Post 425, have three children and five grandchildren.

I congratulate Sheldon Ohren on his election as National Commander and most especially for all of the good work he has done for his community, for our country's veterans, and for the members of our Armed Services.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF THE VITAMIN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Dietary Supplement Caucus, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the vitamin and, as such, I would like to recognize Polish-American scientist, Casimir Funk.

Mr. Funk is credited with coining the term ''vitamin'' to describe a group of bioactive substances that are vital to human health. The term ''vitamine'' was first introduced in his landmark paper, The Etiology of Deficiency Diseases, published in the British Journal of State Medicine in July 1912, in which he identified the dietetic factors whose lack caused ''deficiency disorders,'' including beriberi, rickets, scurvy, and other diseases caused by vitamin deficiency.

He developed the term from the Latin ''vita'' (life) and ''amine'' for chemical compounds containing nitrogen. In 1936, Funk published Vitamin and Mineral Therapy, where he called vitamin deficiencies insidious because they occur without warning and can cause irreparable damage. The accomplishments of Casimir Funk have advanced the understanding of nutrition and contributed to the innovation of dietary supplements, which more than 150 million American consume each year.

Because of his work, we know that vitamins are essential for good health through every stage of human life cycle and that our bodies require vitamins to grow, to function, to stay healthy and to prevent the onset of disease.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to honor the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the vitamin, as well as recognize the achievements of Casimir Funk, the ''father of vitamin therapy,'' and his exceptional contribution to the scientific community and health arena.

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE JAMES W. WILLIAMS AMERICAN LEGION POST 12

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of the James W. Williams American Legion Post 12 for their commitment to the City of Bangor. I would also like to congratulate them as they celebrate their 92nd anniversary.

The James W. Williams Post No. 12 was founded in August of 1920, and they will celebrate their 92nd anniversary this year. The post is named for Cpl. James W. Williams of Bangor, who proudly served in the Maine National Guard during World War I. Cpl. Williams was killed in action on July 17th, 1918 at the battle of Champagne-Marne in Germany.

From its founding, members of the James W. Williams Post No. 12 have dedicated themselves to serving our veterans, members of the armed forces, and the Bangor community. Its members have long been known to offer financial support to the Boy Scouts, the American Cancer Society, and the Eastern Maine Medical Center. The Post also established a Bangor High School JROTC scholarship and Boys State scholarship. Post members were instrumental in supporting the construction of a fifth Veterans Home in Bangor, and they continue to regularly provide comfort to its residents.

Today, we celebrate the tremendous success of the James W. Williams American Legion Post 12 and 92 years of community support and engagement. They have truly made a difference to the city of Bangor and our veterans population.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the members of the James W. Williams American Legion Post 12 on their 92nd anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRIENDS OF ST. JUDE MIAMI

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, next Saturday, September 29th, the Miami chapter of the Friends of St. Jude will celebrate its fifth annual ''It's All About the Kids'' event in Miami. Friends of St. Jude is a group of young professionals dedicated to the mission of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital—advancing treatment and prevention in the fight against childhood cancer.

This year, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital marks its 50th anniversary. Since its opening, St. Jude has made many important discoveries on treatment for children with deadly diseases like cancer, and has saved countless lives worldwide. The doctors and researchers at St. Jude are some of the world's best, and have continued to work together to find better treatments all the time—sharing their discoveries with the global medical community. In 50 years, St. Jude has grown into one of the premier pediatric treatment and research facilities. And they have provided all of their services at no cost to their patients and their families. It is for this reason that the Friends of St. Jude is dedicated to helping St. Jude Children's Research Hospital continue its legacy, and why the Friends of St. Jude of Miami has been such a great resource.

The Miami chapter of Friends of St. Jude is the organization's largest chapter—with over 350 members—and has done tremendous work on behalf of St. Jude's. This year's ''It's All About the Kids'' event will be hosted by six-time Emmy award winning journalist and co-anchor of the news-magazine show Primer Impacto, Pamela Silva Conde and ABC Sports anchor Will Manso. The event will have a distinctive Miami flare, and will feature entertainment from local star, and official Miami Heat DJ, DJ Irie and the Culture Live Band.

Mr. Speaker, these bright and talented individuals gather in a common interest and devote their time, talents and energy volunteering for such a great cause, and they truly deserve praise and recognition for their efforts. On behalf of the entire South Florida community, and all of the patients and families of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, I would like to thank the Friends of St. Jude Executive Committee: Jeb Bush Jr.-Chairman, Anibal Garcia, Carlos A. Musibay, Cristal Cole, Cristina Musibay Diaz, Javier Milian, Magda Rodriguez, Sofia Holtzman; and I would also like to recognize the host committee: Anna Del Rio Chong, Briana Guerra, Clara Pablo, Desiree Valls, Diana Delgado, Florencia Contesse, Gloria Ordaz, Laura Socorro-Santoni, Lourdes Milian, Luly Valls, Mayrelis Valle, Nicole Perez, Nicole Valls, Olga Garrido, Pamela Silva Conde, Silvia Camps, Suzanne Schmidt and, of course, Wendy Grant.

CONGRATULATING TAIWAN ON ITS NATIONAL DAY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in extending my congratulations to the Republic of China (Taiwan) on its National Day this October 10.

The United States and Taiwan have always had a strong relationship, despite the lack of formal diplomatic ties. This relationship has led to many areas of cooperation such as matters of international security, trade and investment, cultural exchange and education, etc. Still, there are other areas that we can work with Taiwan. For instance, we need to support Taiwan's efforts to have its voice heard in international forums. I look forward to Taiwan's inclusion in international organizations as it will assist in strengthening ties between Taiwan and my home state of Florida and the United States.

We need to continue to give Taiwan all the support it needs. Taiwan is a democracy and deserves our friendship and best wishes.

I send my congratulations to the people of Taiwan.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHOCTAWHATCHEE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of Choctawhatchee High School in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. For 60 years, the students, teachers, and staff at Choctawhatchee High have exhibited the assiduous dedication to excellence that makes our nation great.

In 1962, Okaloosa County, Florida completed plans to open a high school in

Shalimar, Florida. The county provided a state of the art building designed to hold 500 students; however, the school did not have an official name, so the local newspaper held a countywide naming contest. After the votes were counted, Choctawhatchee High School was declared the winner. Choctawhatchee—derived from a Creek Indian word meaning ''coming together''—was a fitting moniker for a school that would unite students from all across Okaloosa County.

Choctawhatchee High School opened its doors on September 22, 1962 in Shalimar, Florida; however, after four years, the school had already exceeded its capacity, and the school relocated to its present location in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. From day one, Choctawhatchee established itself as an institution of academic excellence committed to educating each and every student. Nearly 20,000 students have graduated from the school since its opening, with many of them going on to achieve success in fields ranging from our military and space exploration to professional athletics and business.

Thanks to the dedicated support of teachers, staff, alumni and the entire community, Choctawhatchee has continued to excel and reach new heights. Today, the school offers the only International Baccalaureate program in Okaloosa County, Florida, more than a dozen Advanced Placement classes, an aviation program offered in partnership with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, duel enrollment college courses with Northwest Florida State College, computer and electrical engineering programs in conjunction with the University of West Florida, as well as a successful Air Force Junior ROTC program.

Choctawhatchee also has a long and successful athletics program. In fact, the school's tradition of having a student ride a horse onto the field prior to football games served as the inspiration for a similar tradition at Florida State University. Whether it is on the playing field or in the classroom, Choctawhatchee High School's commitment to excellence has served as an inspiration and point of pride for the entire Northwest Florida community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of Choctawhatchee High School. The Mayor and City Council of Fort Walton Beach have declared Friday, September 21, 2012, as Choctawhatchee High School Day. My wife Vicki and I join the entire Northwest Florida community in congratulating Choctawhatchee High School on their 60th anniversary and wishing them continued success.

HONORING MISSION EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Mission Early College High School. Mission Early College was recently honored with the 2012 National Blue Ribbon award from the United States Department of Education for excellence in education.

The National Blue Ribbon School award honors both public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students achieve at high levels and also schools where the achievement gap is narrowing. Since 1982, more than 6,700 of America's schools have received this coveted award.

I want to personally congratulate the teachers, administrators, and staff of Mission Early College High School for their commitment and dedication to our young students in El Paso. This year only 269 schools nationwide received the award, and a ceremony in Washington, D.C. will honor their achievement. The Blue Ribbon validates the efforts of these schools in creating a positive and effective learning environment. These schools and their communities have achieved a degree of excellence of which they can justifiably be proud.

Mission Early College is a fine example of what can be accomplished when parents, teachers and administrators collaborate to prepare our students for a prosperous future. By emphasizing the importance of leadership, hard work, and dedication, Mission Early College is enabling a new generation of community leaders. In fact, upon completion of their high school career at Mission Early College High School, students not only graduate with a high school diploma, but can also earn up to 60 hours of college credit and an associate's degree. This opportunity for excellence and achievement is giving many students an early and critical exposure to college academics.

In times of economic uncertainty, we cannot lose sight of the paramount importance of our children's education, and I am honored to represent Mission Early College High School.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, on September 14, 2012, I unfortunately missed four votes, which included rollcall Nos. 581, 582, 583 and 584.

If I had been present, I would have voted ''yes'' on rollcall vote 581.

If I had been present, I would have voted ''yes'' on rollcall vote 582.

If I had been present, I would have voted ''yes'' on rollcall vote 583.

If I had been present, I would have voted ''no'' on rollcall vote 584.

RECOGNIZING THE RENTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Renton Housing Authority and congratulate them on the successes of the Sunset Area Community Revitalization Program. The commitment of all who work with the Renton Housing Authority has been instrumental in providing quality, affordable, and safe housing options for low-income individuals and families.

The Renton Housing Authority was established in 1941 to provide middle and low-income workers affordable housing near the Boeing B–29 and PACAR Sherman Tank manufacturing lines. In 1959, the Renton Housing Authority constructed Sunset Terrace.

The Sunset Area Community Revitalization Program is focused on the redevelopment of the Sunset Terrace public housing project. This effort is an important community enhancement that will help all residents of Renton, Washington have a safe place to call home.

The Sunset Area Community Revitalization Program will also receive a 2012 VISION 2040 Award from the Puget Sound Regional Council. This award is given to projects that are finding solutions to the Puget Sound region's expected growth, specifically projects that promote the well-being of our communities and economic vitality.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the valuable contributions of the Renton Housing Authority. The organization's dedication to helping people in our communities is laudable.

CONCERNS FOR ECUADOR

HON. DAVID RIVERA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, I am gravely concerned about the deteriorating human rights situation, democratic shortcomings, and increased drug trafficking in Ecuador.

Corruption, inefficiency, and political influence have plagued the Ecuadorian judiciary for many years. In a referendum held in May 2011, President Rafael Correa obtained a mandate for constitutional reforms that could significantly increase government powers to constrain media and influence the appointment and dismissal of judges. President Correa continues to weaken the democratic electoral process by appointing government supporters as authorities in all branches of government.

Ecuador's Criminal Code has provisions that restrict freedom of expression and government officials use these laws against the ruling party's critics. The ''desacato'' (lack of respect) clause enables the Ecuadorian government to imprison and prosecute anyone who offends the president or a government official.

President Correa has taken action to strengthen trade relations with Iran, a U.S.-designated State Sponsor of Terrorism. Iran has reduced tariffs for seven Ecuadorian products as well as signed an agreement to supply oil products during 2012 and 2013 to Ecuador. President Correa has expressed his desire to continue trading with Iran and bilateral visits between Correa and Iranian dictator Mahmoud Ahmadinejad occur frequently.

With its location between the two largest cocaine producing countries in the world, Peru and Colombia, Ecuador is a major transit country for narcotics. Ecuador's porous borders and increased participation in the drug trade makes the country very vulnerable to organized crime. Counternarcotics cooperation with the United States is and should remain a major focus of U.S. assistance to Ecuador.

Recently I met with Sociedad Ecuatoriana del Exterior (SEDE), an organization dedicated to fostering freedom and democracy in Ecuador and promoting the wellbeing of Ecuadorian-American citizens. I am asking for