

As of today, June 1, 2012, Bob Howell officially retires from WSFA TV 12 in Montgomery where he anchored the evening news for more than three decades.

A native of Geneva, Alabama, Bob Howell first set foot on his lifelong career path in broadcasting while still a high school student. After taking the mic at WGEA radio in his hometown, he traveled east to Dothan, Alabama to deliver the news at WTVY TV 4 for five years. In 1976, Bob moved to Alabama's capital city to take the helm of the region's largest television news operation, WSFA TV, where he anchored the weekday 6 and 10 p.m. newscasts.

As WSFA's press release announcing Bob's retirement aptly observed, "He has had the job of delivering the day's news to thousands of viewers with a calm, trusted, steady and caring approach through difficult, challenging and happy times."

Over the years, he has anchored more than 10,000 live newscasts in addition to serving as the Managing Editor of WSFA's news department. His three decade career at WSFA witnessed his live reporting of gubernatorial inaugurations, most of the State's historic events of the last thirty years, as well as foreign assignments covering stories in Britain, France, Germany, and Kuwait.

In addition to his anchoring role, Bob also produced award-winning documentaries, hosted WSFA's "Newsmakers" program, "Alabama Illustrated," "Inside Alabama's Legislature," and co-hosted the Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon and the Children's Miracle Network fundraisers. He also hosted the regular news feature, "Exploring Alabama with Bob Howell."

Despite his busy schedule covering and delivering breaking news to thousands of South Alabama residents, including Clarke, Monroe and Escambia counties in my congressional district, Bob also returned his knowledge and expertise to college journalism students as an instructor at Troy University's Hall School of Journalism for more than 20 years.

As Bob officially begins his retirement from WSFA and broadcasting, he has made it clear that he will not be giving up work. He is already busy making plans for his next career for which he promises he still has a lot to offer.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, and as someone who grew up watching Bob deliver the evening news, I thank Bob for his dedication and professionalism and wish him and his wife and family all the best in their future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO
CONGRESSMAN BILL WAMPLER

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. HURT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay respects to Congressman Bill Wampler, former representative of Virginia's "Fighting 9th District," who will truly be missed.

Congressman Wampler served the people of Southwest Virginia for nearly two decades, and with his passing, the Commonwealth has lost a great leader and a great man.

Congressman Wampler took pride in working in his family's business in Bristol, he

served our country with honor during World War II, and he worked tirelessly for the people of Southwest Virginia for nearly 20 years in the United States House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, though Congressman Wampler is in a better place now, he will surely be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Wampler family and I know that my colleagues join me today as we remember our friend and honor his legacy to the Commonwealth of Virginia and to our nation.

CONGRESSIONAL PORTUGUESE
CAUCUS MEMORIAL DAY STATE-
MENT

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, with respect and admiration I, along with my colleagues Mr. COSTA, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KEATING, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. CICILLINE, gather today to both celebrate the freedoms we enjoy as Americans, and to honor all the brave service men and women who have fallen defending those freedoms.

To all the mothers, fathers, wives, husbands, and extended family members of those who have served, we offer our deepest gratitude. The sacrifice of your loved ones is a debt that can never be repaid.

As members and friends of the Congressional Portuguese American Caucus, we would also like to pay special tribute to our soldiers of Portuguese descent who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our country. Portuguese Americans have served with distinction in our military forces from the revolutionary war to current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, and I have no doubt they will continue to answer America's call into our future.

On this Memorial Day, Americans everywhere join in honoring those we have lost. It is a time to recognize the sacrifices made to defend our country, and remember the freedoms and liberties for which our service members fought for.

We honor you and all soldiers who have answered the call of duty and we send our profound appreciation to the families of our fallen heroes. As we reflect on the tragedy of those we have lost, we should realize our great fortune to live in a free country, and recognize the sacrifices required to defend it.

RECOGNIZING THE BEACON FOR
ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM
VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 1, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the BEACON for Adult Literacy Program Volunteers.

BEACON for Adult Literacy is an award-winning non-profit proudly serving the adult literacy needs of the Northern Virginia community for 20 years. In its first year BEACON served 30 learners; today BEACON serves

over 400 adults a year. Over 3,500 low-income non-native Americans have gained English-language literacy skills over the past two decades.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for BEACON for Adult Literacy Program:

Brendan Baldwin, Sally Harrison, Richard Corbett, Carole O' Sullivan, Martisa Brown, Corinne DeGrazia, Sasha Haleblan, Donna McNeally, David Covin, Robert Lynch, Ed Walsh, Brian Bell, Erika Arellano, Gene Strausbaugh, Alex Kersis, Ruth Porter, Henry Hastings, James McPheeters, Star Muir, Ilana Naylor, Erica Seymour, James Gillespie, Skip Brown, James Porter, David House, Joyce Rozier, James Sowers, Suzanne Morgan, Tina Cox, Jane Arseneault, Satya Khadka, James Drummond Jr., Janet Radzinski, Jessica Higham, Jean Gentry, Pat Hodgdon, Jeanne Endrikat, Richard Flaherty, Anne Walsh, Jim Zech, Carmalla Coley, Yolanda Daniels, Joan Appleton Costanza, Venkat Viswanathan, Kelley Studholme, Armena Springs, Nancy Schalk, Lianetta Ruetters, William McGuire, Liz Alcauska, David McDermott, Bob Schlipp, LTC Peter Stenner, Sue Kang, Vivek Koppikar, Martha Walsh, Jayne Hazen, Melissa MacIntyre, Nancy Nelson, Katherine DeSilva, Patrick McNeally, Caroline Zong, Jeanne Lynch, Rhonda Vanover, Clara Hipp, Robert Brown, Karen Shankles, John Manning, Robert Mechler, Ruth Passarge, Joyce Andrew, Robert Stinson, Jim Hipp, Roberta Knussmann, Justin Terry, Rosanne Schubring, Fabiana Parker, Rosie Jones, Aaron Burdick, Bob Sowers, Ruth Thomas, Doris Thomas, Sheri McGlothlin, Lyn Hildebrandt, Leslie Stagg, Sonya Jacob, Martha Muirhead, Tiffany Laseter, Walter Godlewski, William Cratty, and Sister Theresa Anderson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers of the BEACON for Adult Literacy Program and in thanking them for their dedication to our community.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
REFORM ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5651, The Bipartisan Food and Drug Administration Act of 2012, which modifies the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) policies and procedures to enhance Americans' access to effective healthcare. This bill improves the safety, development, and distribution of medications and medical devices to patients and medical providers.

This bill reauthorizes the FDA's user fee program for prescription drugs and medical devices through fiscal year 2017. Further, it introduces a new user fee program for generic medications. These fees, collected from drug and medical device companies, will give the FDA the funding it requires to grant patients rapid access to the treatments they need. This will improve the accessibility of vital medicines to patients throughout the U.S.

Mr. Speaker, this bill permanently reauthorizes two beneficial pediatric drug programs. The first, the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, enhances the safety and availability