

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on December 5, 2012, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall votes 617, 618, and 619.

Had I been present for rollcall vote 617, on the motion to suspend the Rules and agree to S. Con. Res. 50, expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multistakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall vote 618, on the motion to suspend the Rules and pass H.R. 6602, to make revisions in title 36, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current and make technical corrections and improvements, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall vote 619, on the motion to suspend the Rules and pass S. 2367, to strike the word "lunatic" from Federal law, and for other purposes, I would have voted "yes."

## CONGRATULATING THE THOMPSONS ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Paula and Homer Thompson on the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding.

Paula and Homer were married on December 7, 1962, in the home of Paula's parents in Mineral Wells, Texas. Since that day, they have lived in Carrollton, Texas. During their life together, they raised three children—Tracey Hutcherson, born on May 11, 1965; Scott Thompson, born on February 27, 1972; and Marc Thompson, born on January 30, 1975. They are also the proud grandparents of Joni, Micah, Jordan, and Emma.

Since 1974, Paula and Homer have been active members of the First Baptist Church in Carrollton. They have taught Sunday school, attended adult Sunday school, and sung in both the Sanctuary Choir and Live Wire Choir. The celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary will be held at the church on December 15.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Paula and Homer Thompson on the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding. This landmark in their lives stands as an example of the timeless value and endurance of mutual honor and dedication.

## HONORING MR. DON GLASER

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Don Glaser for his service as the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Mid-Pacific Regional Director. Over the years he has practiced careful and productive stewardship over our nation's water and power resources. His reverence for our natural resources and his commitment to public service have made him an exceptional public servant. This January, Mr. Glaser will continue his efforts in Denver, Colorado, where he will work on several high priority projects for the Bureau of Reclamation.

Mr. Glaser has over twenty years of experience with the Bureau of Reclamation, where he has held a number of positions throughout the West and Washington, D.C. He was recently honored with the Department of Interior's highest recognition, the Distinguished Service Award. He has been active in non-profits engaged in water education, open space preservation, and fish and wildlife conservation and restoration. As Regional Director, Mr. Glaser oversaw the management of Reclamation's water projects in an area that encompasses the northern two-thirds of California, most of western Nevada, and part of southern Oregon. His breadth of experience has certainly been an asset to the Mid-Pacific region.

The Central Valley Project (CVP) is perhaps one of the most complicated and intricate federal water projects in the United States. Managing the CVP requires delicately balancing the often conflicting needs of farmers, ranchers, cities, fish, wildlife, tribal communities, and recreational users. As the principal supervisor of projects like the CVP, Mr. Glaser consistently brought the skills necessary to troubleshoot problems. His expertise and ability to foster relationships helped to address the competing needs of all water users, making him a responsible guardian of one of our most precious resources—water.

Mr. Glaser's job called for the ability to address and resolve conflicts, and to understand the nuances and sensitivities of the water resources industry. He has demonstrated a strong grasp of program planning, analysis, policy formulation, and implementation, which enabled him to represent the Department on many difficult issues. Mr. Glaser's capacity to balance local implications and "the big picture" allows him to successfully create innovative solutions to seemingly impossible conflicts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Don Glaser for his tireless dedication to being a conscientious keeper of America's water and power resources. His innovative work and enthusiasm on behalf of the

Bureau of Reclamation make him a role model and source of pride for all Americans.

## TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL BOWLDS

### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the life of Michael Bowlds, my constituent and a man of unique vision. Michael passed away last month after a courageous battle with cancer. Even until his final days, Michael worked tirelessly to make a difference in the lives of others.

Michael was an award-winning sales, business development, and marketing professional. A highly regarded government contracting expert, he established Mountaintop Marketing Group, one of the top government marketing firms in the country.

Michael's accomplishments as a business leader were widely recognized. He was named the 2009 "Advocate of the Year" by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency and commended for his leadership, guidance and support in assisting small and minority-owned firms with securing over \$200 million in government contracts in that year alone. Nationally recognized as a leading Minority Business Champion, Michael and Mountaintop Marketing Group hosted the Annual Minority Business Awards Gala in conjunction with Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. He was a recipient of the prestigious "Yeti Zanders Outstanding Advocate of the Year" Award presented by the National Capital Area Minority Business Opportunities Center, selected as one of the "2010 Top 25 CEOs" by the Gazette of Business and Politics, and named one of the "50 Powerful Men In Business" by the Minority Enterprise Executive Council.

Michael served as Board Chairman for the National Capital Area Minority Business Opportunities Center Advisory Board and on the Board of Directors of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, and was a founding member and financial underwriter of the Montgomery County Chamber's Government Contracting Network. He also served on the Board of Directors for the National Women's Business Center.

An active member of his community, Michael was deeply involved in mentoring small businesses through the Montgomery County Small Business Mentorship Program. He also was a founding member and instructor of the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce's Veteran Institute for Procurement.

I send my condolences to his wife Courtney, his three children and his many friends and colleagues throughout our community. He will be deeply missed.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT KAUFFMAN, CAPTAIN MIHELICH, OFFICER BLASINGAME, AND OFFICER GOLEZ OF FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Kauffman, Captain Mihelich, Officer Blasingame, and Officer Golez of Fairfield, California.

Sergeant Kauffman will retire after nearly 30 years of law enforcement service with the City of Fairfield. He was hired as a Public Safety Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on July 5, 1983. Sergeant Kauffman served the community in a number of non-emergency patrol functions while putting himself through the police academy. After graduation, he was rehired as a Police Officer on June 30, 1986 where he worked in various capacities that included Patrol, Investigations, Solano Narcotics Enforcement Team (Sol-NET), and Field Training. Sergeant Kauffman earned the Police Officer of the Quarter award in November 1999 for his reliability and commitment to community service. On December 31, 1999, he was promoted to Police Corporal and then earned the City Manager's Commendation on July 28, 2003 for his contributions and dedication to the City's Driver Training program.

On March 3, 2006, Sergeant Kauffman was promoted to Police Sergeant and ultimately supervised a number of different units including Patrol, Professional Standards, and Major Crimes. In 2009, as the Police Department experienced changes in leadership and command staff, he stepped in and assisted City management in filling the gaps. Sergeant Kauffman assumed the Police Lieutenant's position and managed Patrol Operations for several months. He has a can-do attitude and he consistently provides quality service to the community.

Sergeant Kauffman has been a valued employee and leader, and his commitment to the community was evidenced on a daily basis. He was a loyal representative of the law enforcement community and admired for his hard work, dedication, and positive work ethic.

Captain Mihelich will retire after nearly 29 years of law enforcement service, with 25 years of that service to the City of Fairfield. After serving over three years as a Reserve Officer and Police Officer with the South San Francisco Police Department, Captain Mihelich was hired as a Police Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on October 12, 1987. As an officer, he worked in various capacities that included Patrol, Investigations, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), Special Operations, Gang Suppression, Special Activity Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Team, and Field Training.

Captain Mihelich was promoted to Police Corporal on December 31, 1999 and then to Police Sergeant on December 28, 2001. He skillfully mentored and supervised units in Patrol and Training & Personnel, and was named Manager of the Year in 2006. After being promoted to Lieutenant on June 6, 2008, Captain Mihelich served as a Commander for Patrol,

Quality of Life, and Administrative Services Bureaus. He was a strong and decisive leader and as the Police Department experienced changes in leadership and command staff, he consistently stepped in and assisted City management in filling the gaps. He assumed the Police Captain's position and managed the Support Services Division beginning in April 2011 before being formally promoted on February 10, 2012.

Captain Mihelich has been a valued employee and leader, and his commitment to the City and community was evidenced on a daily basis. He was a loyal representative of the law enforcement community and admired for his hard work, dedication, and positive work ethic. Captain Mihelich is commended for his selfless contribution to Fairfield and its constituents.

Officer Blasingame will retire after 30 years of law enforcement service, with 23 years of that service to the City of Fairfield. After serving seven years as a Correctional Officer and Deputy Sheriff with the Solano County Sheriff's Office, he was hired as a Police Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on September 25, 1989, and served the community in a number of capacities within the Patrol and Investigations Bureaus.

Officer Blasingame has received numerous commendations from citizens and coworkers for his consistent and skillful performance. Some of his most significant contributions to the Police Department have been sharing his knowledge and experience of solid investigative skills, exceptional memory, and quality reporting techniques with fellow officers. Officer Blasingame has been a dedicated team member, mentor and positive representation of the Fairfield Police Department.

Officer Golez will retire after nearly 30 years of law enforcement service to the City of Fairfield. He was hired as a Public Safety Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on January 7, 1983, and served the community in a number of police and fire functions until he attended the police academy in early 1985. After graduation, he was promoted to Police Officer on May 20, 1985, where he worked in various capacities within the Patrol and Traffic units.

Officer Golez has received numerous commendations from citizens and coworkers for his consistent and exemplary performance. Some of his most significant contributions to the Police Department have been the development of the Police Cadet Program and sharing his motorcycle expertise with fellow officers. Officer Golez has been a dedicated teacher, mentor and a positive representation of the Fairfield Police Department.

Sergeant Kauffman and Captain Mihelich will be presented with their retirement memorabilia at 3 p.m. on Thursday, December 13, 2012, during an Employee Recognition reception in Willow Hall at the Fairfield Community Center. Officers Blasingame and Golez will be recognized in early January. All are welcome to join the celebration of these distinguished careers.

HONORING YOUR NEWS NOW  
"YNN"

**HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Your News Now "YNN," a local 24-hour news channel exclusively provided seven days a week by Time Warner Cable. Serving the State of New York, YNN is celebrating its 10th Anniversary.

Across Upstate New York, my constituents rely on YNN for their local news. Since its debut, YNN has provided in-depth coverage of national, state, and local new stories, community events, high school sports, and weather forecasting. This has allowed New Yorkers the ability to access local news coverage regardless of the time of day.

YNN also provides the only statewide political program, "Capital Tonight," covering the State Capitol, U.S. Capitol, and political news from across the Empire State each weekday evening.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the commitment Time Warner and YNN have made to ensuring quality local news programming throughout New York State. As Thomas Jefferson once said, "Whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government." YNN is an important part of this effort for my constituents in the 20th District of New York and across our state, and I congratulate them on their 10th Anniversary.

REMEMBERING JACK BROOKS,  
FORMER JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
CHAIRMAN

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I was saddened to learn of the passing of my friend and former colleague Jack Brooks.

As long-time members of the House Judiciary Committee and the Government Reform Committee, Jack Brooks and I worked closely together. I saw firsthand his dedication to serving our nation and his constituents in Texas. Through his leadership as a senior member of the Judiciary Committee in the 1960s, both the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act made their way through the committee and ultimately passed into law. Less than a decade later, he led the effort to hold President Nixon accountable to the public, and helped draft the articles of impeachment against Nixon. As Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee from 1989 to 1995, Jack Brooks oversaw the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Violence Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, and the modernization of the Civil Rights Act. Chairman Brooks was also a longstanding champion of competition, antitrust and government accountability.

Jack Brooks will be remembered by many. His lasting contributions will continue to be felt in our civil rights laws across the country.

I'M STANDING IN HONOR OF AN AMERICAN HERO, SGT JOSHUA WETZEL, 2ND INFANTRY EARTH PIGS, THE UNITED STATES ARMY

### HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of Alabama's most heroic sons, Joshua Wetzel of The United States Army. While out on patrol on May 31, 2012 Joshua was almost killed in an IED explosion in Kandahar Afghanistan. While he lost his legs and suffered numerous other injuries, he never lost his faith. As he said to me the first time I met him in a hospital bed at Walter Reed, I'm still standing! And that pretty much sums up this man's will to live and can do spirit. He makes all of America proud and his town of Glencoe. With the help of his family and wonderful wife Paige, he has already made such great strides in such a short time and it's going to be hard to catch up to him. I ask that this poem penned in his honor by Albert Caswell be placed in the RECORD.

#### I'M STILL STANDING

I'm . . .  
I'm still standing . . .  
Here on this very day . . .  
You may take my two strong legs,  
but my heart you can not so sway!  
I'm still standing!  
Look at me out on my way!  
For I've got mountains to so climb,  
and so many hearts to so inspire,  
and such hope to so convey all in my time  
along the way!  
Yea, I'm still standing,  
as I fight this new fight each and every day!  
All at speed,  
as my heart so gives me all that I so need  
. . .  
so you better get out of my way!  
You see,  
War Eagles do not so hesitate!  
For I am Army Strong,  
as my heart beats loud and long . . .  
to fight for freedom night and day!  
2nd Infantry, EARTH PIGS who fight and  
lead!  
And The University of Auburn,  
is all part of my very DNA!  
Because, sweet Alabama was where I was  
born and raised!  
And all of my children are going to graduate  
from there one day!  
For I am a grunt!  
Ever on the hunt!  
To evil to so confront!  
As I was on that fateful day!  
As when my short life almost went away!  
Without legs, and halfway to death as there  
I lay!  
As I had a choice,  
as when inside of me I so heard a voice,  
telling me to stay!  
And I got up and run for the first time in my  
life without legs!  
With the tears running down my eyes,  
I began to pray!  
As along side of me my Lord God ran with  
me that day!  
Helping me chase all of that heartache and  
doubt away!  
As now I must rebuild!  
As so inside of me my hearts instills!  
The courage and the strength to so will!  
Because, I'm Standing Still!  
Heartache and pity get out of my way!

Don't cry for me,  
but for all of my Brothers in Arms who now  
lie in such soft quiet graves!  
And I'm going back home to sweet Alabama,  
running one day!  
And to this our world,  
my life still has so much more to say!  
And I've got a wonderful wife,  
who is the light of my life who has shown me  
that true love really stays!  
And this War Eagle,  
stands so regal with his courage he displays!  
As I'm still standing even taller on this day!

### TRIBUTE TO OFFICER LAWRENCE BANKS

### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Officer Lawrence Banks, who will retire after nearly 26 years of law enforcement service with the City of Fairfield.

Officer Banks began his law enforcement service with the City of Pittsburg as a volunteer Reserve Officer in 1985 and, after putting himself through police academy, he was hired as a Police Officer with the Fairfield Police Department on March 16, 1987. He has served the community in various capacities that included Patrol and Youth Services.

Officer Banks received numerous commendations from citizens and coworkers, and he was named Police Officer of the Year for 1993 for his consistent and exemplary performance within our local schools. Some of his most significant contributions to the Police Department have been the special assignments he has held including School Resource Officer, Drug Abuse Resistance Education, DARE, Instructor, and on the Police-Probation Team. Officer Banks was invaluable in these roles because he is skilled at developing better relationships with not only juveniles he came in contact with, but with parents and school administrators. He has taken community service to a new level through his dedicated teaching, collaboration, and positive representation of the City of Fairfield and the Fairfield Police Department.

Officer Banks has been a valued employee and his commitment to the community was evidenced on a daily basis. He is a loyal representative of the law enforcement community and admired for his hard work, dedication, and positive work ethic.

Officer Banks will be presented with his retirement memorabilia in early January. All are invited to celebrate his distinguished career.

### A TRIBUTE TO KARA KNACK

### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kara Knack, who will be retiring from the Friends of the Observatory, FOTO, Board this month after thirty-four years of dedicated service.

Kara Knack's enthusiasm for the Griffith Observatory began long before she joined FOTO.

She first visited the Observatory on a vacation in the 1950's, at which point she was so enthralled that when she moved to Southern California in the early 1960's, she quickly became a regular visitor to the Observatory. Her ardent interest in astronomy came to the attention of Griffith Observatory Director Dr. Ed Krupp, who encouraged her to become a more active member of FOTO by joining the Board of Directors. Upon joining the Board in 1978, Kara began writing and editing FOTO's Update newsletter, which she continued to do for the next 10 years. Since 1985 she has penned the FOTO Notes section in the Griffith Observer, the Observatory's magazine.

Ms. Knack's passion for astronomy and dedication to the Observatory culminated in 2008, when over 2,200 of her celestially themed items were used for the Cosmic Connection timeline, now on display in the Griffith Observatory. For over two decades, Kara has collected celestial objects and jewelry and when the Observatory underwent renovation in 2006, she saw an opportunity to share her collection with the institution she devoted so much of her time to, and with the support of the Observatory staff, the Cosmic Connection was created.

As a member of FOTO's board, Kara has served as the secretary for four terms, as vice president two terms, and as president for three terms. In addition she has also served on the Master Plan Committee, the Architectural Committee, the Selection Committee, the Renovation and Expansion Steering Committee, the Exhibit Planning Committee, the Planetarium Planning Committee, the Reopening Committee and the Volunteer Neighborhood Oversight Committee.

For decades, Kara has demonstrated unparalleled enthusiasm not just for the Observatory, but for public education about astronomy. She has donated her time, her possessions, and her heart to the pursuit of astronomy, and her extraordinary generosity shall continue to be felt at the Griffith Observatory for years to come.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring Kara Knack for her exemplary service to the Griffith Observatory.

### 8TH ANNUAL "SPIRIT OF INNOVATION" INDUCTION CEREMONY

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sincerity and admiration that I offer congratulations to Ivy Tech Community College Northwest and its regional partners, who recently celebrated their 8th Annual "Spirit of Innovation" Induction Ceremony. At the ceremony, thirty individuals and teams were inducted as members of the 2012-2013 class of the Society of Innovators of Northwest Indiana. Of these individuals, certain members were inducted as Society Fellows for their exceptional efforts in innovation, including Eugene S. Smotkin, Ph.D., Pearl Prince, Olga Petryszyn, Gus Olympidis, and Neal H. Haskell, Ph.D. Additionally, Gregg A. VanDusseldorp Sr. was honored at the event with the Gerald I. Lamkin Fellow for Innovation and Service, a special recognition named for

the president of Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana. Also honored were the Chanute Prize team recipients, the Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation of Purdue University Calumet and "S-in motion," ArcelorMittal Global R&D Center, East Chicago. For their truly remarkable contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana and their continuous efforts to cultivate a culture of innovation, these honorees were inducted during a prestigious event that took place at the Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Indiana, on October 18, 2012.

The Society of Innovators of Northwest Indiana was created by Chancellor J. Guadalupe Valtierra of Ivy Tech Northwest with the goal of highlighting and encouraging innovative individuals and groups within the not-for-profit, public, and private sectors, as well as building a "culture of innovation" in Northwest Indiana. The importance of innovation in Northwest Indiana, as well as globally, is crucial in today's ever-changing economy.

These five Fellows selected by the Society of Innovators were chosen for their extraordinary innovative leadership and the impact of their accomplishments throughout the community of Northwest Indiana and the world. Eugene S. Smotkin, Ph.D. is a professor of Chemistry at Northwestern University and the Chief Executive Officer of NuVant Systems, Incorporated in Crown Point. NuVant develops and distributes electrochemical equipment and materials for the research and development, manufacturing, and educational markets. Pearl Prince is the principal of Frankie Woods McCullough Girls Academy in Gary, the city's first public all girls school for kindergarten through seventh grade students. Pearl developed and implemented an educational model that has led the academy to become an award winning elementary school for students from low income areas. Olga Petryszyn was named one of the top hosta plant hybridizers in the United States. Since 1993, she has registered twenty-four hosta plants with twenty-two varieties commercialized. In 2012, the world famous "Niagara Falls" variety was honored by the American Hosta Society. Gus Olympidis, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Family Express, developed a nationally recognized business model that measures up to global competitors. The business model includes the "Living Brand" for customer service, innovative logistics, and state-of-the-art technology linking the 57 stores to their headquarters in Valparaiso. Neal Haskell, Ph.D., Saint Joseph College, Rensselaer, is one of the foremost scientists of forensic entomology in the world. Using his expertise of the life cycles of insects to determine time and location of death in criminal cases, Dr. Haskell is a pioneer and truly an innovative leader. He has assisted the FBI, Indiana State Police, New York State Police, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and Canada's Office of the Chief Coroner, among others, with criminal cases across the county and throughout the world.

I am also honored to represent Gregg A. VanDusseldorp Sr., who was awarded the Gerald I. Lamkin Fellow for Innovation and Service. Gregg is the President of Omnitech Systems, Incorporated in Valparaiso, Indiana. Gregg founded this medical device company that has developed products to assist with surgeries associated with urology and gynecology. He currently holds eight patents for products that are used by surgeons worldwide.

Finally, the recipients of the Chanute Prize for Team Innovation should be commended for their contributions. The Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation of Purdue University Calumet has been able to save more than \$30 million dollars for local business, industry, and communities by implementing its modeling, visualization and simulation technologies, researchers. Additionally, "S-in motion" is a revolutionary concept of designing lighter and safer automobiles utilizing new steel products that was created with the assistance of ArcelorMittal Global R&D Center in East Chicago. This innovative program works to create steel for automobiles that reduces the weight of vehicles in order to meet higher fuel standards and to guarantee the use of steel in automobiles in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these outstanding innovators. The contributions they have made to society, here in Northwest Indiana and worldwide, are immeasurable and lifelong. For their truly brilliant innovative ideas, projects, and leadership, each recipient is worthy of the highest commendation.

CONGRATULATING MS. DEBORAH WASYLIK, RECIPIENT OF THE 2012 RICHARD C. BARTLETT ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD

### HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Ms. Deborah Wasylik of Orlando, Florida on being named the recipient of the 2012 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award. This annual award is presented to an outstanding middle or high school teacher who integrates environmental studies in their curriculum and engages students in interdisciplinary solutions to environmental challenges.

Ms. Wasylik teaches Advanced Placement Environmental Science and Marine Science to juniors and seniors at Dr. Phillips High School. In spite of not having a science budget and having to construct curriculum on her own, not only have her students on average scored over thirty points above the national average on their Advanced Placement exams, but they also hold the highest Advanced Placement passing rate in Orange County Public Schools. Ms. Wasylik succeeds in engaging her students, as well as her fellow colleagues, in environmental studies by integrating environmental education across subject areas beyond science, including history, language arts and mathematics. Her reinforcement of student learning facilitates students making real world and local connections associated with environmental issues.

In addition to their academic successes, her students have excelled significantly in achievements beyond the traditional classroom. Her students started a recycling program for Dr. Phillips High School's campus and created an outreach program to educate other school groups on aquaponics. With Ms. Wasylik's help, her students have been able to give back to their community in various ways in-

cluding cleaning up beaches, removing invasive plants, and giving tours of the ecosystem section at the Orlando Science Center.

Her spirit of dedication and commitment to her students is an example of the life-changing impact a dedicated educator can have on a community and on the individual lives of students. She is a shining example of the fruits of selflessness demonstrated by educators who devote themselves to Florida's future by investing in Florida's students.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to recognize and applaud Ms. Deborah Wasylik for her hard work, dedication, and leadership. She is most deserving of the 2012 Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award. May her investment in our nation's students, environment and educational institutions inspire others to follow in her footsteps.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,370,056,245,929.64. We've added \$5,743,179,197,016.56 to our debt in nearly 4 years. This is \$5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

COMMEMORATING THE CITY OF SOUTHFIELD

### HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the City of Southfield, and thank the residents of Southfield who have provided me with the honor of representing them in Congress for 30 years. My beloved late wife, Vicki and I, called Southfield our home when I was first elected to Congress, and our Congressional office was based there for many years. I have been proud to see the fabric of this community diversify racially and to watch it develop economically.

Historically, when Governor Cass first ordered the area in the "south fields" of Bloomfield Township surveyed in 1817, he could not have guessed at the fine city it would become. Though it became a township in 1830, it wasn't until 1958, over 100 years later, that Southfield would formally incorporate into a city.

Southfield has earned its moniker, "The Center of It All." Strong neighborhoods. Good schools. Manufacturing. Office high-rises which house more than 100 Fortune 500 companies. And, a deep sense of community and friendship.

I have enjoyed participating in so many activities and events like the annual Dr. Martin

Luther King Day peace walk and commemoration, ceremonies at the VFW, activities sponsored by your schools and your strong and vibrant religious institutions, and the effort many years ago to cleanup the Rouge River, which I actually got into. I am pleased at what a leader your community has become in the Veterans History Project interviewing over 200 veterans and placing their histories at the Library of Congress. And, congratulations to Dr. Wanda Cook-Robinson, the Superintendent of Southfield Schools, who was recently named the 2013 Superintendent of the Year by the Michigan Association of School Administrators.

I was proud to fight for the federal dollars needed to create the Center for Innovative Materials Research. This partnership between Lawrence Technological University, TARDEC and the Army Research Lab, was established for the research, development and testing of carbon-fiber composite materials for defense applications.

Mayor Lawrence, former mayor and current City Councilman Don Fracassi, along with all of the dedicated City Council members and other local elected officials continue to move the City of Southfield forward, and I look forward to following their success in the years to come.

As I close, I can say with confidence that the City of Southfield and its residents are in good hands with Congressman GARY PETERS. My office will, of course, stay in close touch on issues that impact Oakland County and southeast Michigan as we all work together to revitalize our Michigan economy.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF WALTER NEWMAN

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay final tribute to a prominent San Francisco businessman, philanthropist, and civic leader: Walter Newman. San Francisco has been blessed by Walter's life, vision, leadership, and generosity. His legacy will leave an everlasting impact on our city.

Walter Newman was a third generation Californian, a dedicated patriot, and a proud American. He served our country as an Army infantry captain during World War II. He earned a Purple Heart for wounds sustained while leading his troops into Normandy. He earned the gratitude and accolades of the people of France, the recipient of that country's highest civilian honor, the Chevalier of the National Order of the Legion of Honor.

Mr. Newman continued his service in our beloved hometown of San Francisco. As head of the Planning Commission and the Redevelopment Commission, he helped lead the effort to develop major civic projects ranging from the Transamerica Pyramid to Mission Bay. As president of the San Francisco Fine Arts Museum, he was instrumental in bringing King Tut artifacts to San Francisco as one of our first great art exhibitions.

He played a vital role in the establishment of University High School in San Francisco. He was a member of the Board of Governors of the University of California, San Francisco; a member of the UCSF Conflict of Interest

Committee; and a member of the board of the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation.

In a true reflection of his dedication to his fellow veterans, he served on the Board of Directors of NCIRE—The Veterans Health Research Institute, a national leader in advancing veterans' health research based in San Francisco. He helped establish a veterans' resource center at the City College of San Francisco. It is a testament to Mr. Newman's long-standing dedication to San Francisco and our veterans that UCSF will soon have a 42,000-square-foot Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Mission Bay.

Walter will be remembered for his positive attitude and compassion, for his unyielding commitment to the education of our children and the health of our people, for his unending devotion to the well-being of our veterans.

He will be remembered for his exemplary will and exceptional values—for the way he inspired others to action, even in moments of his own grief. Indeed, when his son Bob tragically passed away from a malignant brain tumor, Walter responded in characteristic fashion. At a time when so many others would, understandably, turn inward with grief, he honored his son's memory by co-founding and becoming President of the National Brain Tumor Foundation—an organization that assists thousands of people suffering from brain cancer.

A cherished civic leader. A proud San Franciscan. A champion for our city, our state, and our country. This is how we will all remember Walter Newman.

Yet, as devoted as he was to civic and cultural causes in San Francisco, he was above all devoted to his beloved wife Ellen, his sons Walter Jr. and John, and brother-in-law Jerry. I hope it is a comfort to his family and loved ones that so many join them in mourning his passing.

HONORING COLONEL PAUL W.  
BRICKER

**HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people in New York's 20th District to express our sincere appreciation for the selfless service, dedication, and sacrifice to the United States by Colonel Paul W. Bricker who retired this year after 25 years of service. As a tribute, I wish to enter the poem written by the Poet, Albert Carey Caswell, entitled "Brick by Brick."

BRICK, BY BRICK

Brick!  
Brick, by Brick!  
Are but built, all of those men of honor who  
our Nation now so picks! To so lead our  
magnificent men and women off to war!  
Whose fine hearts, all in the midst of such  
hell so ever soar!  
Who all so valiantly, all so charge off so  
forth!  
Brick, by Brick!  
Whose hearts are Air Borne!  
Who lead with such honor and such speed!  
Who take off and hover over danger, with  
hearts so very warm indeed!  
Who crank and bank, who we all so  
thank. . . who our Lord so adores!  
Who cry when their Brothers and Sisters In  
Arms so die!

Who in times of war will leave all that they  
so love with tears in eyes!

But, for The Greater Good they do not so ask  
why!

Who on the ground and in the air their fine  
hearts to new height's so fly!

Brick, by Brick. . . as their fine hearts are  
so molded to so pick!

To make those tough choices, to send mag-  
nificent heroes off to die!

Built on courage and such faith!

Whose brilliant hearts shall not so wave!

With words like Honor, Duty, and Country  
their foundations are all so made!

Brick, by Brick!

Showing us all how men and leaders of honor  
so behave!

Who each day walk by the grave!

All so to lead!

All so our nation can so succeed!

Can so live all in such peace!

As we so thank all of them and all of these!

Who Brick by Brick, but build the very bed-  
rock of our peace!

Who are Army Strong, whose lives are like a  
song!

Air Borne, Colonel Bricker. . . in hearts we  
carry you now so very warm!

Hoo. . . oh!

—By Albert Carey Caswell

TO RECOGNIZE THE 2012  
LIFECIRCLE ALLIANCE KUDOS  
FOR CAREGIVERS HONOREES

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the winners of the 2012 LifeCircle Alliances Kudos for Community Caregivers Awards. LifeCircle Alliances, a non-profit organization based in Fairfax County, Virginia, is a leader in promoting and enabling independent living for older adults with developmental, intellectual, or physical disabilities, including our Wounded Warriors.

LifeCircle Alliances has formed public-private partnerships to create innovative long-term care solutions, enhance existing programs, and address workforce, mobility and transportation issues. The goal of these efforts is independence for life; ensuring that our older adults and adults with disabilities are able to live independently and with dignity in their communities of choice.

The LifeCircle Alliances Kudos for Community Caregivers Award celebration recognizes the efforts of six outstanding caregivers, who tirelessly provide dedicated care, day in and day out. The recipients of the 2012 Kudos Awards are:

Stephanie Mensh—Stephanie Mensh has been a caregiver for Mr. Paul Berger for 25 years. Additionally, she has volunteered her time supporting stroke and TBI survivors and their families. She also provides support and advice to other caregivers by hosting a support group as well as providing individual support by phone, email, and in person.

Liza Ruiz—The loving mother of two daughters, Mrs. Ruiz has been caring almost daily for her 65 year old daughter, Cynthia, who was brain injured at birth and her husband who has been diagnosed with dementia. For many years, she did this while working as a full-time employee of the federal government. Mrs. Ruiz was instrumental in helping to establish the Northern Virginia Training Center, which opened in 1973.

Maureen Renault—A dedicated and tireless caregiver, Maureen Renault has taken on the daunting task of caring for her mother, a resident at Herndon Harbor Adult Day Health Care Center. During this time Maureen has been actively involved in her mother's care at the center in addition to her needs at home.

Steven Nehl-Care-giving is an around the clock job for Mr. Nehl. He cares for his autistic son, Michael, and wife, Joanne, who is continuing to recover from two brain aneurysms. Since the time of her illness in 2008, Joanne is unable to work and Mr. Nehl may only maintain short-term positions due to the tremendous requirements of his time at home.

Cecilia Ortega-Shew—For almost two decades, Cecilia Ortega-Shew has given selflessly to individuals living with HIV/AIDS. In her role as a mental health clinician and program clinical manager for Inova Juniper Group, she helps pregnant women have healthy, HIV-free babies and continues to counsel people on the difficulties of living with HIV. She inspires young staff to be better clinicians and instills in them a passion for caring for those with HIV.

Natascha Dixon Edelin—Passionate and dedicated to helping women and children in need, Natascha Dixon Edelin tirelessly works to assist the battered women of Fairfax, Virginia and honor them for their strength, courage and commitment. She partnered with the co-founders of the Duffy House in 2011 to organize the "Duffy House Day of Pampering" for victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse which provided, at no charge, a much needed day of respite for approximately 50 women and 80 children. Her continued work with the Duffy House brings joy into this special community.

I congratulate this year's winners and recognize each of them for their dedication and personal sacrifices. These individuals are examples of the many caregivers who put the needs of their families, friends and colleagues above their own. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the 2012 LifeCircle Alliances awardees and in thanking the volunteers, staff, and partners of LifeCircle Alliances for their efforts in providing assistance to not only those in need of care, but to those who provide the care here in our community.

IN HONOR OF MR. LOREE SOGGS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Loree Soggs and his countless contributions to the labor communities of both the City of Cleveland and State of Ohio. Mr. Soggs has been an active member of and staunch advocate for unions and union members since he entered the workforce nearly fifty years ago.

Mr. Soggs began his affiliation with the labor community in 1964 as an operating engineer. As a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), Local 18, he served as a business agent, apprenticeship coordinator, steward director, officer and fringe benefit fund trustee. In 1994, Mr. Soggs was elected to the office of Executive Secretary for

Cleveland's Building and Construction Trades Council (CBCTD), being the first operating engineer to hold this office in the Council's history. In his capacity as president, Mr. Soggs has successfully negotiated numerous contracts fighting for the betterment of working men and women within the community.

In addition to his dedicated work with IOUE Local 18 and the CBCTD, Mr. Soggs has also affiliated himself with numerous labor organizations and programs throughout Northeast Ohio and the State of Ohio. He has served as President of the North Shore Federation of Labor; Vice President of the Ohio State Building and Construction Trades Council; Trustee of the Union Construction Industry Partnership; Chairman of the Union Construction Industry Partnership/Apprenticeship Skills Achievement Program; Executive Director of the Northern Ohio Building Trades Real Estate Investment Program; Vice President of the United Labor Agency; President of Pinzone Towers; Vice President of Lupica Towers; and Co-Chair to the Labor Initiative of United Way of Greater Cleveland. He is also a member of the Cuyahoga County/City of Cleveland Workforce Investment Board; Executive Committee of the Cleveland Catholic Diocese Building Commission; Executive Committee of the Cuyahoga Democratic Party; board member of the Ohio Water Development Authority; and member of Mayor Jackson's Sustainability Cabinet.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Mr. Loree Soggs who has dedicated his life and career to the labor communities of Ohio.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ARGYLE  
HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Argyle High School Marching Band, which has earned their 5th victory at the University Interscholastic League (UIL) State Marching Band contest. The Eagle Marching Band has competed six times in the UIL state marching finals, and out of those competitions, the band has achieved first place honors an astonishing five times!

The Argyle High School Marching Band's achievements are based upon the devotion and hard work that each individual student member puts into their performance, giving it their best efforts from the first hot practice in the blazing summer sun, through repeated practices, football game half-times and progressively competitive marching contests. Student leaders for the 2012 Argyle High School Marching Band are Drum Majors Randi Martin, Cameron Schafer and Lindsey Johnson. This fall, the crowning attainment for 120-plus band members was winning the UIL Class 3A championship for a third consecutive time with their remarkable program: "Moving Parts." Led by Director of Bands, Kathy Johnson and Assistant Directors, Michael Lemish, Lucy Pascasio, Evan Fletcher, and Color Guard Instructor Sarah Ross, the leadership team for the Argyle High School Marching Band is to be commended as well.

I join the citizens of Argyle, the band booster organization and band parents in congratulating the Argyle High School Marching Band for their tremendous winning record. They have been excellent musical ambassadors for their school, community and the 26th District of Texas. It is my privilege to serve the administrators, teachers, staff and students of the Argyle Independent School District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

lating the Argyle High School Marching Band for their tremendous winning record. They have been excellent musical ambassadors for their school, community and the 26th District of Texas. It is my privilege to serve the administrators, teachers, staff and students of the Argyle Independent School District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

NAMING THE JESSE HELMS FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

**HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, recently I introduced a bill to rename the Century Postal Station in Raleigh, North Carolina in honor of former United States Senator Jesse Helms.

Senator Helms, North Carolina's longest serving Senator, was a genuine man who fought for what he believed. He himself said, "I didn't come to Washington to be a 'yes man' for any president, Democrat or Republican. I didn't come to Washington to get along and win any popularity contests." His steadfast nature even earned him the nickname "Senator No," to which he had no objection.

While voters would many times disagree with his policies, they always knew where he stood. Former North Carolina Senator Elizabeth Dole said, "Even those who disagreed with Jesse on an issue could respect the fact that he always stood tall and firm for his convictions, his faith, his family, and his home State of North Carolina."

Despite sometimes being a controversial figure during his 30 years in the Senate, Helms faithfully served North Carolina and its citizens. He became a leading voice in the United States Senate fighting against communism, for a balanced budget, and simplifying the tax code. He served on the Senate Agriculture Committee, where he served as chairman from 1981 to 1987, as well as the powerful Foreign Relations Committee where he served as chairman from 1995 to 2001.

His legislative work may have been controversial, but his other Congressional duties were the opposite. Constituent service in Jesse Helms' office was second to none and set a new standard. Democrat or Republican, liberal or conservative, he made sure the constituents he worked for received prompt attention. Helms did everything he could to be accessible to his constituents, and showed genuine kindness and consideration to every one of them. He cared about his state and his fellow citizens.

Born in Monroe, North Carolina, Helms started his career in journalism. It was in his 11 years in journalism, including working for the Raleigh News and Observer, that he met his wife, Dorothy Coble, and went on to marry her in 1942. Senator Helms' first interest in politics is said to have come from his conversations with his conservative father-in-law. Senator Helms raised his family in Raleigh, and after he retired he continued to make Raleigh his home. Helms and his wife had three children—Jane, Nancy, and Charles, a child with cerebral palsy, adopted at 9 by the Senator and his wife.

Through this experience with Charles, Senator Helms became involved with Easter Seals

and fighting for children with disabilities. He continued his humanitarian work later in his career by supporting efforts to fight AIDS in Africa during his final term. Bono, lead singer of U2, even praised Helms' work by saying "without his taking a stance on AIDS, we would have lost a lot more lives."

From his humanitarian work, to office's renowned constituent services, to his consistently passionate legislative work on Capitol Hill, Senator Helms, North Carolina's longest serving Senator was a man well deserving of this honor. He was a great North Carolinian and a great American. For these reasons, it is appropriate to ensure that future generations remember his legacy by having this building bear his name.

RECOGNIZING BILL LAUER FOR HIS LIFETIME OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize William H. "Bill" Lauer for receiving Devotion to Children's Community Legacy Award. As a native of the Washington area, Bill has followed the age-old advice to "bloom where you are planted" and set a model example for using your talents to help not only yourself but also your neighbors.

Devotion to Children is a Northern Virginia nonprofit organization dedicated to working with other community partners to provide high-quality education and child-care programming for low-income families and children under the age of six. The Legacy award is presented annually at its Red, Heart and Soul Gala to recognize someone who has promoted public awareness of the organization and local needs, provided funding for programs and services, collaborated with other community organizations to support local children, or engaged in other activities that support the organization's mission. Bill Lauer has done each of those and so much more.

To many people, Bill may be known more for his professional accomplishments. He has spent the last four decades working in the residential and commercial real estate market. Bill worked for some of the region's premier homebuilders early in his career, including Gulf Reston, which led the visionary development for the new town of Reston. Bill founded Tetra Partners in 1981 and has amassed a distinguished record in the real estate industry. He is a former president and Life Director of the Northern Virginia Building Industry Association, which recognized him with its highest honor, the Emil Keen Award, for 25 years of exemplary work within the industry. He is a past president and board director for the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties Northern Virginia Chapter. He also has played a role with several of the local chambers of commerce and was a charter member of the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance.

Those are no doubt noteworthy achievements, but it is Bill's charitable activities that have proven invaluable to the community and that serve as an inspiration to a new genera-

tion of community leaders. Bill has been an active and financial supporter of local Habitat for Humanity and Ronald McDonald House, and he is a member of the board of Reston Interfaith. I was pleased to have him serve on the Affordable Housing Task Force that I launched during my tenure as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Through that effort, he worked to help expand rental and home ownership opportunities for low-income families. Bill and I also worked together on my homeless prevention initiative, and he continues to serve on the governing board of the Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness. Thanks to the efforts of Bill and the Partnership, Fairfax has been one of the few communities to actually reduce homelessness during the Great Recession.

And, of course, Bill is active with Devotion to Children. During the past decade, Bill has worked to expand awareness of the growing need for affordable child care and early childhood resources, and he has not only supported those efforts with his own resources but also recruited his colleagues in the private sector to join in the cause. Bill also has helped develop new partnerships with Devotion to Children, Reston Interfaith and the Reston YMCA, including an evening child care program to help those parents taking nighttime classes.

Mr. Speaker, based on Bill's lifetime of professional and charitable accomplishments, this recognition could easily have been renamed the "devotion to community" award. I want to personally thank Bill for his tireless efforts to assist at-risk families and children across Northern Virginia, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bill on this well-deserved recognition. His work is a reminder to us all that our community's strength and success is the product of every child and every family having an opportunity to succeed.

IN HONOR OF MR. OSCAR GUMUCIO

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Oscar Gumucio a profoundly respected friend, leader and advocate of the Greater Cleveland Community, and in recognition of his dedication to civic engagement, education and health care.

As the educational specialist for the MetroHealth Pediatric Hispanic Clinic, Mr. Gumucio is the advocate for Hispanic children when they need help with medical, psychosocial or even school issues. Many times, language and cultural barriers make it hard for Hispanic immigrants to stay healthy or excel in school; Mr. Gumucio does everything he can to remove those barriers or help children overcome them.

Mr. Gumucio developed his sincerity and devotion to the betterment of others when he was a Jesuit priest in the Catholic Church. His compassion for the less fortunate, profound knowledge of human behavior and love for everyone he meets have made him a highly respected person in Cleveland's educational, health and religious communities.

Born in Bolivia, Mr. Gumucio received his Doctorate in Philosophy and Master of Divinity

in Argentina, and his master's degree in Spanish literature in Columbia. He taught philosophy at the University of Havana in Cuba and Spanish Literature in Puerto Rico.

Upon leaving the priesthood, Mr. Gumucio eventually moved to Cleveland, where he worked in the Cleveland Municipal School District for 33 years. He is a co-founder of the district's bilingual program, the Mental Health Suicide Prevention Center and the Urban Community School.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the leadership and outstanding achievements of Mr. Gumucio for his work in the Greater Cleveland Community and commitment to MetroHealth and the Hispanic community.

KENT FISHER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kent Fisher, a dedicated public servant and community leader from Atchison County, Missouri.

Kent Fisher has served as Atchison County South District Commissioner since November of 1998, filling a two-year unexpired term followed by re-election to three subsequent four year terms. During his tenure as an elected official, Kent has served Atchison County's citizens through numerous natural disasters and reconstruction efforts including Presidentially-declared disasters for flooding and ice storms. He has been an instrumental part of the reconstruction efforts, collaborating with local, state and federal agencies to secure grant funding and ensure the county rebuilds and prospers.

Kent has been involved with various organizations for the betterment of the citizens of Atchison County and Northwest Missouri, including serving as a board member of Community Services of Northwest Missouri, the Fairfax Kiwanis Club, Fairfax Lodge #483, Scottish Rite Bodies of St. Joseph, and the Moila Shrine Temple. Kent is also a Leadership Northwest Missouri Graduate, and Past President of the Northwest Missouri Commissioners Association.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kent Fisher for his service to the citizens of Atchison County and Northwest Missouri. It is an honor to have had the opportunity to work with Kent for the betterment of Atchison County and Northwest Missouri. It is an honor to serve Kent in the United States Congress.

A TRIBUTE TO ALICE HAIGAZIAN BERMAN

**HON. CLIFF STEARNS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

June 25, 1925–November 12, 2003.

Teacher, mentor, beloved mother and daughter.

"A lady of grace and nobility. A legacy of inspiration and passion."

Alice Haigazian Berman, first generation American daughter of Armenian immigrants, Avedis and Baidzar Haigazian. She was born in Chicago, lived in Los Angeles, New York City, Ocala Florida. Wife of Harry Berman of the Music Corporation of America. Mother of Lloyd Berman Bellows.

Alice was a tenacious advocate for recognition of the 1915 Genocide that took the lives of over one and a half million Armenians, including several members of her mother's family. She was a classical Ballet instructor, a champion of the arts, a horse breeder, a registered securities broker. She wrote radio copy as a student. She appeared in traveling theatrical productions that included such personalities as Bob Hope, Harvey Korman and Dom Deluise. Alice was a mentor of young people and an inspiration and role model for all. Her character and undying spirit will be missed by all who knew her and all those whose lives she touched.

RECOGNIZING RECIPIENTS OF 2012  
FAIRFAX COUNTY HISTORY COMMISSION AWARDS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of local Fairfax County historians and to congratulate the recipients of the 2012 Fairfax County History Commission Awards.

Established in 1969, the Fairfax County History Commission continues to pursue its goal of helping to identify, document, record, and preserve Fairfax County's historic past. Most recently, the Commission has focused on local aspects of the Civil War Sesquicentennial. The Commission consists of a 20 member board appointed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The History Commission annually recognizes research and achievements in Fairfax County history as well as historic preservation. It is my honor to enter the names of the following 2012 recipients of the Fairfax County History Commission Awards into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

The Nan Netherton Award: C. Denise Barrett for her work in chronicling the history of the Lakewood Estates neighborhood in Southwest Fairfax Country.

The C.J.S. Durhan Award: Lisa Friedrich Becker for her nomination of the Sydenstricker School to the National Registry and efforts to renovate that site.

The Beth Mitchell Award: David G. Farmer for his collection of Flint Hill Cemetery records going back to 1875.

The Distinguished Service Award: Evelyn Fox for her work on the play and subsequent video "Capitan John Smith: A History of McLean & Great Falls, Virginia."

The Lifetime Achievement Award: Suzanne Levy for her more than 30 years of service in the Virginia Room of the Fairfax City Library and her devotion to promoting history, genealogy and historical preservation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2012 Fairfax County His-

tory Commission Awards recipients and in commending the Commission's continued efforts to preserve, identify, document and record the history of Fairfax County.

IN HONOR MR. FRED ZIWICH

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Fred Ziwich, who is one of the country's prominent polka musicians.

Mr. Ziwich began playing the accordion at the young age of five. In 1977, at the age of 14, he began studying the clarinet and formed his band, the International Sound Machine. Mr. Ziwich also began playing the button box in high school. Later, he would earn a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Indiana University.

As a child, Mr. Ziwich was heavily influenced by Slovenian polka artists, Johnny Pecon and Eddie Stampfl. He transformed that influence into a polka style that is unique and well-received throughout the world. Mr. Ziwich is best known for his Viennese Waltzes and Slovenian Polkas. He is an accomplished musician who is proficient at playing the accordion, button box, saxophone, clarinet, flute and drums among others. Throughout his career in the music industry he has collaborated with artists such as Hank Haller, Don Lipovac and Adam Barthalt.

A full-time musician, Mr. Ziwich has continued to play the accordion with the International Sound Machine for more than thirty years. In 2007, the band was nominated for a Grammy Award. In addition to being an international Grammy nominee, Mr. Ziwich has been honored on numerous occasions by the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame. He is the recipient of accolades which include being named the Musician of the Year, Button Box Musician of the Year and producing the Recording of the Year.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Fred Ziwich, a polka legend from Northeast Ohio.

IN HONOR OF JOHN T. COLLINS

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. John T. Collins, II, MPH who served for the past ten years as an elected Trustee of the Santa Cruz City School Board. A native of Santa Cruz, California, Mr. Collins earned his Master of Public Health Degree from San Jose State University, and his Bachelor of Science Degree in Health and Human Services Administration from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. In addition, I am honored to know John on a personal level as a dear friend.

As the Senior Vice President of Workforce Development Programs to Goodwill Industries of Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties, Inc. John brought his passion for creating opportunities into the Santa Cruz

schools as an advocate for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, ensuring services to children with disabilities. He also addressed the needs of the Spanish speaking community with programs to help early language learners, and promoted the School to Careers program.

During his tenure, the Board passed four parcel taxes enabling them to build a new pool and a stadium for two high schools, improve their IT infrastructure, make classroom upgrades, and place solar arrays on nearly every school. Those years also saw improved test scores and college admission rates including to the highest ranked colleges such as the UC Berkeley, Harvard, Princeton, UCLA and Stanford.

Mr. Speaker, as John steps down as Trustee, I know that the many projects, issues, and problems that he helped tackle and solve have made the school district a better place for learning and growing. His guidance enriched the lives of the students, as well as the Monterey Bay region as a whole, and I know the whole House joins me in thanking John for his years of leadership in public education—well done!

INTRODUCTION OF GLOBAL  
PARTNERSHIPS ACT OF 2012

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Global Partnerships Act of 2012, a bill to establish a framework for effective, transparent, and accountable United States foreign assistance.

This legislation represents the culmination of nearly five years of effort, starting in March 2008 when I assumed the chairmanship of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. In reviewing the vast array of issues and problems that demanded the Committee's time and attention, I decided that reform of our antiquated foreign aid system should be high on the agenda.

At a time when our headlines are dominated by urgent crises and new openings abroad—whether it's the rebellion in Syria, the humanitarian catastrophe in Congo or the transition in Burma—some have questioned why I would choose to focus on foreign aid reform. The answer is really quite simple: because our foreign assistance laws have a significant impact on our ability to respond to all of those events.

Regrettably, over the past few years we have witnessed an increasingly destructive and divisive assault on our foreign assistance program and on U.S. international engagement more broadly. It is easy to find fault with the current system, but rather than taking cheap shots and mindlessly slashing programs, I believe it is incumbent upon us to find a responsible way to fix them.

It makes no sense that, under the current system, it is almost impossible to give small grants directly to local groups that are leading the way towards peaceful, democratic change. Our diplomats and development professionals shouldn't have to sit at their desks writing reports that duplicate information that is easily available on the Internet. There ought not to be situations where two agencies are doing the same thing in the same place and aren't even aware of it—or worse yet, undermining each other's efforts.

I recognize that there have been many attempts over the years to correct the problems with U.S. foreign assistance, which include bureaucratic fragmentation, program incoherence, and obsolete, inconsistent and rigid laws. I regret that this process has taken much longer, and proven much more complicated, than I originally anticipated. The easy road would be to leave foreign aid reform to the Administration, and wash our hands of any responsibility to update and repair the laws under which these programs are carried out. But such inaction is neither wise nor consistent with our obligations as lawmakers.

The bill I submit today lays the foundation for real progress. It sets forth a comprehensive framework for advancing American interests by working in cooperation with other countries to make our world a better, safer place.

The Global Partnerships Act of 2012 replaces both the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, which covers economic and development assistance, and the Arms Export Control Act, which deals with arms sales and military aid. Together, these Acts, like this proposed rewrite, cover the full spectrum of foreign assistance programs, from development and democracy to peace and security. Each type of assistance has its own title in the bill, which describes the specific purposes, goals and objectives to be achieved.

This bill is the result of a long and complex process involving repeated consultations with interested groups, relevant committees, international partners, and federal agencies. We held hearings and roundtable discussions, issued concept notes and discussion papers, solicited written feedback, visited programs in the field, and read the academic research. Last September, we posted a draft bill on the Committee website and received detailed comments from hundreds of organizations, both individually and as coalitions. This bill encapsulates not only the direct feedback we've received in those forums, but also many of the recommendations of the Presidential Policy Directive on Global Development and the Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review, or QDDR.

The most fundamental change that this bill would make is to transform the donor-recipient relationship to one of equal partners working toward mutually agreed and mutually beneficial goals. Instead of dictating what needs to be done from Washington, we will listen to what our local partners and our own development professionals are saying, and we will hold both sides accountable for achieving results. Instead of doing things "for" another country, we will build their capacity for self-reliance. Sometimes our partners will be national governments; other times we will join up with non-governmental organizations, businesses or local communities. But our aid is unlikely to have a long-lasting impact unless the people most directly affected feel they have a stake in its success. That's what we call "country ownership", and that's why we're calling this the "Global Partnerships Act".

Second, this proposal would convert assistance from an input-oriented process, where the primary issue is how much we spend, into an outcome-oriented process, where the focus is on what we achieve. Two programs that were initiated by the Bush Administration—the HIV/AIDS effort known as PEPFAR, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation or MCC—

have successfully pioneered this approach. Congress would be consulted from the outset, to build consensus over goals and priorities and establish agreement on what would constitute success.

To make this transformation, this bill brings more facts and evidence into the foreign aid process. Whether the purpose of our aid is to promote economic growth, stabilize a fragile peace, or ensure that a long-time ally is able to defend itself, our funding decisions should be based on reliable information about impact and performance rather than on hunches and intuition. Without solid empirical data about what works, it is impossible to ensure that our money is being effectively spent and achieving the desired results. And without evidence that our programs are having a significant, positive impact, we will lose the support and confidence of the American people.

There is a danger, of course, that the desire for tangible results could be misconstrued as a preference for short-term gains that can be quantitatively measured. This would be a grave mistake. Development is a long-term process, and no amount of goal-setting, indicator-selection, or measurement will give us a quick win. Objectives like promoting democracy are notoriously difficult to measure, and impossible to impose from without. We must always remember that monitoring and evaluation are tools to an end, not substitutes for good policy.

The bill also aims to make aid more strategic, in the sense of having a clear goal and a plan and timetable for pursuing it. We still need to preserve flexibility to respond quickly to changing situations on the ground. But for the most part, our aid suffers from a lack of clarity on what constitutes success and how we will know when we achieve it.

We also need to provide much greater transparency about what we are doing—not only for the American public, who deserve to know how their taxpayer money is being spent, but also for the intended beneficiaries, who can tell us whether the aid is reaching them and meeting the agreed objectives.

Let me say a few words about what is not included in this legislation. The first thing is spending levels. The bill contains no authorizations of funds, no mandatory spending, no entitlements, no recommended levels of appropriations. It is designed to change the way we provide assistance, rather than to dictate how much or to whom. It would not supersede the regular authorization and appropriations process.

Second, for the most part we did not include country-specific or region-specific provisions, which would distract from the main purpose of creating a new structure for assistance. Except for a few key sections, most of which were part of the old Foreign Assistance Act and required continuation, we have tried to write a generic framework that can withstand the test of time.

It is true that some of the reforms I have mentioned are already being implemented by the Administration. USAID has reinstated a process for developing 5-year country strategies, with clearly defined goals and indicators. The Millennium Challenge Corporation has just released its first set of rigorous, independent impact evaluations, which provide important lessons for the broader development community. And under the policy guidance of the National Security Staff, the Department of

State and USAID created the Foreign Assistance Dashboard, a website that enables users to examine, research, and track aid investments in a standard and easy-to-understand format.

But each of these initiatives needs to be codified, accelerated and expanded. Without legislation, these improvements could be terminated or rolled back at any time. And none of them contain any requirement or standards for congressional consultation.

Through legislation, we engage in a process of give-and-take, consensus and compromise that is absent when the Administration charts its own course. Proceeding without congressional buy-in only increases the chances that each initiative will be second-guessed, blocked or reversed. And it risks triggering the same vicious cycle that created this vast web of convoluted rules and tortuous procedures, leading to waste, inefficiency, and increasing paralysis.

To overcome the fear and inertia that have made progress on reform so elusive, we must begin by building public awareness and clearing up misperceptions about foreign assistance. Many Americans think that foreign assistance accounts for 15 to 20 percent of the federal budget, when in truth it's just 1 percent, and less than half of that goes for humanitarian and development programs. People who don't understand what foreign assistance does or how it helps them, or who have no confidence that it works, are unlikely to support it, particularly in this economic environment. The failure to communicate the importance of foreign assistance only leads to calls for more cuts while ignoring the real solutions.

In this period of belt-tightening and economic uncertainty, some seem to think that foreign assistance is a luxury we can no longer afford. However, with one out of five American jobs tied to international trade, and our fastest growing markets—accounting for roughly half of U.S. exports—located in developing countries, America can't afford a course of isolation and retreat. Our economic fate is interconnected with the rest of the world, and the collapse of developing economies will unavoidably mean our own decline.

For all these reasons, it's time to overhaul not just the legislation, but also the terms of the debate on foreign assistance. We must recognize the historic achievements that have occurred with the help of our foreign aid programs—the eradication of smallpox from the face of the earth, the Asian miracle that began with the Green Revolution, the millions of lives that have been saved and the human rights that have been won. Of course, aid alone cannot solve all the world's problems, but it is one of the best, safest and least expensive tools at our disposal.

Today, more than ever, our health, security, and prosperity depend on a world in which basic human needs are met, fundamental rights and freedoms are respected, conflicts are resolved peacefully, and the world's resources are used wisely. There is no escaping our obligations to help foster this environment. Not only are we morally bound to do so, but our economic and political interests demand that we address widespread poverty and chaos in the world.

Our creditors and competitors understand this. China is aggressively investing in the very countries that steep budget cuts may force us to abandon. We will soon come to regret it if we fail to share our knowledge and

promote our values in the very places where they are in greatest demand.

I have said it before but it bears repeating: aid is not a gift. The United States provides foreign assistance because it serves our interests. Helping countries become more democratic, more stable, more capable of defending themselves and better at pulling themselves out of poverty is just as important for us as it is for them. Our task therefore, is to make sure that we provide this assistance in the most efficient and effective way.

The Global Partnerships Act of 2012 is the first comprehensive proposal to adapt our laws to reflect the lessons we've learned over the past 50 years. Previous reform efforts in the early 1990s sought to revise and streamline our statutes and repeal Cold War barnacles, but they did not fundamentally alter the way that we plan, manage, and carry out assistance programs. I recognize that there is not enough time to consider and pass this legislation in what remains of the 112th Congress. However, I believe this legislation offers a valid and constructive starting point for the future, and that is why I am so pleased that my distinguished colleague and good friend from Virginia, Mr. CONNOLLY, is joining me in introducing the bill today. He is well-acquainted with the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and acutely aware of the need for reform, and I am confident that he will take a leadership role in moving this process forward in the next Congress.

WE WON'T REALIZE HOW MUCH  
WE MISS THE NEWS & MES-  
SENGER UNTIL IT IS GONE

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I share the pain of the many Prince William County residents and activists who are mourning the loss of the News & Messenger.

For the first time in 143 years, the Prince William community will no longer have a daily "newspaper of record" to document the births, deaths, and daily comings and goings of life in this vibrant county of nearly half-a-million people.

A community newspaper serves many roles for its readers. It is a necessary watchdog on local government. Its pages chronicle the triumphs and defeats of a community and its citizens. Its opinion pages reflect the varied views of county residents on issues of concern. It showcases the exploits of generations of high school athletes and awards bestowed on student scholars. And it provides a portal for local businesses to advertise their wares and services and local organizations to promote their activities.

No longer will the people of Prince William have a daily newspaper they can turn to and find out what happened at the previous night's Board of Supervisors, planning commission, or school board meetings. No longer will reporters localize the actions of the Congress or the White House so their readers understand how national policies and legislation will affect the county and its citizens. And no longer will proud parents be able to clip a story or photo about their child's game-winning goal, touch-

down, or homerun and paste it in a scrapbook for the next generation to enjoy.

The News & Messenger, and the Potomac News and the Manassas Journal Messenger before it, have served a vital role in Prince William County for generations. Over the decades, the paper's reporters and editors made it their business to become experts on their Prince William community, its government, and its characters. They've had the unique role of digging deep into the fabric of their community and reporting what they saw in an unfiltered manner and without interference.

Since Prince William voters elected me to Congress, I've had the pleasure of dealing with the News & Messenger and Potomac News reporters and editors on many issues, and the honor of winning the endorsement of the paper's editorial board. I can say, unequivocally, that the staff of the News and Messenger were professionals in every sense of the word and they've made lasting contributions to the community they have served.

To Keith Walker, Aleks Dolzenko, Kari Pugh, Kip Hanley, Amanda Stewart, and all of the other staff members, past and present, who gave life and breath to the News & Messenger, I say thank you for a job well done. I also wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.

As the News & Messenger's 143-year run draws to a close, I join with Prince William residents in bidding farewell to this venerable publication. The newspaper will be missed, and most of us won't realize how much we miss it until it's gone.

IN HONOR OF MR. STEVE H.  
TAYLOR

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Steve H. Taylor, the Director of the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Steve, who is also a constituent and resident of Rocky River in Ohio's 10th Congressional District, is retiring on December 4, 2012.

Steve became Director of the Zoo in January, 1989. Immediately, he worked on and completed the popular RainForest in November 1992. Since then, the Zoo has opened several major new exhibits, including Wolf Wilderness and Australian Adventure. In addition, the Zoo renovated all its food and gift facilities, built the Reinberger Education Center, and opened the \$10 million Sarah Allison Steffee Center for Zoological Medicine and the adjacent Rising Waters Safari Camp.

Steve has a passion for zoos and their conservation mission. He is active professionally and was on the Board of the Association of Zoo and Aquarium (AZA) between 1987 and 1993. He is an active member of the World Zoo and Aquarium Association. He has visited more than 210 of the 223 AZA accredited zoos and aquariums in North America, many of which were as chair of their accreditation visiting team. A California native, Steve was Director of the Sacramento Zoo, Children's Zoo Manager for the San Francisco Zoological Society, and Animal Keeper and Associate Curator at the Los Angeles Zoo before coming to Cleveland.

Since coming to Cleveland, Steve became a member of the Board of Directors of Positively Cleveland (formerly the Convention and Visitors Bureau) and is a graduate of Leadership Cleveland. Steve strongly believes in ecotourism as a way to help wildlife and wild places. Together with his wife Sarah, who is the Controller for the Cleveland Indians, he has led numerous ecotourism trips to Africa, Costa Rica, and Australia.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in wishing Steve much success in his retirement and the next phases of his life and career.

REGARDING THE IMPACT THAT  
SEQUESTRATION AND OTHER  
BUDGET DECISIONS WOULD  
HAVE ON CHILDREN AND THEIR  
FAMILIES

### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make my colleagues aware of a letter I was recently presented from Members-elect from California who are concerned about the impact of impending budget decisions on infants, toddlers, preschoolers and their families in California and throughout the Nation. I commend our colleagues for this letter and I share their concerns.

The letter, signed by 11 Representatives-elect from California, led by Rep.-elect Julia Brownley with the support of First 5 LA highlights the impact of sequestration on children in California and urges Congress to "protect the youngest among us."

I join the Members-Elect in urging Congress to champion the needs of our most vulnerable population—our children—as we consider the pending decisions regarding the budget.

The full text of letter is copied below. Signers include Representatives-elect JULIA BROWNLEY (CA-26), SCOTT PETERS (CA-52), ALAN LOWENTHAL (CA-47), RAUL RUIZ (CA-36), MARK TAKANO (CA-41), JARED HUFFMAN (CA-02), AMI BERA (CA-07), TONY CARDENAS (CA-29), GLORIA NEGRETE MCLEOD (CA-35), JUAN VARGAS (CA-51), AND ERIC SWALWELL (CA-15).

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

*Washington, DC, November 28, 2012.*

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

U.S. SENATE.

DEAR COLLEAGUE: In January, we will take office in the 113th Congress, joining many of you to work together to address the pressing issues facing our constituents and the nation. Today we write, in advance, to share our concern about the impact of sequestration and other budget decisions in the days ahead on infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and their families in California and throughout the nation.

According to the a report issued by Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations, allowing the automatic scheduled cuts to take effect the day before we enter into office would mean that 120,000 young children and their mothers in California will lose vital nutrition benefits through the WIC program and more than 11,900 infants, toddlers and preschoolers in the state would be without Head Start services proven to alter their life trajectory and increase the chance that they

will complete college, get a good job and become productive, contributing citizens. Further, in California alone, 5,100 low-income children would lose access to child care services which their parents rely on to help them work to support their families.

Today, children under the age of 5 represent 12 percent of our national population, but 100 percent of our future. Cuts to programs that serve this critical population are shortsighted and will result in larger costs down the line.

We stand ready to work with you as colleagues next year to tackle the challenges which face our nation—challenges which know no partisan bounds. For now, know that, as your constituents, we stand behind you with the interests of the youngest among us in mind as you deliberate the fate of our fiscal house and a burgeoning problem which should not be left to address tomorrow.

Collegially,

Incoming First Term Members-Elect in the California Delegation—Julia Brownley, Scott Peters, Alan Lowenthal, Raul Ruiz, Mark Takano, Jared Huffman, Ami Bera, Tony Cardenas, Gloria Negrete McLeod, Juan Vargas, Eric Swalwell.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. HECTOR  
MACLEAN

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Hector MacLean, one of the most influential leaders ever to live in my own hometown of Lumberton, North Carolina. Mr. MacLean passed away on December 7, and he will be remembered as a banker, lawyer, World War II hero, mayor, state legislator, civic leader, philanthropist, Sunday School teacher, and friend. He will be dearly missed.

Mr. MacLean was born Sept. 15, 1920, to Angus Wilton MacLean, who served as North Carolina's governor from 1925 to 1929, and Margaret French MacLean in Baltimore. Mr. MacLean grew up in Lumberton and graduated from my own alma mater, Lumberton High School, in 1937. He then went on to graduate from Davidson College with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1941.

A courageous servant to his Nation during World War II, Mr. MacLean served as a Captain in General George Patton's 3rd Army during its successful campaigns in Europe. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Major and a Bronze Star Award in recognition of meritorious service in a combat zone.

Upon returning from military service, Mr. MacLean enrolled in law school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, receiving his LLB degree in 1948. He returned to Lumberton to practice law, and his strong leadership in the community led to his being elected Mayor of Lumberton (1949–1953). He became president of the Bank of Lumberton, later called the Southern National Bank, in 1953. He also served as president of the Virginia and Carolina Southern Railroad Company.

Mr. MacLean continued as an effective leader when he was appointed to the North Carolina Senate in 1961, where he served for 10 years. During his tenure, he sponsored bills that led to Pembroke State College becoming

a part of the UNC System and the establishment of the North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro. He was also instrumental in bringing Interstate 95 through Lumberton when it was originally built. In 1997, it was my honor to lead the effort to designate that portion of I-95 which is in the city limits of Lumberton as the "Hector MacLean Highway."

During his life, Mr. MacLean contributed to numerous boards and civic groups, including serving as chairman of the board for St. Andrews Presbyterian College and on the boards for Peace College and Flora MacDonald College.

Mr. MacLean has received numerous accolades for his generosity and dedication to improving the lives of others, including the UNC-Chapel Hill's Distinguished Service Award, and honorary doctor of humane letters degrees at St. Andrews Presbyterian College and UNC-Pembroke. Mr. MacLean was inducted into the N.C. Business Hall of Fame and awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, our State's highest civilian honor. Mr. Speaker, during his 92 years Hector MacLean proved himself a devoted and effective public servant and a man of good character. He was a giant of a man who touched so many lives in so many ways—in church, community, and professional life.

He was also a devoted family man and dear friend. He was my neighbor growing up, and he was close friends with my mother, who was also a banker, and my father, who was a fellow Elder at our church, First Presbyterian of Lumberton. In fact, my father and I used to substitute for Mr. MacLean and teach the Lacy McKenzie Bible Class, broadcast live over local radio, in his absence when he was away on business trips. He was a mentor to me inasmuch as I sought his advice and counsel when I first contemplated running for the United States Congress.

While Mr. MacLean chaired the Bicentennial Celebration of both Lumberton and Robeson County in 1986–87, I chaired the Bicentennial Celebration of the U.S. Constitution for our county. Together, we worked on numerous projects that we presented as joint celebrations. He loved Lumberton, Robeson County, North Carolina, and our great country.

May we never forget the goodness, humility, service, and character that defined the life of Hector MacLean. May God continue to bless all of his loved ones, the work he did, and the greatness that he inspired within all who knew him.

TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE  
YVONNE KENNEDY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I rise to note the untimely passing of a beloved South Alabama leader who devoted her life's work to advancing the cause of education among Alabama's youth.

On December 8, 2012, the people of Mobile received the sad news that State Representative Yvonne Kennedy passed away at age 67 after a brief illness. Her family was reported to be by her side. She leaves behind a rich legacy of leadership in both the Alabama Legislature as well as in Alabama higher education.

Born on January 8, 1945, Yvonne Kennedy received her B.S. from Alabama State University, an M.A. from Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland, a Ph.D. from the University of Alabama, and an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee.

After completing her education she returned to Mobile to teach English at Bishop State Community College where she quickly assumed leadership roles, including assisting in the college's efforts to secure full accreditation.

First elected to the Alabama House of Representatives in a special election in 1979, Representative Kennedy served nearly 34 years in Montgomery, placing her among the most senior members of the Alabama legislature.

In the State Capitol, she was an active and influential member of the House Transportation, Utilities and Infrastructure Committee, the Economic Development and Tourism Committee (Ranking Minority Member), and the Children and Senior Advocacy Committee (Ranking Minority Member). She was also former Chairperson of the Alabama Legislative Black Caucus.

Believing that public service also involved engaging and preparing our youth for future careers, Representative Kennedy was a luminary in the Mobile education community. In 1981, she assumed the presidency of Bishop State Community College, serving until 2007. She was the first African American woman to head an Alabama state college. Under her leadership, Bishop State expanded its size from one to three campuses. She was a member of the Board of the American Association for Higher Education, and served as a Trustee of Miles College.

She gave much of her time to organizations devoted to uplifting our youth. Most notably, she served as National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, a non-profit organization devoted to economic and educational development, physical and mental health, and political involvement. She was active in the Junior Miss Scholarship Foundation and served as Youth Director for the Board of Christian Education of the Southeast Alabama Conference of the CME Church. She was also Chairman of the Mobile County United Negro College Fund Campaign.

Representative Kennedy was a long-time member of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Mobile.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, I offer my personal condolences to the family and many friends of Representative Kennedy. She was a good friend to many in our community where her selfless attention to the needs of our young people changed many lives for the better. She will be greatly missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARC A.  
CEVASCO

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the exceptional service of Marc Cevasco, who has served with great distinction on my staff for more than seven years.

From his humble start as an intern in my Washington DC office to ultimately serving as my Chief of Staff, Marc has demonstrated an unparalleled work ethic, poise under pressure, tremendous intelligence, and the highest moral character. Over the past seven years he has held nearly every position on my staff and, regardless of the task at hand, always approached his duties with the utmost professionalism. Marc is truly one of the most effective, reliable and ethical people I have ever met. He is also indefatigable, as it was routine for him to be the first one into the office in the morning and the last one to leave at night.

As a member of my senior staff, Marc served as my primary policy advisor and directed the legislative staff. In addition, he was responsible for helping me with my top priority as a Member of Congress: ensuring the security of our country. In addition to all his other responsibilities, Marc served, brilliantly, as my staffer on national security issues, managing my work on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee.

Marc was born in Belleville, New Jersey. His parents, Andrew and Doreen Cevasco, raised him and his sister, Alison, and his two brothers, Andrew and Kevin, in Rutherford, New Jersey. He attended St. Peter's Preparatory School in Jersey City, New Jersey and then went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Philosophy from Loyola College in Baltimore, Maryland. While he worked long hours in my office, Marc made time to further advance his education, earning a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the United States Naval War College in 2010. Marc and his wonderful wife, Jenna Grant Cevasco, were married last June and they are expecting their first child next spring.

Prior to joining my staff, Marc served in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in Sacramento, California. He worked at a transitional housing agency for homeless individuals who suffered with mental illness and substance abuse. Marc has not forgotten these experiences working with the overlooked and marginalized in our society and he carried the ideals of service and social justice with him to his work on Capitol Hill.

Marc has provided indispensable leadership to my staff and has been a trusted voice of counsel to me. He has my deepest respect and greatest appreciation for all of the many contributions he has made to my office and the well-being of my constituents and our country.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to formally and forever thank Marc Cevasco for his service to me, to the House of Representatives, to his home state of New Jersey, and to his country.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. WILLIAM SHINN

### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. William Shinn as he retires after 45 years in public service to the people of Contra Costa County and the City of Concord. Bill Shinn has been known throughout the community as a man of integrity, and he has served with uncommon selflessness; we are all beneficiaries of his efforts.

Following his graduation from Mt. Diablo High School in 1959, Bill entered the United States Navy and served our country with distinction. Upon his release, he returned to Concord and joined the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department as a Deputy Sheriff. He quickly worked his way up the ranks to Captain, managing the County Detention System and security for Superior Court judges and courthouses.

During this time, Bill earned an Associate of Arts from Diablo Valley College, a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Criminal Justice from Sacramento State University, and a Master of Business Administration from Golden Gate University. In addition, Bill is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. After 29 years serving the people of Contra Costa County in law enforcement, Bill retired his badge to continue engaging in community work.

In 2004, Bill was elected to the Concord City Council, beginning his third "career" in public service. He served on the County-wide Committee on Ending Homelessness and chaired the city's Redevelopment Agency, the East Bay Regional Communications System, the County Parole Commission and the Concord Human Relations Commission. Bill was re-elected to City Council in 2008 and continued work on issues important to his constituents. Bill also served as Vice Mayor as well as Mayor of the City of Concord.

As dedicated as Bill is to community service, he is equally devoted to his wonderful family. He and his wife, Gale, raised two daughters and now enjoy the company of their four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I invite this chamber to join me in honoring Councilman William Shinn for his life-long service to our nation, our county and our community; and to join his family, friends and colleagues in congratulating him on a highly successful career. We wish Bill the very best as he begins a well-deserved retirement.

#### AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 2838, THE COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2012

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the legislation before us today to authorize the activities of the United States Coast Guard.

While I am dismayed that the measure does not include broader provisions to authorize the Coast Guard's important homeland security missions, I am pleased that it provides a much-needed and long overdue refinement to the Transportation Worker Identification Credential program.

The Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) program, administered by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Coast Guard, is focused on protecting the Nation's maritime transportation facilities and vessels by requiring workers who need unescorted access to secure port facilities to obtain a biometric identification card.

Currently, workers must travel to TWIC enrollment centers to enroll in the program and then make a second trip to pick up and activate their approved TWICs.

This unnecessary process of requiring workers to make two trips to enrollment centers, which may be hundreds of miles from their home or workplace, has burdened American maritime and transportation workers since the program's inception in 2007.

The measure before us streamlines the program by requiring DHS to develop a process to mail TWICs to approved applicants rather than making workers return to an enrollment center to do so.

Unfortunately, however, this bill fails to fully address a number of maritime security provisions that passed in the House this Congress.

Nevertheless, on balance I support the legislation before us today and in particular the provision to streamline the TWIC process for American workers.

I urge Members to give it their support.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent and missed roll call votes during the week of December 3, 2012. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes, 614, 615, 617, 618, 619 and "no" on rollcall vote 616.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF CAROLYN FOSTER TO FAIR WISCONSIN

### HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carolyn Foster for her service to Fair Wisconsin, and by extension, all lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Wisconsinites.

Fair Wisconsin is the statewide advocacy organization for LGBT individuals and families. Its mission is to advance, achieve, and protect equality for all LGBT citizens of Wisconsin. Ms. Foster joined the Fair Wisconsin staff in 2009 as the organization's accountant, at a challenging time for the organization.

She has ably assisted the organization in bringing order, stability, and consistency to its financial recordkeeping, policies, and procedures, which has made a critical difference in the overall management of the organization. She has been key to good financial management and stewardship of the organization's resources.

In the face of dealing with a terminal illness, Ms. Foster brings a strong sense of responsibility and an incredible work ethic to her work, as well as a quick wit and warm regard for her co-workers. The boards of directors and the staff of Fair Wisconsin are in awe of her tenacity, her dedication, and conscientiousness, and her strong and positive spirit. She is an invaluable and deeply valued member of the Fair Wisconsin team.

As a founder of Fair Wisconsin, I wish to extend my deep appreciation to Carolyn Foster for her service to the organization and the cause of equality for LGBT Wisconsinites. I wish her all the best.

CONGRATULATING MOBILE'S UMS-WRIGHT FOR CAPTURING 4-A FOOTBALL TITLE

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mobile's UMS-Wright Preparatory School for a hard-fought season and a tremendous victory to capture the Alabama High School Athletic Association's (AHSAA) 4-A football championship.

On December 7, 2012, the UMS-Wright Bulldogs (13–2) defeated the Oneonta Redskins (14–1) by a resounding 42 to 14 margin.

Reaching the pinnacle of gridiron achievement is familiar territory for the Bulldogs. UMS-Wright has appeared in the AHSAA state championship game on seven different occasions, winning six ('87, '01, '02, '05, '08, '12).

UMS-Wright has more division 4-A state titles than any other school in Alabama and Head Coach and Athletic Director Terry Curtis shares the AHSAA record for most state title victories held by a single coach at five. Over his 13-year tenure, Coach Curtis has amassed a record of 155 and 38.

The 2012 UMS-Wright seniors had never been to the Super 6 championship game. With four years having passed since the last trip, this trip also marked the first time for any at the school, coaches included, to have the opportunity to play on the home field of the Auburn Tigers. The Super 6 was previously held at Birmingham's Legion Field, but, like the celebrated college Iron Bowl, the game venue now rotates between Tuscaloosa's Bryant-Denny and Auburn's Jordan-Hare stadium. What a truly amazing experience it must be for these young men to play on the same field they often watch in awe on any given fall football Saturday.

The championship game was a thrilling contest that ultimately proved the superiority of the Bulldogs over the top-ranked Redskins. Seconds before the half, UMS-Wright Safety Sam Pettway forced a fumble on the Bulldog three yard line that resulted in a touchback. A touchdown would have evened the game at 21. In the third quarter, after a couple of stalled drives by both squads and coming on 3rd and 32, QB Gunner Roach completed a 33 yard strike to T.J. Dixon in the back of the end zone, making the score 28 to 14. Dixon finished the day with five catches for 86 yards and a touchdown. Sophomore RB Troy Dixon was named Class 5A MVP. He ran for 232 yards on 23 carries and scored three times. UMS-Wright stopped Oneonta twice on fourth down, recovered three fumbles and picked off a pair of passes.

Congratulations to Head Coach Terry Curtis, Assistant Coaches Brett Boutwell, Brandon Dean, Richard Ellisor, Gerald Jones, and Jim Sudeiha, and to the Bulldogs, Troy Dixon, Tyrone Dixon, Charles Phillips, George Williams, Kendrick Perine, Richard Pipkins, Sam Pettway, Christian Pearsall, Bobby Guthans, Tanner Allen, Robert Beard, Douglas Barber,

Easton Russ, Gunner Roach, John Watts, Gordan Stimpson, D'andre Smith, Allen Ladd, Jack White, Timothy Shaw, Jaylon Jones, Hunter Lanier, Champ White, Johnathan Thornton, Jawon McDowell, Benjamin Radcliff, Henry Vanhaneghan, John Pipes, Dex Harvey, Cutter Stimpson, Kemper Sarrett, Thomas Harmon, Walker Chandler, Thomas Taylor, Tucker Powell, Christopher Majure, Kyle Pugh, Cory Fillingim, Nelson Lyons, Christopher Quinnely, Forbes Sirmon, Kahlil Traywick, Bobby Weinacker, Landon Powell, Christian Hollinghead, Brett Patterson, Glen Barlow, Charles Roush, Andrew Howell, Tyler Guesnard, Gus Addison, Jacob Hurdle, Jack Blankenship, Thomas Iturbe, John Mostellar, Garrett Hollinghead, Charlie Hon, Timothy Squires, Blakely Addison, Hayden Williams, Will Baynes, Andrew Bradley, Ethan Jones, Marvin Mostellar, Emerson Majure, Trenton Fowler, Breland Meador, and Chauncey Callier.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHARON A. BARKELOO

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Sharon A. Barkeloo upon her retirement.

Sharon has provided outstanding professional service as a member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure staff since 1999, serving each of the past four Chairmen in a bipartisan manner.

During this time, her expertise in budget issues has been instrumental to achieving the Committee's goals, especially with regard to the budgetary treatment of the transportation trust funds. In addition to her Full Committee assignments, Sharon also served on the Subcommittee on Aviation staff during my chairmanship of that Subcommittee, assisting in the development of the nation's legislative response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, as well as other aviation legislation. Sharon is one of the most talented and knowledgeable people in the United States when it comes to navigating the complicated and cumbersome federal transportation budgeting processes. I know I speak for several of my colleagues when I say that we will miss her expertise, her guidance, her counsel and her smiling face.

Prior to her tenure with the Committee, Sharon also served for eight years in the Office of Management and Budget's Transportation Branch, and four years with the Department of Justice Budget Staff.

I thank Sharon for her assistance to me and our Committee, her commitment to good government, and her professional work over the past 25 years. I know her parents, Ed and Mary Ellen Barkeloo, are very proud of Sharon, as are we all, and I wish her every future success as she retires from Federal service and returns to her home State of Ohio.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. WALLACE LEINWAND

**HON. MIKE MCINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2012*

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Wallace Leinwand, of Elizabethtown, North Carolina, for his commitment and service to his community. Mr. Leinwand was a public servant, community businessman, devoted family man and a dear friend to me and my family. Mr. Leinwand passed away on December 6, 2012, and he will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Mr. Leinwand was born in Branchtown, South Carolina, but moved to Elizabethtown, North Carolina at the age of 13. He served in the United States Air Force from 1943–1946, when he was honorably discharged as a Sergeant. He then returned to Elizabethtown to aid his father in running the family business, Leinwand's, which he would in turn come to own, and which is now the oldest continuous business in Elizabethtown after 77 years in operation.

Yet, Mr. Leinwand served as more than just a business owner to the people of Bladen County. Driven by love for his community and its people, he served as Mayor Pro-Tempore, and later, Mayor of Elizabethtown, President of Elizabethtown Rotary Club and Elizabethtown Jaycees, Chairman of the East Bladen High School Advisory Council, and as a member of the Board of Directors of Wachovia Bank. His contributions to these and numerous other civic organizations demonstrate his lifelong pride in his community.

Mr. Leinwand was also an avid supporter of Bladen County athletics. In addition to his work as a founding organizer of the Elizabethtown Little League, he was also a chief booster for the athletics programs of Elizabethtown High School, Bladen Central High School, East Bladen High School, and middle school sports.

Mr. Speaker, may we never forget the goodness, humility, service, and character that defined the life of Wallace Leinwand. His record of community and civic service will long be a legacy that will benefit all of the citizens of Elizabethtown and Bladen County. I know that his personal friendship with my father and their work together in the North Carolina Jaycees established a relationship with his family that has continued to bless my family now for three generations, and I'm sure will continue into the future. In fact, his son, Ricky Leinwand, who now runs the family business and serves on the Town Council of Elizabethtown, has continued his father's legacy of a very special friendship with my family.

May God continue to bless Mr. Leinwand's beloved wife, Shirley, all of his loved ones, the work he did, and the greatness that he inspired within all who knew him.