

service make him the longest serving elected official in the history of South Fulton County, Georgia.

Throughout his time in office, Joe has fought valiantly for those who face social and economic challenges, especially veterans and minorities, and he has strived to bring businesses and prosperity to the communities he represents. I know that he will be greatly missed by his constituents.

I commend Joe for his courageous efforts to break racial barriers throughout his career. He was elected the first African American City Councilman of East Point, and as a Councilman, he helped the city become one of the first in America to celebrate the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday before it became a State or Federal holiday.

Outside of government, Joe is an active member of the Greater Atlanta community, having worked as a real estate salesman, corporate personnel assistant, motivational speaker, school teacher, and teen counselor. He is known for his love of people and his encouraging attitude.

I wish Joe and his wife, Andrea, the very best with their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO BOB HIGGINS, BALDWIN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Bob Higgins, senior vice president of the Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance. On August 1, 2012, Bob retired from his leadership position, which he has held for the past decade.

Bob Higgins joined the Baldwin Economic Development Alliance in 2002. While serving in the BCEDA, he organized many development projects that have led to the betterment of our community. One of these projects, which was facilitated through the Baldwin Business Incubator, created an aviation training center for local high school students at the Fairhope airport. With the recent announcement of Airbus' decision to locate its new manufacturing facility in Mobile, this effort will be instrumental in preparing a workforce for this new industry.

Bob Higgins' work has not only helped to create future jobs in our area, but has also aided in supporting local companies as they battled the 2010 oil spill. Through his accomplishments, the Coastal Resiliency Coalition and Business Support Center were created to raise support for those who were severely affected by the oil spill, and their efforts continue today.

Though he will be retiring from the BCEDA, Bob Higgins' work with these two groups will not be ending. He now intends to shift his focus and devote more time to worker training to help businesses prepare for the future, while the main focus of the Alliance will be in recruiting industry for the Baldwin County megasite and in support of Airbus.

As many of Bob's former coworkers can attest, Bob's work ethic and drive have been influential in transforming Baldwin County into a better place to live and work. Upon his retire-

ment, Bob is looking forward to having more time for personal activities and spending more time with his four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I would like to extend a personal appreciation to Mr. Bob Higgins for his service to Alabama's past, present, and future through his leadership in the Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance.

IN CELEBRATION OF FOR THE LOVE OF THE LAKE'S 200TH CONSECUTIVE SECOND SATURDAY SHORELINE SPRUCE UP

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate For the Love of the Lake, a community organization, on its 200th consecutive Second Saturday Shoreline Spruce Up that will be held at White Rock Lake on November 10, 2012.

For the Love of the Lake is committed to the preservation of White Rock Lake Park and sponsors the Second Saturday Shoreline Spruce-Up initiative along with many other noteworthy programs. Since April 1996, volunteers of the Second Saturday Shoreline Spruce-Up have gathered on the second Saturday of each month to pick up trash and scattered debris around the shores of White Rock Lake. They also work closely with the City of Dallas' Parks and Recreation Department to protect the local wildlife. Over the years, this organization has devoted countless hours to this endeavor, ensuring that White Rock Lake is kept clean and beautiful for all to enjoy. I have had the privilege of laboring alongside these dedicated volunteers and know firsthand the hard work it takes to clean up the shoreline.

For the Love of the Lake truly understands the importance of conservation, and continues to protect White Rock Lake Park so it may remain an urban oasis for the City of Dallas. I am thankful for these dedicated volunteers and For the Love of the Lake. Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating For the Love of the Lake on its 200th consecutive Second Saturday Shoreline Spruce-Up. This remarkable achievement speaks loudly to the organization's continued commitment to maintain the integrity of White Rock Lake Park.

ATTORNEY GENERAL HOLDER CONTEMPT VOTE

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, the death of U.S. Customs and Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry is a great loss for our nation. Congress has the responsibility to complete a full investigation into the events related to his death. That is why I supported Mr. DINGELL's motion on June 28, 2012, to ensure a comprehensive, bipartisan and complete investigation into Op-

eration Fast and Furious—including a public hearing, with witnesses previously prevented from testifying by the Majority party on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Unfortunately, however, House Republicans voted unanimously against this motion, in order to proceed instead with unprecedented, baseless and politically motivated measures to hold Attorney General Eric Holder in civil and criminal contempt. I declined to participate in these partisan political games, and joined with my colleagues in vacating the House Floor in protest of the abuse of power and process demonstrated by the Majority Party's decision to bring H. Res. 711 and H. Res. 706 to the full House of Representatives, before undertaking a serious effort to resolve the disagreement between Congress and the Department of Justice regarding the disclosure of materials related to Operation Fast and Furious. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on roll call votes 441 and 442.

CONGRATULATING BARRY HUTCHINSON ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Barry Hutchinson on his retirement from the Department of Defense after more than 40 years of dedicated and distinguished service to our country and to our men and women in uniform.

Mr. Hutchinson began his career as a stock handler at the Andrews Air Force Base Commissary in Camp Springs, Maryland, in 1972. Throughout his years of service, he developed expertise in a wide variety of areas, including supply management, logistics, program management, and information operations. For the past 34 years, Mr. Hutchinson worked for the Defense Logistics Agency at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, where he provided exemplary leadership serving the Information Operations Directorate and retires as the Staff Director for IT Business, Licensing, and Performance Management.

Mr. Hutchinson certainly embodies the commitment and caliber of our federal employees. While he will be missed in the Defense Logistics Agency we will continue to benefit from the expertise and work ethic he has imparted in his coworkers.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Hutchinson relied upon the support of his family. He will enjoy his well-deserved retirement with his wife, Joanne, daughters Krista and Kerri, grandchildren, Ashley, Jonathon, and Hannah, and grand dog, Cutter. He will continue serving his community, relying on his degree in Theology while teaching Christianity 101 at his local church. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Barry Hutchinson for 40 years of honorable and valuable service to our nation, thanking him for his many contributions and the sacrifices he and his family have made, and wishing them well in all of their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 125TH
ANNIVERSARY OF TEICHERT, INC.

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Teichert, Inc. and its employees as the company celebrates its 125th anniversary. For well over a century, this company has enabled the Sacramento region to grow and prosper into the wonderful place it is today. As Teichert's management, staff and business partners gather to celebrate the company's 125th anniversary, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Teichert, Inc. and its rich history.

Beginning with its inception in 1877, the company has truly captured the spirit of the American Dream. Its founder, Adolph Teichert emigrated from Germany with little more than a keen eye for outstanding craftsmanship and an unyielding drive to succeed. Adolph was soon hired by California Artificial Stone Company to supervise various construction projects, including laying concrete pavement around some of California's most recognizable landmarks, such as Golden Gate Park. Adolph then started his own construction firm and would become a pioneer in Sacramento's business community.

Over the next few decades, Adolph's small business progressively expanded into a multifaceted corporation that is responsible for many of Sacramento region's highways, neighborhoods and iconic pieces of infrastructure. In 1912 the company became known as A. Teichert and Son when Adolf's son joined its ranks. Since its founding, Teichert has maintained its roots as a family business. Its current CEO, Jud Riggs is the 4th generation Teichert to lead the company and Fred Teichert leads the Teichert Foundation. The 5th generation of Teicherts are dutifully at work within the company's ranks.

125 years after its founding Teichert, Inc. is the proud holder of the State of California's oldest active contractor's license, license No. 8. The company has led a wide array of Northern California's most significant construction projects, varying from the construction of the Sacramento Weir in 1918 that has kept Sacramento safe from flooding to being an integral part of the team that built Sacramento International Airport's beautiful new state-of-the-art Terminal B, which opened in 2011 and now welcomes travelers to California's capital city.

The company's values of "building," "trust," and "tradition" have helped sustain the company in good times and bad. The company has grown to include Teichert Construction, Teichert Materials, StoneBridge Properties, and Teichert Foundation embracing construction, aggregate production, real estate development, and charity.

By encouraging employee philanthropy and honoring their commitment to the region, Teichert has created a special bond with the people of Sacramento. Above all of their industrial efforts, the company is celebrated for the charitable reach of the Teichert Foundation. The foundation's work is evident in many aspects of the Sacramento area, including the Boys and Girls Clubs' location in Lemon Hill that carries the Teichert name.

Mr. Speaker, as the leadership and employees of Teichert, Inc. come together to celebrate the company's 125th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their dedication to building the infrastructure that has made Sacramento what it is today. I am confident that the company's dedication to the Sacramento community will stand for generations to come.

**HONORING COLONEL SAMUEL "BO"
MAHANEY UPON ASSUMING COM-
MAND OF THE 452D AIR MOBIL-
ITY WING, MARCH ARB**

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations and good wishes to one of the members of our armed forces, Colonel Samuel "Bo" Mahaney, who put in exemplary service as a Military Fellow in my office and who will soon assume command of the 452d Air Mobility Wing at March Air Reserve Base, California.

It is true, Mr. Speaker, that we in this body are proud of every brave member of our military. Their service to our nation deserves recognition every day, and their sacrifice deserves our gratitude and honor no matter where they are posted or what their rank or station.

But as a former Fellow, Col. Mahaney became a highly valued member of my staff, and he and his wife Chris became a part of the extended "Lewis family." It is especially delightful to be able to congratulate Bo on his Assumption of Command of the Air Mobility Wing at March, which is near my Redlands home and congressional district in the Inland Empire of California.

Mr. Speaker, many of my colleagues will agree that the Military Fellows program is an outstanding example of a collaborative venture that helps Congress better understand the Pentagon, and helps the military become familiar with the ways of the legislative branch. After an intense selection process, 100 young men and women are assigned by the services to join a congressional office or committee for a year of service. These are some of the Pentagon's brightest young officers, and the expertise they provide Congress is invaluable.

While I served as chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee and later as Committee Chairman, I was honored to have the aid of six Military Fellows: Army Colonel Craig DeDecker, Marine Corps Colonel Michael Reilly, Marine Corps Colonel Carl Kime; Army Colonel Chris Gibson; Air Force Colonel Bo Mahaney, and Air Force Colonel Anthony "Awgie" Genatempo. All have gone on to distinguished commands and careers—and one of them, Chris Gibson, is now one of our colleagues from New York!

Colonel Mahaney was commissioned in July 1985 as a graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC). He was a B-52 electronic warfare officer and commanded a KC-10 aircraft, amassing over 5,000 flying hours over the years. His academic training includes a Masters Degree in Public Administration and a law degree, as well as time as a Harvard National Security Fellow and a

Georgetown Legislative Fellow. He is a licensed attorney and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University School of Law. He has received the Meritorious Service Medal, Aerial Achievement Medal, and many other medals for outstanding service and accomplishments.

Colonel Mahaney assumed command just last year of the 459th Air Refueling Wing at Joint Base Andrews outside of Washington, D.C. In that short time, he has led the wing to top marks for operational readiness and received high praise from commanding officers.

He is now moving to take over command of the 452d Air Mobility Wing, which includes a C-17 "Globemaster III" flying squadron and two KC-135R "Stratotanker" flying squadrons as well as numerous support squadrons. March Air Reserve Base provides air refueling to Air Force, Navy and NATO aircraft as well as rapid delivery of troops and all types of cargo in times of war and national emergency to anywhere in the world. The base creates a total economic impact of \$522 million in the local area. More than 8,500 people work there.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud and honored to have been able to contribute to the distinguished career of Colonel Bo Mahaney, and I am delighted that he and Chris will soon be neighbors in the Inland Empire. I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating him on his new command, and expressing our gratitude to all of the exceptional men and women of the armed forces who have served us so ably in the Military Fellows program.

**HONORING THE WASHINGTON, NEW
HAMPSHIRE MEETINGHOUSE**

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 225th birthday of the Washington, New Hampshire Meetinghouse on August 11, 1787. In 1752, Governor Jonathan Belcher granted a charter to the settlement that was later established as the town of Washington, New Hampshire—named for our first president, George Washington.

The original charter decreed that "a Convenient Meeting house be built." The colonial-style, wooden structure henceforth erected has remained largely unchanged in both appearance and purpose. Although a tower was added in 1825, the meetinghouse retains its original exterior. Inside, the building has adapted to the community's needs, continuously serving as church, cultural center, school, and Town Hall for over two centuries.

The meetinghouse is a foundational establishment, fostering the civic growth of Washingtonians who have contributed to both our state and nation through their work as service members, small businessmen, farmers, educators, lawyers, ministers, and doctors. Merging its natural beauty with its dedicated and lively community, the town of Washington is truly representative of the best qualities of the State of New Hampshire.

Mr. Speaker, I join the people of the Granite State in congratulating the town of Washington on the 225th birthday of its Meetinghouse. This tribute celebrates the history and birth of