Cross has been helping people in need. Now is an excellent time to recognize not only the Red Cross, but each member of the community who contributes to this great organization through volunteering, giving blood, taking life saving classes or providing financial support.

The local Red Cross in Kansas City, Missouri, in my district, serves a population of more than 2.6 million people. Last year they financially assisted more than 1,000 families with local disasters such as home fires. The Kansas City Red Cross served the U.S. Military by providing 2,350 Services to the Armed Forces cases. More than 23,000 attended Red Cross community presentations, most of them being on how to prepare for disasters. Within the region, 38,372 people took Red Cross courses. Most of those were for CPR and first aid.

There are 70,000 disasters that the American Red Cross responds to each year in this country alone, ranging from home fires affecting one family to hurricanes affecting tens of thousands. This past year the Red Cross played a vital role in disaster relief during super storm Sandy, the Colorado Wildfires and Hurricane Isaac. It also released a series of free apps to aid in disaster preparedness, ranging from addressing tornado and hurricane threats to providing first aid advice and assistance in locating Red Cross Shelters.

An average of 150,000 military families and veterans receive assistance from the Red Cross annually. Support for wounded soldiers, resiliency training, linking military families during an emergency and connecting families with local community resources are a few of the ways the Red Cross assists the U.S. Military and its veterans.

Nearly 4 million people donate blood each year, providing more than 40% of America's blood supply, making the American Red Cross the single largest supplier of blood in the U.S. It is also the nation's leader in providing health and safety classes such as CPR, First Aid and Lifeguard training that more than 9 million American's participate in. Such education is vital in preparing citizens to help others in an emergency.

The American Red Cross provides a plethora of supportive programs for not only citizens of my district, and districts around this country, but also for people all over the world. International services provided by the Red Cross reach out to communities in over 80 developing countries. More than one billion children have been vaccinated thanks to the Measles and Rubella Initiative that was launched in 2001. Countless families torn apart by war or disaster from as far back as World War II have been reunited through the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Mr. Speaker, it is essential that this Congress pay tribute to the Red Cross and the millions of Americans who lend their efforts to its success. I urge my colleagues to stand with me in support of American Red Cross Month and honor all that this organization has done for our great country.

HONORING DR. THOMAS C. ROSENTHAL UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dr. Thomas C. Rosenthal upon the occasion of his retirement from the University at Buffalo's Department of Family Medicine. As Chair of the department for twenty years, Dr. Rosenthal has made significant contributions to the field of public health in both academic research and patient practice, committed to improving the quality of health in the most underserved populations.

Beginning his career in rural medicine in 1978, Dr. Rosenthal's love of research led to his position at the University at Buffalo. Dr. Rosenthal's prolific research publications demonstrate his comprehensive expertise in his field. His published work spans from articles in chemistry journals to topics in primary care, such as cancer screening and Alzheimer's disease. He is board-certified in Family Medicine and Geriatrics, and holds membership on the esteemed Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education's Residency Review Committee for Family Medicine.

During his time at the University at Buffalo, Dr. Rosenthal has educated thousands of students, practitioners, and community members about public health. His passion for rural health motivated him to create the Buffalo Family Medicine residency program's Rural Health Campus in Olean, New York. Only the second such training model in the country, the Rural Health Campus allows students to gain firsthand knowledge of the unique healthcare needs of our nation's rural communities.

A trusted figure in his field, Dr. Rosenthal serves as the lead editor of the textbook Office Care Geriatrics, and as a reviewer for nine other journals. From 2006 to 2009, he edited The Journal of Rural Health. Throughout his illustrious career, he has sat on numerous national and statewide panels, including: the New York Rural Health Council, the Association of American Medical College Task Force on Rural Education, the New York State Academy of Family Physicians Education Committee, the policy board of the National Rural Health Association, and the Bioterrorism Task Force of the Medical Society of New York State.

Dr. Rosenthal pioneered an interdisciplinary approach to public health, combining real-world practice with academic study, dedicated to bettering the quality of health in underserved communities. His health services research, which includes rural health, medical training, health care organization and workforce development, informs his patient practice, and vice versa.

Dr. Rosenthal is known as much for compassionate practice as for his impressive academic career. He has drastically increased awareness of the dire public health crisis in medically underserved communities, and passionately strives to improve quality of health in the community's most suffering areas. He continues to see patients in the Jefferson Family Medicine Center, located in a poor neighborhood on Buffalo's East Side.

In 1998, Dr. Rosenthal became the Founding Director of the New York State Area Health Education Center, AHEC, System. Today, he continues to serve as statewide Medical Director. This truly revolutionary organization strives towards Dr. Rosenthal's goal to improve access to quality health care in medically underserved communities on local, regional, and statewide levels, by encouraging both patients and practitioners to work together. The AHEC System joins with pre-existing institutions to bring dedicated healthcare professionals to communities in need, and educate community members about personal health care. By engaging devoted practitioners and empowering patients, the AHEC System has made enormous strides in combating our public health crisis.

Mr. Speaker, please join my colleagues and I in honoring Dr. Thomas C. Rosenthal as he retires from the University at Buffalo's Department of Family Medicine. I admire his compassionate and visionary approach to public health, and wish him Godspeed in all of his future endeavors.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1278, THE NONDISPARAGEMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN PERSONS OR PEOPLES IN TRADEMARK REGISTRATION ACT OF 2013

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with my colleagues and with the American people a particular issue that has been a source of humiliation for our Native American people—the use of the word ''redskin,'' which I will refer to as the ''R-word.'' This derogatory and racist term is rooted in state-sponsored genocide efforts when colonies paid individuals for the skins of dead Indians. The Native American community has never accepted the ''R-word'' as anything more than a hurtful, disparaging label that is a reminder of the maltreatment they have endured.

Some may argue that the ''R-word'' is no longer disparaging towards Native Americans. However, over the course of my tenure as a Congressman, as a member of the Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, and as a member of the Congressional Native American Caucus, I have received an increasing flow of calls and letters from Native American individuals, tribes, and organizations who abhor this denigrating term. It is their opinion that the ''R-word'' is a racial stereotype that causes harm to the collective self-esteem of the American Indian people.

Mr. Speaker, this term has no place in our modern American society. It is akin to the ''N-word'' which reflects the history of prejudice and persecution that our African American brothers and sisters endured. Can you imagine the public outcry that would result if a Pro-Football team was named the ''N-word?''

In 1933, the District of Columbia's professional football team adopted the ''R-word'' as its name and mascot. In 1967, the United States Patent and Trademark Office, PTO, granted the team a federally registered trademark for the ''R-word.'' This action is contrary to the mandates of the Trademark Act of 1946 (Lanham Act) which requires the PTO to

refuse to register any trademark that "[c]onsists of or comprises . . . matter which may disparage . . . persons, living or dead . . . or bring them into contempt, or disrepute." 15 U.S.C. 1502(a). The PTO has denied registration of trademarks using the "R-word" on four separate occasions on grounds of disparagement—three times in 1996 and once in 2002.

In 1992, seven prominent Native American leaders petitioned the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, TTAB, to cancel the federal registrations over six trademarks using the "R-word." The TTAB in 1999 ruled that the "R-word" may, in fact, disparage American Indians, and cancelled the registrations. On appeal, a federal court reversed the TTAB's decision, holding that the petitioners waited too long after coming of age to file their petition. A new group of young Native Americans petitioned the TTAB to cancel the registrations of the offending trademarks in 2006. The TTAB held a hearing on March 7, 2013. A final decision is pending.

Mr. Speaker, despite the indigenous community's efforts before administrative agencies and the courts, the "R-word" remains protected as a federally registered trademark. Since the federal government made the mistake in registering the disparaging trademark, it is now up to Congress to correct that mistake. Now is the time to end this injustice.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced H.R. 1278, the "Non-Disparagement of Native American Persons or Peoples in Trademark Registration Act of 2013." I want to thank the following members for their support as original cosponsors of this historic legislation: TOM COLE (R–OK), BETTY MCCOLLUM (D–MN), ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON (D–DC), RAÚL Grijalva (D–AZ), KAREN BASS (D–CA), GWEN MOORE (D–WI), JOHN LEWIS (D–GA), MICHAEL HONDA (D–CA), and DONNA CHRISTENSEN (D–VI).

H.R. 1278 is also endorsed by the following organizations: National Congress of American Indians, NCAI, Morning Star Institute, International Indian Treaty Council, Native American Rights Fund, American Indian Movement—West, American Indian Higher Education Consortium, Americans for Indian Opportunity, Capitol Area Indian Resources, Inc., American Indian Studies—University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property—American University, Alianza Indigena Sin Fronteras (Indigenous Alliance Without Borders), National Indian Education Association, Native American Finance Officers Association, and Tulsa Indian Coalition Against Racism. These organizations have indicated in letters of support for H.R. 1278 that the "R-word" continues to have damaging effects in the Native American community.

H.R. 1278 would cancel existing federal registrations for trademarks using the "R-word." It would also deny registration for new trademarks incorporating the "R-word." As in the decision made by TTAB in 1999, it ruled, in fact, that the "R-word" was a disparaging term.

As an avid sports fan, I applaud the excellence in athleticism and leadership demonstrated by our professional athletes both on and off the field. I am also very proud of the many Samoans and Pacific Islanders who have had much success in sports, particularly in the NFL. While I acknowledge the D.C. professional football team's many achievements, I have grave reservations concerning their name.

Mr. Speaker, I want to be clear that H.R. 1278 is not an attempt to censor or remove the freedom of the D.C. professional football team to use the "R-word" in its franchise. Rather, this legislation seeks to reinforce governing law that prohibits federal registration for disparaging terms, like the "R-word." It is unfortunate that the federal government, which has a special trust relationship with Native Americans, continues to protect this racial slur.

It is my hope that H.R. 1278 will advance the dialogue regarding the "R-word" among our legislators. I also invite those with a vested interest in this issue, including the owner of the D.C. professional football team, to bring their concerns to the table.

RECOGNIZING THE EMPLOYEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHILD CARE CENTER WITH THE 2012 EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the Chief Administrative Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives is recognizing the House of Representatives Child Care Center, HRCCC, team with the 2012 Employee Excellence Award, which is sponsored by the Officers and Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives. The award recognizes employees from each entity who have provided outstanding performance to their employer and who have demonstrated a superior attitude and demeanor in service to the House over the period of the last year.

The employees of the HRCCC have demonstrated a high level of drive, determination and commitment over the past year. They are dedicated not only to the children, but also to their parents, the CAO and the House community at-large.

While we recognize the HRCCC as a team I would also like to recognize each teacher and staff member individually today.

Ladonya Allen
Monica Barnabae
Paige Beatty
Sherleen Boyde
Erica Doody
Suzette Drexel-Carpenter
Shamorrow Hall
Contrinia Hemphill
Suzanne Hite
Michelle Jones
Nicole Price
Jennifer Sekhar
Sharon Steele
Ann Vogel
Kathleen Williams
Fareen Wu

Congratulations to the House of Representatives Child Care Center team.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 192ND ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 192nd anniversary of Greek Independence. On this day, we honor the memory and sacrifice of those who fought and died to free their nation from occupation. The revolution brought independence to the Greece and confidence to other oppressed peoples around the world who also yearned for freedom. The message the Greek people sent out to the world in 1821 continues to reverberate today as a beacon of hope to those who seek the right of self-determination. When we recognize Greek Independence Day we reaffirm the ideals and values that inspired Thomas Jefferson to say that Americans owe the ancient Greeks a great debt for showing us the light and helping to lead us out of darkness. Each year that we honor Greek Independence, we acknowledge that debt, and by our example, let oppressed people know that we stand with them in their quest for freedom.

RECOGNIZING MRS. EVELYN L. PORTEUS ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the birthday of Mrs. Evelyn L. Porteus, who will be turning 100 years old on April 26, 2013.

Evelyn was a resident of Schoharie, NY for 50 years, where she worked one of her favorite jobs as a docent at the Old Stone Fort—originally a church turned into a fort during the American Revolutionary War. Prior to that, Evelyn was a former graduate (class of 1933) of and teacher at Oneonta Normal School in New York.

She lovingly raised a family of four children, and has six grandchildren, including one great-grandchild. She now lives at the Wesley Health Care Center in Saratoga Springs, NY, where she has resided for the past 12 years.

Evelyn has witnessed momentous changes in our nation's history. Her life reflects a contribution to that history. I hope her century of memories brings much pride and joy to herself and family members.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Evelyn on this remarkable milestone. I wish her a special day shared in the company of her family and friends and all the best in the years ahead.