist, I have long supported the important role of federal investment in basic research. I am glad this bill increases funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF) to \$7 billion, an increase of \$173 million. It also provides the necessary funding to continue the development of the James Webb Space Telescope that will allow researchers to find the first galaxies and help create jobs now. Further, this bill provides the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office a 29 percent increase in funding to ensure that our Nation's inventors are able to get their ideas to market and help grow our economy.

I am also pleased that this bill makes needed changes to ensure that the maximum loan limits for the Federal Housing Administration are maintained at a level necessary for areas with high cost housing like we have in New Jersey. With the housing market still weak, this will help provide some necessary stability and support for prospective home owners.

It is unfortunate that this bill freezes funding for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission which is tasked with implementing many of the commonsense Wall Street reforms we approved last year. Without additional funding the CFTC will struggle to prevent future financial crises, and not have the resources needed to fight oil speculation which is increasing the cost of gas at the pump.

Finally, I regret that this bill contains a number of funding restrictions that will limit our Nation's law enforcement officers from combating gun trafficking and prevent sensible regulations from being established to prevent guns from falling into the hands of criminals. Yet again the NRA has been given an early Christmas present with the inclusion of these special giveaways tucked into this bill without a vote or any debate on them.

This is not a perfect bill but it prevents a looming government shutdown. Further, it provides funding increases for a number of critical programs and rejects many of the dangerous cuts contained in the funding bills that the House previously approved. I support passage of this bill despite its pessimistic view of what America can achieve through ambitious funding of the programs covered under the bill.

HONORING 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF MESSIAS TEMPLE CHURCH AND THE PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF SUFFRAGAN BISHOP HARRY S. GRAYSON

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the honorable Suffragan Bishop Harry S. Grayson, who is celebrating his 60th birthday and 20th year of service as the pastor of The Messias Temple Church, as well as the 70th Anniversary of the Church in the community of Ypsilanti, Michigan. As friends and family and community members gathered last Saturday on November 12, 2011 to honor both anniversaries, my wife Deborah and I joined the service to honor the church and Pastor Grayson's service and care to the Ypsilanti community.

Time tends to show us what is really important in life. Since the founding of the Messias Temple on November 10, 1940, four pastors have dedicated their lives to spreading the Gospel and ministering to the well-being of the congregation and the community. As the church family grew in size, so did the church's community outreach and it was the spirit and leadership of these ministers, including Pastor Grayson, that have made the difference.

Over the past 20 years, many programs that promote the joy of giving have been initiated under the fine leadership of Pastor Grayson. They include the sharing of hot meals, holiday food giveaways, and vital prison, shelter, and re-entry ministries. I also applaud his commitment to promoting education in Ypsilanti through tutoring, financial assistance programs, and educational children activities. Pastor Grayson and his lovely wife Mary have raised their three children in the same place where he came of age and found his call for the ministry. His compassion, tireless efforts, and loving care for the Ypsilanti community is extraordinary and I am not alone in celebrating the amazing positive impact the church and Pastor Grayson have had in my district.

NATIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS WEEK

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, this week we recognize millions of Americans who have voluntarily joined together to meet important needs in their communities. National Community Foundations Week celebrates the generosity and shared efforts to common goals that mark the American character.

Community foundations make substantial contributions to our nation's well-being in areas such as health care and social services, education and the arts, economic development, and environmental protection. In 2010, community foundations gave an estimated \$4 billion to a variety of nonprofit activities.

Directed by volunteers, community foundations provide effective leadership in communities throughout the United States, often

supplementing or assisting in the coordination of public programs and other private services. They are one of the fastest-growing forms of philanthropy in the United States.

The Oregon Community Foundation exemplifies these virtues. For instance, its "Access to Higher Education" initiative includes a one-on-one mentoring program fostering post-high school education and a scholarship program directing millions of dollars each year to help Oregonians pursue advanced education. The Oregon Community Foundation also addresses needs like literacy on the North Coast, children's dental health in South Willamette Valley and community school programs in Central Oregon.

Please join me in recognizing National Community Foundation Week, and in gratefully acknowledging the nation's charitable organizations as well as the concerned individuals who donate their time, talent, and resources.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CANTON HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPION BOY'S SOCCER TEAM

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the Division 1 State Champion Boys' Soccer Team from Canton High School. On November 5, 2011, the Canton Chiefs eked out a 1-0 victory over Grand Haven, marking their 1st State Championship since 1994 when Head Coach George Tomasso was the Canton goalkeeper.

After having amassed a division record of 9-0-1 and winning the Kensington Lake Athletic Association's South Division, the Kensington Conference and the KLAA overall title, the Chiefs headed in to district play with overall regular season tally of 14-1-2. Canton leveled Ann Arbor Skyline 2-1 before taming the Northville Mustangs 3-0 in the district semifinal. The Chiefs caged the Novi Wildcats, winning 3-1 in double overtime to take the District 5 crown.

Moving on to regional match-ups, Canton stormed past Dearborn by a score of 3-0. The Chiefs blazed by Ann Arbor Pioneer 4-1 to claim the Region 2 crown. Canton's defense would prove impenetrable against top ranked Warren DeLasalle in the semi-final round as the Red and White grounded the Pilots 1-0, setting the stage for the championship showdown.

Facing Grand Haven in the final match of the season, a pair of sophomore midfielders gave the Canton Chiefs the only goal they would need. At 3:32 in the second half, a perfectly threaded pass led to an unstoppable low shot ripping past the Buccaneers' goalie into the middle of the net. Canton's defense stymied the Bucs, giving the Chiefs the right to hoist the Michigan High School Athletic Association Division 1 Championship trophy.

Mr. Speaker, with a season record of 24-1-2 and having allowed only three goals during their entire playoff run, the 2011 Canton Chiefs deserve to be recognized for their determination, achievement, spirit and effort. I ask colleagues to join me in congratulating the Chiefs for obtaining this spectacular title and in honoring their devotion to our community and country.

IN COMMEMORATION OF WORLD REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, as a co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Global Road Safety, a caucus dedicated to supporting safe road travel worldwide, I rise to commemorate World Remembrance Day.

World Remembrance Day was established to honor the memory of those who have been injured or killed in traffic crashes around the world. The day was set aside as a sign of the world's commitment to preventing road traffic deaths, to educating drivers and pedestrians about the hazards of road travel and to improving the safety of our roads.

Road crashes are the leading cause of death globally for people between the ages of 5 and 29 years old. According to the 2009 Global Status Report on Road Safety, nearly 1,300,000 people globally die in road crashes each year. Unless action is taken, it is predicted that road traffic injuries could double by 2030, killing an estimated 2,400,000 people per year.

The hazards of road travel are a persistent problem regardless of a country's wealth. According to a report by the Governors Highway Safety Association, a body representing the safety departments from around the U.S., the overall number of pedestrian fatalities in this country is increasing.

Statistics such as these are the rallying call of a growing number of public safety groups like the Association for Safe International Road Travel. Due to ASIRT's determined advocacy, there is now an increased emphasis being placed by American officials on providing our citizens with the tools they need to travel safely while abroad. ASIRT's encouragement influenced the Department of State's decision to post road safety information on its website and to offer safe driver training at its missions around the world.

I am proud of my association with ASIRT. Its commitment to raising awareness about the hazards of road travel is helping to make the world a safer place. On this World Remembrance Day, may we all take a moment to reflect on the importance of road safety.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE AND THEATRICAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF SHAUNEILLE PERRY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with great cultural pride to join Byron Lewis, CEO of Uniworld Group, Woodie King, Jr., Founder and Executive Artistic Director of New Federal Theatre and Voza Rivers, Co-Founder and Executive Producer of New Heritage Theatre to celebrate the life and theatrical achievements of renowned actor, author, director and educator, Shauneille Perry.

On November 13, 2011, at Harlem's landmarked Riverside Church, the Uniworld Group, New Federal Theatre and New Heritage Theatre will join hundreds of actors, playwrights, designers, technicians, and students

in the field of Black Theater to say thank you to Shauneille Perry for her historic accomplishments and contributions to American Theater.

Shauneille Perry was born on July 26, 1929 in Chicago to a very prominent African American family. Her father, Graham T. Perry, was one of the first African American Assistant Attorney Generals for the State of Illinois. Her mother, the former Laura Pearl Gant, was one of the first African American court reporters for the City of Chicago. Ms. Perry is also the niece of real estate broker and political activist Carl Augustus Hansberry and Africanist scholar William Leo Hansberry. She is also the first cousin of Carl Hansberry's daughter, Lorraine Hansberry, famous playwright and author of the 1973 Tony Award Best Musical, "A Raisin in the Sun".

Shauneille attended Howard University, where she was a member of the Howard Players under the direction of Owen Dodson. In 1950, she received a B.A. in drama from Howard. Her studies followed at the Goodman Theatre Art Institute in Chicago, where she received her M.A. in directing. She is also a Fulbright Scholar at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London.

In Chicago of 1957, Perry married Architect Donald Ryder. Several months later, she received national exposure as the second place winner in the 1958 Picturama Contest, an essay competition sponsored by Ebony Magazine. She took advantage of the prize with her husband, which was a \$4,000, three-week tour of Paris. By the end of the decade, the couple relocated to New York City, where it did not take long for her to establish herself as an actor.

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, she acted in various productions on the New York stage including *The Goose*, *Dark of the Moon*, *Talent '60*, *Ondine*, *Clandestine* on the Morning Line and *The Octoroon*. Her work as Lilly Ruth, a pregnant girl in the short-lived off-Broadway production of *Clandestine* on the Morning Line received particular notice. After her many successes as a performing actor, Shauneille switched her career toward writing, directing, and raising a family.

Following in the footsteps of Vynette Carroll, the first great African American playwright, stage director, and actor to direct on Broadway with the hit gospel revue, *Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope*, Shauneille became one of the first African American women to direct on the New York stage. Her notable works on the Broadway and on the national and international tour stage include one of her early efforts, the *Mau Mau Room*, at the Negro Ensemble Company. It was the first major stage production of a play written by J. E. Franklin.

Shauneille Perry staged the productions of *Strivers Row*, *Looking Back*, the music of Micki Grant by Rosalie Pritchett, *Sty* of the *Blind Pig* by Phillip Hayes Dean for the Negro Ensemble Company, *Moon* on a *Rainbow Shawl* produced by *Voza Rivers* at Harlem's Roger Furman's New Heritage Theatre, the award-winning production of Paul Robeson, and the original off-Broadway production of J. E. Franklin's play, *Black Girl* for Woodie King, Jr.'s New Federal Theatre, which became a film directed by another award winning actor and civil rights activist Ossie Davis.

A gifted writer of several plays including "Pearl," a short story collection and children's musical *Mio*, which she staged as a workshop production at the New Federal Theatre in the

fall of 1971. Shauneille's work includes *Sass and Class*, *In Dahomey*, *Music Magic*, *Daddy Goodness* with Clifton Davis; *Last Night, Night Before*, *Things of the Heart*, *Marian Anderson's Story*, and *Sounds of the City*, a 15 minute daily soap opera that aired on the Mutual Black Network in the mid-1970s for Byron Lewis' Uniworld Group, Inc. Shauneille Perry's other gifted works include the KCET teleplay of John Henry Redwood's *Old Settler* starring Phylicia Rashad and Debbie Allen, *Black Beauties for Equity Fights Aids* and the narrative for the 2005 Harlem Exhibition at the Museum of the City of New York.

An innovator and contributor of the Black Arts Movement, Shauneille Perry has been honored with four AUDELCO Awards, two CEBAS, the Lloyd Richards Award of Directing (National Black Theatre Festival), the Black Rose of Achievement (Encore Magazine), the distinguished Howard Player and Alumni Awards, and the Scholar Achievement Award from Lehman College of the City University of New York, where she was a professor of Theatre and Black Studies.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and a grateful nation in celebrating the life and theatrical achievements of Shauneille Perry as a living legend of the American and Black Theater. Her talented works and legacy will forever remain in our ever-changing world. With her accomplishments and contributions, the Black Theatre community has had the opportunity to help advance the quality and heritage of the American Theatre.

ACKNOWLEDGING WORLD
REMEMBRANCE DAY 2011

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take a moment to pay my respects to road traffic victims in honor of World Remembrance Day, this Sunday, November 20th. Since 1993, this special Remembrance Day responds to the great need that road crash victims and their loved ones harbor for public recognition of their loss and pain.

The sense of grief and distress of this large group of people is all the greater because many of the victims are young and many of the crashes could have been prevented. The response to road death and injury is often experienced as inadequate, cruelly unsympathetic, and inappropriate to a loss of life or quality of life. In 2005, the United Nations took it global, endorsing it to be the third Sunday in November each year, encouraging NGOs, such as the Association for Safe International Road Travel to commemorate this day.

I am proud to say, this past July, Indiana became the 32nd state to ban texting while behind the wheel. On May 11, Gov. Mitch Daniels signed the legislation which became effective July 1, 2011. Distraction is still a factor in too many serious crashes, and the new law is a small step to help make Indiana roads safer—and a small initiative which I hope will inspire road safety initiatives worldwide.

It is estimated that 1.3 million people die in road crashes each year. Unless action is taken, road traffic injuries are predicted to become the fifth leading cause of death by 2030.

It is my hope that recognizing Remembrance Day will signal the importance the issue of reducing road danger to government.

TOM CAVALERI

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor and highlight the distinguished career of Tom Cavaleri. Mr. Cavaleri's contributions to the Tampa community are worthy of recognition by all.

Born in Tampa, Florida, Mr. Cavaleri attended Plant High School. Upon graduation from the University of South Florida, he began his first job with Hillsborough County, establishing and working with youth groups in the Sulphur Springs area to offer them productive and positive after school activities. Since then, Mr. Cavaleri's career with Hillsborough County has spanned 39 years and several departments, all the while devoting himself to helping the disadvantaged and underserved.

Throughout his career, Mr. Cavaleri has served as a social worker, a front line supervisor, a section manager, and is currently the division manager for Social Services in Hillsborough County. Through his work, he has improved the efficiency of customer service while also maintaining the compassion and human dignity so essential to an applicant during his or her time of need.

During his time as manager or director, Mr. Cavaleri has created innovative programs to improve program operations while also expanding the services available to Hillsborough County residents. This included designing and implementing a health care certification unit which centralized and streamlined enrollment processes, allowing front-line staff time to more effectively manage their clients, and leading the Health and Social Services department through a transition from crisis intervention to a case managed self-sufficiency model.

The Tampa community is proud to recognize Mr. Cavaleri for his continued dedication to improving the lives of Hillsborough County residents and, most especially the lives of those most in need. His outstanding commitment to improving the lives of others has made him an inspirational community leader and a true unsung hero. I ask that you and all Americans recognize such a remarkable citizen for his contribution and service to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRIGADIER
GENERAL STEPHEN G. SANDERS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Brigadier General Stephen G. Sanders for his dedicated service as the Deputy Commanding General for the 36th Infantry Division of the Texas Army National Guard and welcome him home to the 26th District of Texas.

I met BG Sanders on my last two visits to Iraq. Like so many other great men and

women of our armed forces, BG Sanders and his family have repeatedly sacrificed time together for extended periods to answer the call to serve his country.

Commissioned in May 1980 through the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps at Sam Houston State University, BG Sanders began his military career with Texas Army National Guard. His subsequent duties included various tactical, operational and strategic assignments, including commands of a combat engineer company, battalion and brigade. He was deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina, Stabilization Force (SFOR) 7 and on active duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III in 2004. Most recently, he was deployed to Iraq with his division headquarters where he assumed responsibilities to establish the U.S. Consulate in Basrah; assess, plan and build-out oil and gas infrastructure; and establish logistical conditions for the withdrawal of U.S. Forces from Iraq. BG Sanders has served honorably through each of his assignments and deployments and has received the Bronze Star and Meritorious Service Medal among additional commendation and service medals.

It is due to the selfless actions and sacrifices of the men and women like BG Sanders that we enjoy the quality of life and freedoms that are the envy of nations around the world. I am honored for the privilege to represent Brigadier General Stephen G. Sanders in the United States Congress. I, along with his family, friends, citizens and his safe return.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SPANISH AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR A BETTER COMMUNITY'S 45TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Spanish American Committee for a Better Community, an organization that has been addressing the most pressing issues of the Hispanic/Latino community living in Cleveland since 1966. It is celebrating its 45th anniversary on November 18, 2011.

The Spanish American Committee for a Better Community is the oldest and largest Hispanic human services organization in Ohio and serves more than 5,500 people annually. Its vision is to continuously enhance programs and services designed to foster self-sufficiency, career readiness, and wealth creation for individuals, children, and families, with a goal of creating socioeconomic stability in the community and in the entire Northeast Ohio region. It offers programming in several areas including family support, early childhood enrichment, educational training, home ownership counseling and employment training.

The success achieved by the Spanish American Committee is acknowledged by outside organizations. The United Way recognizes the Spanish American Committee as a partnering agency. The Spanish American Committee is a national affiliate member of the National Council of La Raza. Additionally, the United States of America's Department of Housing and Urban Development has certified the Spanish American Committee as a housing council site.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Spanish American Committee for a Better Community as they celebrate 45 years of community assistance.

INTRODUCING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT OF 2011

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the National Commission on Employment and Economic Security Act of 2011.

This legislation is a necessary and vital investment for our nation's workforce and their families. It will establish a national commission to examine issues of economic and psychological insecurity within our workforce that have been caused by employment displacement. Further, it will propose solutions, including recommendations for legislative and administrative action, to Congress and the President.

Since the recession began in December 2007, more than 5.1 million jobs have been lost. In October 2011, the unemployment rate remains firm at 9 percent, and it is much higher in many states like Florida, at 10.6 percent, and it has topped 11 percent in Michigan, California, South Carolina, and the District of Columbia.

Over the past year, unemployment rates have increased in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The scope of the economic downturn is so large that its impact is felt virtually everywhere along the economic spectrum.

While Americans lose their jobs and their incomes shrink, too often, they face the loss of their family's health insurance and, subsequent to the loss of income, even their housing. According to an American Psychological Association September 2010 report, money (76 percent), work (70 percent) and the economy (65 percent) remain the most frequently cited sources of stress for Americans. Perhaps even more disturbing, calls to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline have increased by more than 72 percent from 2007 to 2010.

Mr. Speaker, the mental health of the American worker will be integral on the road to economic recovery. Congress must face this problem head on and help the very people who are facing unemployment, loss of health insurance, home foreclosure, stress, increased violence, and depression. It is time that we create this Commission and get our nation back on track.

I believe that we have a responsibility to ensure the greatest possible assistance to our nation's workforce, whose commitment to economic participation has been a defining feature of the cultural fabric of our country. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY/MONTH NOVEMBER 18, 2011

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize November 19, 2011 as National Adoption Day, which celebrates adoptive families who have opened their homes to children placed in foster care. Today, states, communities, public and private organizations, businesses, families, and individuals come together to increase awareness of children in need of permanent homes and families.

Mr. Speaker, currently there are over 463,000 children living in foster care. These children have been placed in homes on the account of the physical, sexual and emotional abuse they have endured with their biological caretaker. My state of California currently has the largest foster care population with the number of youths in foster care tripling since 1981. These children deserve to grow up in a loving home that is safe, happy, and most importantly one they can call their own.

Since the first major effort to bring awareness to the need of adoptive families, which was initiated by former Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis and later proclaimed a month in November 1995 by President William J. Clinton, nearly 50,000 children in the system have been adopted yearly. American families have opened their homes to these children and provided resources and opportunities that allowed them to have a chance of claiming the American Dream.

Unfortunately out of the 463,000 children living in foster care, about 107,000 are available for adoption. 65% of children who are not placed in a permanent home emancipate themselves from the system often left unemployed, without a place to live and resorting to homeless shelters. Less than 3 percent go on to college and emancipated females end up four times more likely to receive public assistance compared to the overall population of the United States.

Measures by the government have been implemented to increase the adoption rate and make the process of adoption easier for families who seek to adopt. The Affordable Care Act increases and improves the Adoption Tax Credit. It allows the process of adoption to be accessible and affordable for families who want to nurture, care, uplift and open their home to a child. States can also receive incentives for increasing adoptions of children adopted from foster care. A project by the Department of Health and Human Services, AdoptUsKids, offers support to States and even tribes and territories to recruit adoptive parents. The project also provides assistance and help to families considering adoption or those who have begun the process.

Mr. Speaker, it is vital that we continue to create more programs, events and activities that will enlighten citizens of the United States on stories of children successfully placed in permanent homes, debunk myths about the process and acknowledge the thousands of children who could potentially become a part of these statistics. Through these efforts we can increase the rate of adoption, decrease the rate of homelessness among the youths in

this group and help develop future leaders and innovative thinkers of tomorrow.

To the families who have opened their hearts and homes to these children we celebrate you and your efforts to change the lives of these children. As the rest of us enjoy and share the company of our children and extended family members, let us not forget those children who will not have the same opportunity to do the same. Let us not forget the children who will not be able to celebrate the holiday season in a warm, loving, and happy home they can call their own. Let us remember these children and work towards positively affecting these children's lives and securing their success in the future.

THE NEED TO PROTECT
PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. ROSS of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, earlier this summer, Congress passed a bipartisan, compromise agreement—known as the Budget Control Act of 2011—to raise the debt ceiling in two stages by 2013. The new law cuts spending by more than it increases the debt limit and it does not raise any taxes.

Specifically, the Budget Control Act will reduce the deficit by more than \$2 trillion over the next 10 years. To do so, it directly specifies \$917 billion in deficit cuts now and requires at least an additional \$1.2 trillion in savings by December 23, 2011. Tasked with finding these deficit cuts is the 12-member, bipartisan and bicameral Joint Committee on Deficit Reduction, also known as the “Super Committee.”

According to the new law, the Super Committee must recommend a plan to Congress by November 23, 2011, that cuts the deficit by at least \$1.2 trillion in ten years. Then, Congress has until December 23, 2011, to pass the plan on a straight up-or-down vote, meaning no amendments and no filibusters allowed. If Congress fails to pass the plan or comes up short, then across-the-board spending cuts would automatically take effect, split evenly among defense and non-defense spending.

As we are approaching the November 23 deadline, I continue to believe that we need to make serious changes to our budget that will provide necessary savings to help stabilize our long-term financial security. However, any changes that take place over the long run must not be at the expense of our seniors. We absolutely cannot reduce the deficit by cutting seniors' benefits or jeopardizing the stability of programs that they rely on. This is not what I want and this is not what the American people want.

Over 20 million Americans aged 60 and older are economically insecure—living at or below 250 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). The FPL does not account for the rising cost of living seniors experience as they age, which can include illness, loss of a spouse, or care for a disabled spouse, adult dependent child, or grandchildren.

Many seniors rely on fixed incomes, receiving on average \$1,081 in Social Security benefits, \$401.70 in Supplemental Security Income, and/or \$297 in public assistance each

month. Women fare worse than men, with 56% economically disadvantaged compared to 30% of men. Weekly earnings vary by age and gender. Men aged 55 and older have the highest average weekly earnings at \$965, while women earn \$744.

In August 2011, 1.7 million Americans aged 55 and older were actively seeking work. The unemployment rate for mature workers in this age group is 6.6 percent. The average duration of looking for employment is 44.6 weeks.

These are only a few statistics highlighting the economic difficulties many of our nation's elders face.

I believe that reducing the federal budget deficit is important to our nation's economic future and will require difficult choices and shared sacrifice. However, spending cuts cannot be made at the expense of economically disadvantaged seniors. Due to the recent economic downturn, more seniors than ever need assistance and support to make ends meet.

The Super Committee and Congress must be mindful of this as any possible changes are made to senior related programs and benefits.

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT
FROM NOVEMBER 18TH

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today the House, as required by the Budget Control Act, voted on a Balanced Budget Amendment (BBA) to the Constitution. It is disheartening that we could not get the required two-thirds votes needed to pass the BBA. With the National Debt topping \$15 Trillion this week and our country continues to reel from the effects of irresponsible government spending, now more than ever, Congress needed to take bold action to permanently stanch the bleeding.”

Unfortunately, the BBA was dead on arrival in the House after President Obama announced his formal opposition to the legislation. Today's vote proves that Washington is not serious about solving our Nation's spending problem. Forty-nine out of fifty states have set an example for Washington by passing BBA's of their own. As Hoosier families continue to struggle to live within their means, the President and House Democrats clearly believe those same rules shouldn't apply to Big Government. Washington continues to borrow 40 cents of every dollar it spends, robbing Peter to pay Paul in a vain attempt to perpetuate the existence of the federal government's bloated bureaucracies. The system is broken and they simply refused to see the reason in this common sense measure. The President and his like minded cronies instead have chosen to reduce this debate to election year scare tactics by falsely claiming to seniors that the BBA will kill Social Security and Medicare all the while continuing to stoke the coals of their burgeoning class war, rather than work with their colleagues across the aisle to stave off out of control spending and get American's back to work. In defeating the balanced budget amendment they have made their priorities clear.

MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL STATE
CHAMPION CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge Michigan's Division 1 State Champion Cross Country team from Milford High School. On November 5, 2011 the Milford Mavericks outran the Hartland Eagles to claim the title, placing three runners among the state's top five finalists.

After a season that saw great success in both dual meets and invitationals, Milford won the West Division of the Lakes Conference in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association with a record of 5-0. The Eagles placed 2nd in the talent laden Lakes Conference meet behind Hartland. Moving on to the undeniably toughest MHSAA Regional, the Eagles' 55 point total topped conference rivals Hartland and Lakeland with 83 and 94, respectively.

Head Coach Brian Salyer's harriers were determined to take the state title as the starter's pistol sounded at Michigan International Speedway. The Kensington Lake Activities Association Lakes Conference placed an incredible four teams in the top five state finalists. Milford avenged the stinging conference loss to Hartland by legging out a 1st place finish of 128 over 2nd place Hartland's 172. Waterford Mott took 3rd with 177 and Lakeland finished 5th with 188.

Mr. Speaker, the 2011 Milford Mustangs deserve to be recognized for their determination, achievement and spirit, and I am very proud of their fortitude and effort. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Mavericks for obtaining this spectacular title and in honoring their devotion to our community and country.

ON THE OCCASION OF DANIEL
BENTON'S RETIREMENT FROM
THE BERKLEY CITY COUNCIL
AFTER FIFTEEN YEARS OF
SERVICE

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Daniel Benton for his fifteen years of leadership in the Berkley, Michigan community as a City Councilman.

A resident of Berkley since 1979, Dan has been an active member of the community, working to improve the lives of its residents. With his wife, Carol, he raised their three sons, all of whom attended Berkley Public Schools. Outside of his own family, Dan's values are evident in his support of local Park and Recreation programs like Hoops Basketball and Dad's Club Baseball, which promote athletic programs that help local youth make healthy life choices. And, as a dentist, Dan also operates his own practice within Berkley, providing area residents with important healthcare services.

One area of particular focus for Dan's activism has been the Berkley Public Library, which he has supported in many different capacities over the years. He served the library

both as an elected board member and then later as a member of the Friends of the Berkeley Library. Dan was also on the Library Building Committee which oversaw the expansion of the library and the acquisition of new materials. Thanks to his work and those of his colleagues, the newly renovated library opened in 1998 and has continued to be a valuable resource for the community.

Beyond his advocacy and support of the Berkeley Public Library, Dan is involved in many other local organizations and projects geared toward strengthening the community. As a concerned citizen, prior to his election to the City Council, Dan served on the Planning Commission, working to secure continued future prosperity for Berkeley residents. In furtherance of that goal, Dan also helped establish the Woodward 5, a local association of surrounding communities and school districts along the Woodward Corridor dedicated to promoting the region to prospective businesses and residents. As a Berkeley resident passionate about the health of his city, Dan has also organized annual sweep operations, which bring Berkeley residents together to clean up the city's downtown area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Dan's positive impact on the Berkeley community and wish him well in his retirement from the Berkeley City Council. As a true advocate for building a strong community, I know Dan's work on behalf of his city and its residents will be felt far into the future. I wish Dan many years of happiness and trust he will continue to advocate for the brightest future for Berkeley and its residents.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 856 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL
EDUCATION WEEK

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize National Education Week, which was established 90 years ago, and is taking place from November 14–19, 2011.

I ask all of my constituents to please join the National Education Association (NEA) and myself in celebrating National Education Week. It is a wonderful opportunity for us to honor the hard work of our students, dedication of our teachers, educators, and all those in our community who help our students to succeed.

Providing high quality education to every student in our Manhattan Congressional District and across America has always been one of my life's top priorities. This past summer I

introduced the Rebuilding America's Schools Act, which would increase aid for school construction and renovation across the country.

My passion for improving our children's education is also why I continue to fight alongside President Barack Obama to pass the DREAM Act, which would provide 360,000 high school graduates who are undocumented with a legal means to work and attend college, and could provide incentives for another 715,000 children of illegal immigrants between the ages of 5 and 17 to finish high school and pursue higher education.

I strongly believe that we must give every possible amount of support to our students, teachers and educators so that future generations of Americans will have the ability to succeed in a global economy and face the challenges of tomorrow.

I would like to recognize all the public and charter schools in our District, and the numerous unions and organizations dedicated to educating our community such as the United Federation of Teachers, the New York State United Teachers, the Support Workers' Union, Harlem YMCA, Harlem Children's Zone, Harlem Center for Education, Children's Aid Society of East Harlem Center, and all the employees of the New York City Department of Education.

I would also like to encourage all the students in our District to keep working hard and reach for the stars because you are our future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, November 4, 2011, I was unable to be present for part of a series of recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: "no" on rollcall vote No. 830 (on Agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 455, providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 2838), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 831 (on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3321), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 832 (on Agreeing to the Cummings Amendment to H.R. 2838), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 833 (on Agreeing to the Thompson Amendment to H.R. 2838), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 834 (on Agreeing to the Napolitano Amendment to H.R. 2838), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 835 (on Agreeing to the Bishop Amendment to H.R. 2838), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 836 (on Agreeing to the Slaughter Amendment to H.R. 2838).

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2112,
CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER
CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2011

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of today's appropriations bills, which—

while far from perfect—marks a distinct and bipartisan improvement over the House's original product. Today's bill restores key investments in jobs, innovation and public safety that were eliminated in the original House bills. In addition, we have removed the extreme policy riders on issues ranging from Wall Street reform to women's health. Additionally, in order to give the Appropriations Committees time to complete the rest of their FY 2012 work, H.R. 2112 extends the current Continuing Resolution through December 16, 2011.

This conference report includes the Agriculture-FDA, Commerce-Justice-Science and Transportation-HUD Appropriations bills for FY 2012. Consistent with the \$1.043 trillion cap on discretionary spending for FY 2012 set forth in the Budget Control Act, these three bills contain \$128 billion in discretionary spending, with associated mandatory spending and transportation trust funds bringing the total to \$297 billion. An additional \$2.3 billion is provided for emergency disaster relief.

The final Agricultural-FDA bill provides a total of \$105.6 billion for domestic food assistance programs, including \$80.4 billion for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, and \$6.6 billion for the Women's Infant and Children, WIC, program. This result is \$33 million more than the Senate mark and \$9.3 billion more than the original House bill, which is appropriate given the increased demand for food aid during this economic recovery. The Food and Drug Administration receives \$2.5 billion, which is \$334 million more than the original House level, and will allow FDA to continue implementing the landmark Food Safety and Modernization Act to better protect the estimated 48 million Americans sickened by food-borne illness each year. Of concern in the final Agricultural-FDA bill is misguided language barring USDA from implementing new child nutrition standards and clearly inadequate funding for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission which has been charged with regulating the rampant speculation that helped precipitate the financial crisis. Now is not the time to be under-resourcing our regulatory cops in this demonstrably troubled neighborhood.

The final Commerce-Justice-Science bill allocates \$751 million to the National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST, including \$128 million for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program to provide training and technical assistance to U.S. manufacturers. The National Science Foundation, NSF, receives \$7 billion, or \$173 million above FY 2011, to enhance the basic research necessary to accelerate innovation and enhance U.S. competitiveness. And the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA, is funded at \$17.8 billion, which is a 6 percent increase over the original House level and includes \$529.6 million for NASA's James Webb Space Telescope.

Finally, I'm pleased that the final Transportation-HUD contains \$18.9 billion for Section 8 vouchers and \$9.34 billion for the project-based Section 8 program, as well as \$45 million in housing counseling, which was not funded in FY 2011. Additionally, the THUD title in today's conference report preserves funding for key transit priorities, including \$10.6 billion for the FTA, \$1.95 billion for New Starts, \$500 million for TIGER grants and

\$150 million for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority, WMATA. Unfortunately, this bill also mistakenly zeroes out

high speed rail funding and cuts Community Development Block Grants by 12 percent.

Mr. Speaker, while I do not agree with every choice made in this legislation, I commend my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for work-

ing through these issues on a bipartisan basis in a fiscally constrained environment and bringing this much improved product to the floor today.