

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CAPE COD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cape Cod Community College's 50th anniversary.

Our Nation's community colleges provide the dream of achieving a higher education to millions of students each year. They are the Nation's key supplier of workforce development and retraining needs, and—just as importantly—they build lasting partnerships and contribute significantly to the communities they serve. Cape Cod Community College is a leading institution of education, not only for the Cape, but for the entirety of Massachusetts.

Since 1961, Cape Cod Community College has served as a beacon of higher education in West Barnstable County, the second institution to open as part of what is now a 15 community college system in Massachusetts. When Cape Cod Community College's doors opened, there were 166 students enrolled. Two years later, the first evening program found 130 students enrolled in ten different degree-credit courses. By that spring, the first summer session had enrolled 145 students from 50 colleges and universities taking degree-credit courses. Now, 50 years later, that number has increased to nearly 7,000 students with over 80 degrees and certificates being offered.

Cape Cod Community College has a true tradition of excellence thanks to its outstanding leadership, superior faculty and staff and motivated students. They have received national prominence both for their programs as well as their inclusion of Cape Cod residents. Cape Cod Community College has been recognized as much for its sustainability education as its service to the adult Plus 50 learner and military personnel at Otis, the Massachusetts Military Reservation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Cape Cod Community College, its President Kathleen Schatzberg and the entire college community on the celebration of 50 years of service to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

JOHN VILLYARD TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. John Villyard, CEO of the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative. Mr. Villyard, who has served in this capacity since 2000, will be retiring at the end of this year.

Mr. Villyard has overseen numerous efforts to improve the Cooperative's effectiveness. An

accountant by trade, he utilized new technology, cost-based accounting practices, and the simplification of electric bills to increase efficiency. Under his leadership, improvements to infrastructure and building projects have reduced power outages and overtime costs by 34%. Furthermore, he has demonstrated environmental stewardship by negotiating the purchase of renewable produced power and developing an avian protection plan.

As a child, Mr. Villyard watched his father, Ray, lead the Cooperative as it expanded from five to 34 employees. John has followed his example and has worked to build strong relationships with the board of directors, his employees, and the community at large, all the while treating the Cooperative as an extended family. In doing so, he has improved the safety program, initiated a lineworker scholarship, and established the SLVREC Energy Foundation.

After graduating from the University of Colorado, John served honorably in the United States Air Force for eleven years. He then returned to the San Luis Valley and worked as an accountant, before being hired as the SLVREC's CFO in 1996. He is married to his high school sweetheart, Jowanda.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mr. John Villyard. I rise today to thank him for his commitment to serving the energy needs of the San Luis Valley with integrity and innovation.

HONORING ST. LINUS SCHOOL FOR RECEIVING THE NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARD

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of St. Linus School, an exemplary Catholic elementary school in Oak Lawn, Illinois, for receiving the prestigious 2011 U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School Award.

In 1982, The Department of Education established the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program to recognize public and private schools boasting high or significantly improved achievement. The program's goal is to identify aspects of thriving American schools in order to replicate their success. This year there are 19 National Blue Ribbon Schools in the State of Illinois, and I am proud that one of these exceptional schools is located in my district.

The school's namesake, Saint Linus, is perhaps best remembered for his steadfast loyalty to his mentor, St. Peter the Apostle. Linus succeeded Peter as the second Pope of the Roman Catholic Church and dedicated his life to teaching Peter's story.

The mission of St. Linus School is "to educate and inspire each child with Christ-centered values through challenging education and community involvement." Since 1956, the

school has offered a rigorous and engaging curriculum that emphasizes mathematics, social studies, science, technology, language arts, and religion. In the last decade, the school renovated its campus to install a state-of-the-art technology center, as well as an updated gymnasium, science lab, and weather forecast camera. St. Linus School has made a concerted effort to improve student performance, striving to guide every pupil to their full potential. I am delighted that the exemplary work of the teachers, support staff, and priests at St. Linus School, as well as that of the parents and students, has been acknowledged on a national stage.

Please join me in celebrating the accomplishments of St. Linus School and the other 304 National Blue Ribbon award winners. Their pursuit of academic excellence is inspiring, and I hope that their success can be replicated across the Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PRIVATE FIRST CLASS MATTHEW CHRISTOPHER COLIN, UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is with great respect and honor that I rise today to recognize the life and selfless sacrifice of Northwest Florida's beloved Private First Class Matthew Christopher Colin of Navarre, Florida.

Private First Class Colin was killed in action by an improvised explosive device on Wednesday, November 16, 2011 while on patrol in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. At the time, he was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, out of Fort Wainwright, Alaska. His military decorations and honors include the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Army Good Conduct Medal, NATO Medal, and the Combat Infantry Badge.

A resident of Navarre, Florida, Matthew was born in St. Augustine, Florida on January 20, 1989, to Ken and Kathy Colin. Active in the Navarre Youth Sports Association, Matthew played football, basketball, baseball, and soccer. He was recognized as a top competitor in track and field at the age of seven. He graduated from Navarre High School in 2007. Following in the footsteps of his father, also an Army veteran, he answered the call to arms in February 2010. Upon successful completion of basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia, he reported to Fort Wainwright, Alaska in September 2010.

Matthew's selflessness and sense of community were apparent even before he joined the Army. His former high school teachers describe him as an honorable young man with a strong sense of values and morals. He previously worked as a fitness instructor at the

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YMCA in Navarre, where he was well-liked by staff and patrons.

Matthew was a beloved member of his community. He is survived by his loving family, mother, Kathleen; father, Kenneth; brother, Michael; grandparents, Bob and Margaret Dawson; five aunts; four uncles; and many cousins. He is also survived by his four dogs, Spartacus, Patton, Captain, and Goldie.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor the life of Private First Class Matthew Christopher Colin for his selfless service and sacrifice in defense of our Nation. My wife Vicki and I offer our prayers for his entire family. He will be truly missed by all.

IN MEMORY OF DR. SCOTT
ALEXANDER MARSHALL

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great leader, professor and advisor, Dr. Scott Alexander Marshall. His passing is a great loss to his family and the education community.

Although he isn't a native Kentuckian, Dr. Marshall immediately offered his expertise to enhance the field of education in our rural region of southern and eastern Kentucky. He made a difference in the lives of hundreds of college students and took great pride in their success. In fact, he was a strong advocate and supporter of Phi Theta Kappa, the official national honor society for two-year colleges.

Scott received his M.S., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Alabama. He retired after 33 years of teaching Business and Economics at Jefferson State Community College in Birmingham, Alabama. After moving to Somerset, Kentucky in 2000, he continued as an Adjunct Professor of Economics at Eastern Kentucky University.

He was involved in numerous civic and political activities, serving as a member of the Adanta Board of Directors and Co-Chair of the Finance Committee. He also was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Somerset where he served as an Elder and Co-Chair of the Worship Committee.

Dr. Marshall leaves behind a devoted family: his loving wife, Dr. Jo Grimes Marshall; their children, Kristin Marshall Henderson and Dr. Scott Alexander Marshall, Jr., along with four grandsons. On behalf of my wife Cynthia and myself, I want to extend our deepest heartfelt sympathies to the Marshall family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a dear friend and champion for community colleges, the late Dr. Scott Alexander Marshall.

HONORING EMPLOYEES OF THE
IDAHO NATIONAL LABORATORY

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize seven employees of the Idaho Na-

tional Lab who recently received awards from Secretary of Energy, Steven Chu, for their assistance to the people of Japan in dealing with the disaster caused by the recent earthquake and tsunami and for their efforts to secure enough special nuclear material to produce almost 800 nuclear weapons.

Eight months ago a devastating disaster struck Japan when a massive earthquake and unprecedented tsunami struck the island nation, killing over 16,000 people and causing a serious reactor accident. Recovery was complicated by a near total destruction of the surrounding transportation infrastructure. At the greatest time of need the Idaho National Laboratory offered its assistance, which was gratefully accepted by the people of Japan. INL employees Doug Burns, Cal Christensen, Betsy Connell, Harold McFarlane, Joy Rempel and Derek Wadsworth assisted by assessing the damage in near real time, providing technical assistance and coordinating the delivery of specialized equipment to assist in controlling the radiological effects.

Eric Howden led a 14 year program to secure ten tons of highly enriched uranium and three tons of plutonium from Kazakhstan. These efforts have resulted in relocating enough fissile material to produce almost 800 nuclear weapons at a time when there was great turmoil in the region and an emerging international terrorist threat.

I am proud to represent the Idaho National Lab, which has through its history been the worldwide leader in advancing the safe and peaceful use of nuclear energy. As the worldwide demand for energy and environmental concerns increase, the responsible use of nuclear power will continue to grow. As it does, the dedicated employees of the Idaho National Lab will continue their efforts to improve the impressive safety record of nuclear power and promote technologies that prevent future accidents and reduce the threat of nuclear weapons from falling into the wrong hands.

LEMONT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
COUNCIL #1599

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Lemont Knights of Columbus Council #1599 for 100 years of civic service.

On December 10, 1911 the Lemont Knights of Columbus Council #1599 was chartered. Although the original charter members have all passed, their vision of Service to God, church, and country is still the primary goal of the Lemont Knights of Columbus. In pursuit of achieving this goal, the Lemont Knights of Columbus have sent its members to both World Wars, Korea, Vietnam and other armed conflicts—all while establishing and maintaining numerous civic service programs and projects.

Over the past 100 years, the Lemont Knights have established scholarship programs, food pantry drives, natural disaster relief efforts, and annually participates in the national "Tootsie Roll" day—a fundraiser that generates thousands of dollars each year for the mentally disabled in Lemont.

The Lemont Knights have worked very hard to become a foundation of service in my con-

gressional district. I would like to join my colleagues in congratulating the Lemont Knights of Columbus Council #1599 for 100 years of outstanding service to the community.

PROPOSING A BALANCED BUDGET
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2011

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.J. Res. 2, legislation that would have a devastating effect on the U.S. economy, national security and the well-being of millions of Minnesota families and businesses.

A constitutional amendment that requires Congress to balance the federal budget every year—regardless of economic conditions—would severely damage the U.S. economy. Such a requirement would force Congress to cut spending, raise taxes or both, even when the economy is in recession. That is the exact opposite of what economists recommend in order to escape recession and stabilize a weak economy.

According to new analysis by Macroeconomic Advisers—one of the nation's pre-eminent private economic forecasting firms—a balanced budget amendment would destroy millions of American jobs. Had a balanced budget amendment been in effect today, their analysis concluded that "the effect on the economy would be catastrophic." Assuming the Republicans used spending cuts instead of tax increases to balance the budget this year, the cuts would have totaled approximately \$1.5 trillion. Macroeconomic Advisors determined cuts of this magnitude would throw 15 million more Americans out of work, double the unemployment rate from 9 percent to approximately 18 percent, and cause the economy to shrink by 17 percent instead of growing by an expected 2 percent.

What House Republicans are not telling the American people is that Congress has the opportunity to propose and pass a balanced budget each year. House Budget Committee Chairman PAUL RYAN could have proposed a balanced budget this year—fiscal year 2012—but he did not. The budget proposed by House Republicans delivers another tax cut windfall for America's wealthiest individuals by making the Bush-era tax cuts permanent. To make matters worse, their budget preserves expensive tax breaks to oil companies and corporations shipping jobs overseas. Instead of proposing a fiscal year 2012 budget that puts us on a more sustainable fiscal path, House Republicans chose to continue the same reckless tax policies that have added trillions to our national debt.

In times of recession and weak economic growth, Congress needs the ability to assist struggling families with unemployment insurance and to promote economic recovery by sustaining demand through investments in areas such as transportation infrastructure. In a strong U.S. economy, Congress has the responsibility to reduce expenditures and balance the budget as was done in 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001 under President Clinton.