

a consistent bases to mentor and expose the students to our government first hand; and

Whereas, this year, the civic leadership students who have been successful in their studies include Abraham Ameer, Dorien Bullock, Tommy Jones, III, Morgan Mathews and Carlton Williams; and

Whereas, his boundless energy and enthusiasm has opened nationally recognized opportunities, helping his students understand that their futures are as limitless as the skies; and

Whereas, we are grateful for the life and work of this outstanding teacher who defines the very essence of the profession; and

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim May 22, 2012 as Dr. Thomas Smith and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. High School Civic Leadership Students Day in Georgia's 4th Congressional District.

ADVAIT "ADI" PATEL

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor one of America's newest National Elementary Chess Champions, nine-year-old Advait "Adi" Patel, who hails from Logan County, West Virginia. This Logan Middle School fifth grader placed first in the recent competition that drew 2,200 young people to test their skills, stamina and heart. We salute all those who helped organize the competition and who nurture our country's future generations. In Adi's case, beyond the thrill of victory and the satisfaction of success, we can find useful lessons for both today's and tomorrow's leaders.

Competing with the latest video games and their striking graphics has not been the easiest time for the venerable game of chess, but one thing that can usually trump the newest technology is old fashioned love; especially the love of a grandfather in India, who took the time and patience to teach Adi how to play the game during a visit.

Adi's parents have been very supportive as well, taking him to faraway tournaments and providing him lessons and online access to other players. Importantly, they are behind his pursuit as long as he still loves the game, another feather in their parental caps.

Likewise, Adi is as thoughtful off the board as he is during a tough game. He recently commented in a local news story that, "It's fun to play, and there's no brawl in it—no fighting physically," Advait said. "It helps me with school, too. Math is a lot easier now. I've had straight A's ever since I started playing, because it teaches you how to focus. There is a lot of thinking in chess."

With our national focus on today's student science and math accomplishments translating into tomorrow's innovations and entrepreneurs, Adi's example sets exactly the right tone for his fellow students, teachers and school administrators alike.

Adi's chess coach, David Saville, believes a chess player's best skill is to be able to "visualize the future." I think we can all visualize a brighter future with the talent, values, hard work and dedication displayed by Adi, his coach and family.

RECOGNIZING ERIC BABCOCK

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the courageous actions of Grove City resident, Eric Babcock. On December 18, 2012, Eric rescued a neighbor's young granddaughter from the second floor of a burning garage.

I ask that all Members of Congress join me and the people of Ohio's 15th Congressional District in thanking Eric Babcock for his brave actions. Despite the grave risk to his own life, he selflessly rose to the occasion and saved the life of his young neighbor. For his heroism, Eric received well-deserved recognition from the Jackson Township Board of Trustees.

I extend my sincere thanks to Eric Babcock for his heroism. While to some he may be an ordinary person, his extraordinary act is exactly what makes me proud to represent the everyday heroes of the Central Ohio area.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
CHARLES POWELL

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to pay tribute to a beloved community member and role model, Charles "Chuck" Powell. Chuck passed away on May 10, 2012 at the age of seventy-eight.

Chuck was born on July 3, 1933 in Franklin, Ohio, to Charles and Mamie Powell. He spent several years in Ohio, working as a steelworker until he joined the Air Force and relocated to the March Air Force Base in Riverside, California. During his time in the Air Force Chuck met his future wife, Geri Linton, whom he was married to for 56 years.

Chuck served as a milk distributor in Bloomington for 40 years, and was affectionately known as the "milk man" to all he served. During his free time, Chuck enjoyed coaching his sons youth baseball teams.

Chuck was also an avid golfer, and member of El Rancho Verde Country Club, where he previously served as President, and Vice President. His sons have fond memories of bonding over golf, the sport he loved.

I remember Chuck's competitive nature, his fondness for smoking his pipe, and how he loved a good debate with friends. We often played rounds of golf together; he was a close and dear friend of mine. I knew Chuck as having a deep passion for golf; he was always trying to improve his putting stroke in order to compete with the best golfers. Although Chuck was an outstanding golfer, I will always remember him Chuck for his charm, sense of humor, and ability to connect with everyone he met.

Chuck is best known by his family for his big heart and memorable advice for the people he touched. His children and grandchildren have fond memories of times with their father and grandfather. His son noted that he will never forget his father's sense of humor and the phone calls they would share after a good

round of golf. Chuck's grandchildren could always count on him to give sound advice and to put a smile on their face, even during the worst days.

Let us take the time to pay tribute to a wonderful man. Let us celebrate the life he led, and the positive example he set for others. Although he is no longer with us, his legacy and spirit will continue to live on through the lives of everyone he has touched.

Chuck is survived by his beloved wife, Geri Powell; his three sons, Bob, Neal, and Scott; two siblings, John and Margaret; and six grandchildren, Alyssa, Brooke, Tyler, Tori, Christine, and Chloe. My thoughts and prayers, along with those of my wife, Barbara, and my children, Rialto City Councilman Joe Baca Jr., Jeremy, Natalie, and Jennifer are with Chuck's family at this time. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pay tribute to Charles Powell.

HONORING BIG WILLIE ROBINSON

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Willie Andrew Robinson III, affectionately known in Los Angeles and around the world as "Big Willie" Robinson. Big Willie Robinson was the founder and president of the International and National Brotherhood of Street Racers. He passed away on May 19, 2012 and will be sorely missed by his fellow Viet Nam veterans and the countless people who found a new sense of purpose in life as a result of Big Willie's work in the greater Los Angeles community.

Born on September 12, 1942 in New Orleans, Louisiana, Willie Robinson attended Louisiana State University in 1960 with the hope of playing football for the university. But because African-Americans were not yet allowed to play at LSU, Willie left after only one year to attend UCLA. Shortly after moving Willie found work in a Los Angeles area body shop. He bought his 1957 Oldsmobile, began street racing, and turned Louisiana's loss into Los Angeles's biggest gain.

Drafted into the Army in 1964, Willie Robinson was one of the first African-Americans to serve in the Green Berets in Vietnam, which he did with honor until 1966. From the time he returned to Los Angeles late that year until his death, Big Willie's trademark beret, fatigues and Brotherhood colors were known worldwide.

At 6'6" and over 300 pounds, Big Willie's immense physical stature paled in comparison to his iconic stature as a peacemaker and truce-broker among LA street gangs and people of all ethnic groups. Legendary Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley respected Big Willie's work so much that in 1974 he helped Big Willie to open the Terminal Island Brotherhood Raceway, which hosted street races while promoting non-violence and racial unity for over two decades.

Big Willie Robinson is one of the greatest ambassadors of hope and racial unity in this country during my lifetime. He was truly a God-send, and it is entirely fitting that he chose to live out his life's mission in the City of Angels. May Heaven receive Big Willie

Robinson with open arms and declare, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

I extend my deepest condolences to his mother, Ms. Lula Mae Simmons, his sister Jean Davis, and his brother, Don Ray Robinson.

RECOGNIZING THE WESTCHESTER-PUTNAM SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION (WPSBA)

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Westchester-Putnam School Boards Association, WPSBA for 50 years of service and dedication toward improving public education in its member districts throughout the Lower Hudson Valley of New York.

Since its founding in 1962, WPSBA has helped school board members to become education leaders in their districts and the larger region. By providing training, outreach, and resources, WPSBA has worked to enhance the effectiveness of the school board members who work so tirelessly on behalf of public school students and their schools. WPSBA has also become a forum to share information and build relationships among people and organizations dedicated to public education. By carrying out its multi-faceted mission, WPSBA has strengthened the quality of education throughout Westchester and Putnam counties.

WPSBA is a forceful advocate at the local and state levels for policies that support public education. It has also demonstrated its commitment through outreach to the public and the media, shaping the conversation to ensure that issues vital to public education are considered.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the past, current and future leaders and members of the Westchester-Putnam School Boards Association for their selfless commitment to public service. We wish all those involved with WPSBA a happy 50th anniversary celebration and continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING COURTNEY KREIGHAUSER OF THE CARROLL SENIOR HIGH TRACK AND FIELD

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Courtney Kreighauser. She is a student at Carroll Senior High School who won a state championship at the University Interscholastic League's State Championship for Track and Field.

Every year, top high school athletes in Texas compete for the opportunity to advance to the UIL's State Championship. Only the extraordinary athletes that advance from the district and regional meets are qualified to continue to the state competition held in Austin, Texas. Courtney Kreighauser from Carroll Senior High won the 5A Girls 1600 race.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all of my distin-

guished colleagues to join me in congratulating Courtney Kreighauser for her state championship title in track and field.

HONORING SUNLIGHT FOUNDATION

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise, as doth the golden orb pulled across the sky each day by the chariot of Apollo, to decry an ignominy perpetuated on this Body by the captious Sunlight Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, the Sunlight Foundation says we talk dumb. How can the House of Lincoln, Jefferson and Wilbur Mills suffer such excoriation? I deem the Sunlight Foundation's findings fatuous. There has been no deliquescence of Congressional discourse.

Speak we not of life, liberty and hockey? In the words of Francois de la Rochefoucauld, who I believe was a defenseman for the original Canucks, "True eloquence consists in saying all that should be said, and that only." So true. That is why as the elected arbiter of erudition from the 5th Congressional District, I decry the Foundation's obvious schadenfreude in our dictional dystopia. Let me repeat that word again: schadenfreude, which captures the zeitgeist of this badinage.

That is not to say there have been errors in eloquence. But soft! What F-bombs from Rahm's office breaks? His monosyllabic vocabulary evoked images of the corporeal, the priapistic and the unprintable. Alas, our words may not always dance "trippingly on the tongue," as Hamlet encourages of his players in Act III of that eponymous work.

But nor do they need to. As Bertrand Russell said, "To acquire immunity to eloquence is of the utmost importance to the citizens of a democracy." And so we do our best in pursuit of that august goal. As to the Sunlight Foundation's farcical fomentations, I leave you with the thoughts of one post-modern philosopher, known for his dialectical ruminations on the salubrious effects of fermented hops and barley.

"Facts are meaningless," notes Homer Simpson. "You could use facts to prove anything that's even remotely true!"

So if the Sunlight Foundation must lampoon our verbal buffoonery, reducing us to linguistic lummoxes, remember Cecil Terwilliger's immortal retort to his brother Sideshow Bob's comment about spending four years in clown college: "I'll thank you not to refer to Princeton that way."

H.R. 5652: SEQUESTER REPLACEMENT RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2012

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 5652, the Sequester Replacement Reconciliation Act. The proposed cuts in this bill directly attack low and moderate-income Americans while protecting an excessive defense budget.

More than 40 percent of the cuts in this legislation come from programs that support low-income families. The bill abandons millions of Americans who rely on food assistance programs by making drastic cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Free School Lunch and Breakfast program, and Meals on Wheels. The bill slashes funding for the Social Services Block Grant Program, which provides more than 20 million children and seniors services ranging from protection from abuse to transitional housing. Simply put, H.R. 5652 disproportionately cuts assistance targeted to low- and moderate-income families and will only deepen the poverty that they experience and leave more of them hungry.

H.R. 5652 cuts the Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP) and restricts any unused funds for deficit reduction. Though initially flawed, my efforts and those of my colleagues to improve HAMP have helped to make it an essential response to the foreclosure crisis. Rather than completely eliminate it, as H.R. 5652 would do, the program should continue to be revamped to better serve the needs of the American people.

This legislation includes provisions to require that all current and future federal workers pay an additional 5 percentage points of their salary toward their federal pensions. This cut in benefits would result in an annuity that is worth approximately 40% less than is the case under existing laws. Federal workers have already endured pay freezes and large programmatic budget cuts. Congress should not be playing politics with the pensions of the thousands of hard-working federal employees that are dedicating their lives to public service.

In addition, H.R. 5652 weakens Americans' protections in the event of another financial crisis like the one that started our current recession. The bill prevents the FDIC from intervening to slow the chain reaction of investment bank failures that happens when one of the firms begins to fail, bringing the others with it because they are so closely tied together. The bill also eliminates the ability of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to fine law-breaking financial entities under its jurisdiction.

The premise behind this legislation is that we should go back on the agreement that was reached and codified in the Budget Control Act by preserving a massively bloated Defense Department with funding from Americans of greatest need. I strongly oppose this bill.

CONGRATULATING BRADY OF GREENSBORO ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, family-owned businesses provide the structure at the core of every great community. As a result, it is necessary to recognize and celebrate the growth and success of these companies. The citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina would like to recognize Brady of Greensboro on its 50th anniversary as a North Carolina business.