

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF GRANDVILLE FOR THEIR COMMENDABLE FLOOD RESPONSE

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding community of Grandville, Michigan.

From April 18 until April 22, more than nine inches of rain plagued West Michigan. It was called the "Tale of Two Floods" by local residents as flood-waters cascaded out of the Grand River and Buck Creek. Businesses were shutdown, residents were forced from their homes, and the entire downtown district was inaccessible.

Grandville has been at an important place, geographically, on the Grand River since its founding. During West Michigan's logging days, the community of Grandville played a fundamental part at the river-bend by ensuring that the logs did not jam up as the Grand River turned north-west toward Grand Haven. Despite the difficult conditions created by the "Tale of Two Floods", Grandville's citizens yet again took care of the river-bend, putting forth a historic effort to both protect and clean up their city.

When faced with a time of crisis, the citizens, churches, and businesses of Grandville came together to care for their fellow residents and their community. Many individuals sacrificed for their neighbors and are worth acknowledging, but I was particularly struck by an act of generosity from eleven-year-old Emma Kukla. While on a bike ride to explore the damage, Emma and her mom came across a family carrying their remaining possessions from their flooded home. They volunteered their van to help the family move their salvaged belongings and Emma generously gave the last \$20 from her wallet.

Emma embodies the spirit of Grandville, Michigan. The Grandville/Jenison Chamber of Commerce describes the community as one devoted to: "Faith, family, honesty, caring, respect, responsibility. That's Grandville. Since its inception, Grandville has given people a place they truly belong. They support each other, take pride in the community, and make Grandville a positive place to live."

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the city of Grandville for serving one another during a time of great need.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on May 6, 2013, I missed three recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present,

I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 129, "aye" on rollcall 130, and "aye" on rollcall 131.

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD E. HUG

HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Richard E. "Dick" Hug, who passed away on May 4, 2013. Dick was a friend of mine and was determined to make a difference in the State of Maryland and in the country through his civic involvement. I know he will be greatly missed by his family and those who knew him.

Dick was born January 11, 1935 in Paterson, New Jersey. After graduating from Duke University in 1956, Dick began his business career with Koppers Company, Inc. In 1973, Dick was named Corporate Vice President of Koppers. Dick went on to serve as President, Chairman, and Chief Executive Officer of Environmental Elements Corporation, a company specializing in air pollution control systems for the utility and industrial markets listed on the New York Stock Exchange in 1991. In 1995, Dick retired and remained a Director and Chairman Emeritus until the company's sale in 2005.

Dick was very active and well-known in the Maryland community serving as Chairman of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, Maryland Business for Responsive Government, Leadership Maryland, the National Aquarium of Baltimore, the Kennedy Krieger Institute, the United Way of Central Maryland, and Duke University School of the Environment. Dick also served as Regent on the University of Maryland Board. In addition, Dick served on the Boards of the University System of Maryland Foundation, Loyola University of Maryland, AAA Maryland, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and Bank of Annapolis. His philanthropy was well-known throughout the State.

Dick is survived by his wife of 56 years, Lois-ann Hug, a son Donald R. Hug and his wife Deborah H. Hug, and daughter Cynthia H. Marino and her husband Mark D. Marino, four grandchildren, David, Scott, and Stephanie Marino, and Leanne Hug. He is also survived by his sister, Barbara H. Overstreet and her husband Ronald N. Overstreet.

Dick's absence will be felt throughout the community, but his service will not be forgotten. I ask those here today to join me in honoring Richard E. "Dick" Hug.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT RIVER ROAD

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Great River Road; one of our Nation's most historic and extensive scenic byways.

Spanning nearly 3,000 miles from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, the Great River Road traces its origins back to a time when Franklin Roosevelt was President and the automatic transmission was the cutting edge of automotive technology. In 1938, governors from 10 States came together to form the planning commission for what was initially envisioned as a continuous national parkway extending along the entire length of the Mississippi River. Over the next two years the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Public Lands held hearings to authorize a feasibility study of the parkway concept. While popular, the idea was soon overshadowed in the wake of the Second World War.

More than a decade passed before a feasibility study was finally completed by the Bureau of Public Roads in 1951. Finding the construction of an entirely new parkway to be too expensive, the study offered an alternative proposition; the development of a scenic route built from the existing network of rural roads and highways that meandered and crisscrossed the Mississippi River. This route, now known as the Great River Road, is a testament to the cooperative effort of States and the Federal Government working together with local communities to preserve the many historic features and natural beauties of the Mississippi River Valley.

Today the Great River Road offers travelers not just a leisurely scenic drive but a unique and lasting journey through diverse communities and landscapes; from charming river towns to lush forests, from bluffs to the delta, from big city to sprawling rural vistas. The Great River Road is truly a national treasure. It is with great pride that I rise today to commemorate the 75 years of hard work and dedication that have gone into developing and preserving the Greater River Road so that it will continue to serve as a gateway to the rich heritage of the Mississippi River for future generations.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE FOR BIG SANDY COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Big Sandy

• 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.

Community and Technical College as this progressive institute for post-secondary education celebrates a unique combination of anniversaries in 2013.

Seventy-five years ago, the Mayo Technical College was established in 1938. Fifty years ago, the Prestonsburg Community College was established in 1964. Finally, ten years ago, the two institutions merged in 2003, creating the Big Sandy Community and Technical College. I count it an honor to congratulate the founders of these institutions on this rare triple celebration of the combined 75th, 50th and 10th anniversaries.

The Big Sandy Community and Technical College is a tremendous resource in the Appalachian Mountains of eastern Kentucky, providing excellence in post-secondary education for students in Floyd, Johnson, Pike, Martin, and Magoffin Counties to pursue the dream of earning a college degree close to home, with four campus locations.

The Big Sandy Community and Technical College continues to carry on the mission of the institutions that laid its foundation by enriching the lives of thousands of students each year, dedicated to helping raise a generation from its heavy burden of poverty, and preparing them for successful careers and a better future for our rural region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me celebrating the tenth anniversary of the Big Sandy Community and Technical College and the tireless efforts of educators and leaders of the past that pioneered the path for quality post-secondary education in the mountains of eastern Kentucky over the last seventy-five years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 129–131. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on all three votes.

RECOGNIZING THE HONOREES OF THE NIAGARA FALLS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize an exceptional group of individuals as they are honored by the Niagara Falls Education Foundation. Angelica, Theresa and Joseph DiCamillo, Joseph Calato, Douglas Moordian and Coach Pat Monti have made great investments in Niagara Falls. Their tireless work and generosity with their talents make them outstanding role models for current students.

Angelica, Theresa, and Joseph of the DiCamillo family are all proud alumni of Niagara Falls High School. Their parents, Tomasso and Addoloratata DiCamillo, opened the legendary DiCamillo bakery on 14th Street and Tronolone Place in Niagara Falls. When peo-

ple visit Niagara Falls, their first stop is often DiCamillo's. As teenagers, Angelica, Theresa, and Joseph began working to support their family's business. Angelica began working in the bakery a few years after graduating high school, after managing the family grocery store. Theresa handled office responsibilities such as payroll and accounting as early as age 13, while attending school. Today, she and Angelica are the Senior Advisers to the company. Joseph began as a baker while in school, eventually becoming a driver for the family's company and staying involved for fifty-four years. Today, the company is operated by the next generation of the DiCamillo family.

Joseph Calato ensured Niagara Falls's place in music history. Joe became known as a passionate drummer while enrolled at Niagara Falls High School. Often, Joe became frustrated at how quickly the tips of his drumsticks deteriorated. One day, after returning home to Niagara Falls following his service in the Air Force, he put a plastic tip on the end of his drumstick, and created what is now known as the Regal Tip drumstick. Regal Tip is now a family business, producing drumsticks and brushes that are sold internationally from Niagara Falls.

Douglas Mooradian returned to Niagara Falls after spending four years pursuing higher education at SUNY Cortland and four years working in North Carolina for the Greensboro Coliseum Complex. As the Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Health System Services, a company based in Wheatfield, Doug has played an integral role in the growth of the company's Home Medical and Respiratory Equipment Division. Since returning home, Doug has immersed himself in the community, and has won honors such as “Volunteer of the Year” in 2009 from the Niagara Falls Boys' & Girls' Club. His mother, Kathy, father, Carl, sisters, Stacy and Wendy, and wife, Jennifer, are all proud Niagara Falls High School alumni.

Coach Patrick Monti spent twenty-five years as a basketball coach at LaSalle High School. While coaching at LaSalle High School, he compiled an impressive 423–112 record, and led the Explorers to two New York State Public High School Athletic Association Class A Championships in 1995 and 1996. In 1987, the Explorers completed a legendary unbeaten season, ending with a record of twenty-seven wins and zero losses. Coach Monti was known for his discipline, and beloved by the LaSalle High School community.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to recognize the work these individuals have done with the Niagara Falls public schools and in the greater Niagara Falls community. I am grateful for their wonderful talents and incredible generosity.

IN RECOGNITION OF 25 YEARS OF SERVICE BY THE SANTA BARBARA WOMEN'S POLITICAL COMMITTEE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 25 years of service by the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee and to

commemorate the designation of May 15th as “Founding Mother's Day” within Santa Barbara County.

In 1988, a group of women convened the first meeting of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee, an organization founded to increase the number of women in local elected and appointed positions and to promote policies advancing women's status. Through their dedication to promote gender equality, the proportion of women holding local political office has increased dramatically and virtually all candidates for office in the Santa Barbara County have come to seek the group's endorsement.

Today, we celebrate the success of these Founding Mothers who have made it possible for women of every race, age, and class to contribute to the growth and vitality of Santa Barbara County. The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee is a shining example of the potential for active local efforts to increase women's representation in leadership throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members join me in honoring the tireless work of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee.

INCREASING AMERICAN JOBS THROUGH GREATER EXPORTS TO AFRICA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I chaired a Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations hearing that examined the issues surrounding U.S. exports to Africa, which are supposed to at least balance African exports to the United States. This included looking at existing obstacles to two-way trade with Africa. The hearing specifically examined the Increasing American Jobs Through Greater Exports to Africa Act of 2013 (H.R. 1777). The bill was reintroduced in the House by myself, Ranking Member KAREN BASS, and Congressman BOBBY RUSH on April 26th and was introduced in the Senate on April 11th as S. 718.

The purpose of H.R. 1777 (and S. 718) is to increase U.S. exports to Africa by 200 percent over the next decade. This bill does not replace AGOA. It complements it by providing for a rebalancing that makes it as beneficial to Americans as it is to Africans. The bill intends to reach its ambitious, but achievable, goal by taking several steps, including the creation of a comprehensive U.S.-Africa trade strategy and a coordinator to ensure that all U.S. agencies involved in trade work in concert with one another.

This legislation also calls for not less than 25 percent of available U.S. financing for trade deals to be devoted to facilitating U.S.-Africa trade. Furthermore, it encourages the descendants of Africa in this country, who largely operate small and medium-sized businesses, to play a greater role in trade with the countries in Africa.

Various studies show that every additional \$1 billion in exports generates 6,000–7,000 new U.S. jobs. According to current data from the U.S. International Trade Administration export-supported jobs linked to manufacturing

account for an estimated 3.3 percent of my home state of New Jersey's total private-sector employment. More than one-sixth, or 17.2 percent, of all manufacturing workers in New Jersey depend on exports for their jobs.

But U.S. exports have suffered during the global economic downturn because traditional markets, such as in Europe, are buying fewer U.S. products. According to the USITA, we are the largest importer of African goods, receiving 20.2 percent of the continent's total global exports. However, U.S. exports to Africa fell sharply during the height of the global recession. From 2008 to 2009, U.S. exports to Africa dropped 45 percent from \$78.3 billion to \$42.8 billion.

According to statistics released by the U.S. Census Bureau, African exports to the United States since AGOA took effect in 2001 increased from \$25.4 billion to \$66.9 billion in 2012—an increase of more than 262 percent. By far, petroleum exports from Africa led the way with more than \$28.6 billion in 2012. Meanwhile, Census Bureau statistics showed that U.S. exports to Africa increased from \$12.1 billion in 2001 to \$32.8 billion in 2012—an increase of 271 percent. Consequently, while U.S. exports to Africa showed a robust increase since the inception of AGOA, the U.S. trade deficit with Africa increased from \$13.3 billion in 2001 to more than \$34 billion last year.

The five most popular import sectors for African countries are: machinery and equipment, chemicals, petroleum products (including lubricating oils, plastics and synthetics fibers), scientific instruments and food products. That means that small and medium companies across the United States have commercial opportunities available in exporting goods and services to African countries. The African Development Bank estimates that one out of three Africans is considered to be in the middle class—that's nearly 314 million Africans who have escaped poverty and can now buy consumer goods, including those from the United States.

In the supermarkets and department stores that have sprung up across Africa in recent years, there are some American products already on the shelves, but there is space for more contributions from U.S. producers. Companies such as Proctor and Gamble have long realized the potential of African markets. Two years ago, Wal-Mart, the world's largest retail outlet, purchased South Africa's Massmart and its 288 stores in 14 African countries.

The Economist magazine created a significant buzz within the U.S.-Africa trade community two years ago when it announced that six of the world's 10 fastest growing economies in the first decade of this century were in Africa: Angola, Chad, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nigeria and Rwanda. In the following five years, The Economist projected that seven of the top 10 fastest growing global economies would be African: the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zambia.

Whether or not you agree with the popular slogan—Africa Is Rising—markets on the continent are attracting foreign trade and investment in increasing amounts. It is not only China that has its sights set on African markets. Countries as diverse as India, Japan, Brazil and Turkey all see the potential of selling their products in Africa.

The Anglo-Dutch consumer goods giant Unilever has long considered Africa a lucrative

environment for consumer sales, earning a fifth of its profits in Africa until the 1970s, when it turned its main commercial attention to Asia. Now Unilever is back in Africa in force, selling \$3.7 billion of everything from soup to soap. Frank Braeken, head of Unilever's Africa operations, said African consumers are underserved and overcharged. To meet the continent's need for personal care products for African skin and hair, Unilever developed its Motions range of products.

At our hearing on this legislation last spring, we heard from Luster Products, which produces items that fit that description. There is little reason why this company and other U.S. producers can't follow suit and meet the needs Unilever says are now unmet.

We will hear today from four witnesses with expertise on the opportunities and challenges faced by U.S. companies in trade with countries in Africa. We expect to learn why U.S. exports to Africa have not kept pace with U.S. imports from Africa and find out what Congress can do to better balance U.S.-Africa trade.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF TROOP
ONE OF BRIDGETON

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, today I extend my personal congratulations and the recognition of the U.S. House of Representatives to Troop One of Bridgeton, NJ, which is celebrating its centennial anniversary as a chartered member of the Boy Scouts of America. Organized by Percy W. Owen in February 1913, Troop One has been honored by the national headquarters as one of the country's oldest troops with continuous service. It is the oldest charter in South Jersey with a roster of former scout masters and scouts exceeding one thousand.

Individual skills and societal benefits of scouting are well-known, with countless youth across the country becoming better citizens due to their experience. Leadership, ingenuity, integrity, compassion and cooperation are invaluable life skills that each scout is encouraged to learn and bring forward into their lives. Troop One, however, has always gone above and beyond those standard goals.

In addition to traditional activities, Troop One has long instilled a dedication to public service in their ranks. Throughout the past century, that dedication has been exemplified in Troop One's commitment to the greater Bridgeton community and the success of past scouts in their adult lives. From military officers and educators to medical professionals and business leaders, the critical life skills of such distinguished members in our nation can be traced back to their time at Troop One.

I join with the greater Bridgeton community and Boy Scouts across the country in congratulating Troop One for an outstanding one hundred years. As your impressive past is well-documented, it is your contributions today and to the youth of the future that reinforce your legacy.

RECOGNIZING THE FALLEN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO LIVED OR SERVED IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY BETWEEN 1922 AND 2012

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the sixteen fallen law enforcement officers who lived or served in Prince William County, Virginia, between 1922 and 2012. I commend the Prince William County Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association (PWCCPAAA) for their memorial and tribute service for these fallen heroes.

The PWCCPAAA was founded in 1993 under the leadership of former Police Chief Charlie Deane. The Association hosts a National Police Week and facilitates citizen training programs to promote interaction between the Police Department and county residents.

I would like to join the PWCCPAAA in memorializing the law enforcement officers who lost their lives protecting the public from harm and danger. It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of the fallen law enforcement officer who lived or served in Prince William County between 1922 and 2012:

Justice of the Peace Thomas Semms Meredith; July 22, 1922; Prince William County Circuit Court, Virginia.

Trooper Jackie M. Bussard; May 5, 1970; Virginia State Police.

Officer Paul T. White Jr.; October 27, 1973; Prince William County Police.

Investigator Claude Everett Seymour; April 25, 1975; Virginia State Police.

Trooper Johnny R. Bowman; August 19, 1984; Virginia State Police.

Sergeant John D. Conner, III; July 24, 1988; Manassas City Police.

Officer Philip M. Pennington; November 22, 1990; Prince William County Police.

Trooper Jose M. Cavazos; February 24, 1993; Virginia State Police.

Special Agent William H. Christian, Jr.; May 29, 1995; Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Detective John M. Gibson; July 24, 1998; United States Capitol Police.

Officer Marlon F. Morales; June 13, 2001; Washington D.C. Metropolitan Transit Police.

Second Lt. Francis Joseph Stecco; October 25, 2008; Fairfax County Police.

Special Agent Chad L. Michael; October 26, 2009; Drug Enforcement Administration.

Special Agent Forrest N. Leamon; October 26, 2009; Drug Enforcement Administration.

Officer Paul Michael Dittamo; October 30, 2010; Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police Department.

Officer Chris Yung; December 31, 2012; Prince William County Police.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these sixteen fallen law enforcement officers. I extend my personal appreciation to the Prince William County Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association for their continued dedication to strengthening the relationship between the Police Department and county residents. With this tribute, we honor the memories and lives of the officers and the sacrifices made by them and their families to keep our community safe.

HONORING JOHN AND GWEN
SLOOP

HON. C. A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Dr. John and Mrs. Gwen Sloop on the occasion of their retirement after 27 years of devoted service to First Presbyterian Church.

As senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Harrisonburg, Virginia, Dr. Sloop is a true spiritual leader dedicated to his flock. A powerful preacher, he is a man "on fire" for Jesus. He has been a champion for global missions and has lead dozens of others to follow him into the missionary field. He has been actively involved in Presbyterians for Renewal, the Presbyterian Coalition, the Confessing Church movement and has served on the board of the Presbyterian Outreach Foundation.

Mrs. Sloop has earned a reputation for her selflessness and kindness, routinely demonstrated by her outstanding work with children. Along with her husband, she attended Gordon-Conwell Seminary in Boston before transferring to Columbia Seminary in Atlanta, graduating in 1973. For 13 years they served the growing congregation of the Lithonia Presbyterian Church in the suburbs of Atlanta.

The Sloops are passionate about seeing the Presbyterian Church renewed and growing again. Under their stewardship, First Presbyterian has grown to more than 1,100 members and more than 500 attendees for Sunday services since they were called there in 1986. They are loving parents to three children and devoted grandparents to five grandchildren.

I have had the privilege of attending First Presbyterian Church under the direction of Dr. and Mrs. Sloop. I know them to be dearly beloved by the entire congregation. Though they will be truly missed, we know they will continue to inspire many more followers, just as they have inspired my family and me.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to recognize Dr. and Mrs. Sloop. Their generosity and commitment to leaving this world better than they found it is an inspiration to us all and deserving of the utmost gratitude. It is with great pride that I congratulate them on their retirement and wish them continued success and happiness in the next chapter of their lives together.

HONORING THE DUGAS FAMILY OF
IBERIA PARISH FOR THEIR
SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the service of the Antoine and Emma Dugas Family, who selflessly served as aircraft spotters during World War II in Iberia Parish, Louisiana. Their dedication to country, spending countless hours watching the skies of our Gulf Coast as a first line of defense against an aerial assault, deserves our thanks and recognition.

Emma and Antoine Dugas moved from the Atchafalaya Basin area to Lake Dauterive, Iberia Parish, in 1927 following the great floods that predated our Louisiana levee system. At the advent of the war, due to the rural, isolated location of their home, the family was approached by the U.S. Army Air Force to serve as aircraft spotters. This required studying and memorizing various types of aircraft by sight, filling out reports of their surveillance and calling in any observations of aircraft they might spot in the skies. The family faithfully carried out this duty from June 24, 1943 until the war's end in 1945.

Until now, Antoine and Emma Dugas, and their children, Claude "Nook" Dugas, Mabel "Pie" Broussard, Melba "Eunice" Dugas Verret, Antoine "Tan" Dugas, Jr., and John Gabriel "Creed" Dugas, have received no special recognition for their service. Today I would like to take the opportunity to recognize and thank these citizens for their service and hold them up as an example of sacrifice and dedication in service of our country.

This month, on May 19, 2013, the Dugas family will come together at Lake Fausse Pointe State Park—significant due to its approximate location as a midpoint between the Bayou Chene area where the family lived in the basin, and the Lake Dauterive area where the family moved to build their first home on land. As they remember their family history, we thank them for their service and commend them on a job well done.

DISCOVERY SCIENCE CENTER,
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 2013
NATIONAL MEDAL FOR MUSEUM
AND LIBRARY SERVICE

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, today, the Discovery Science Center in Santa Ana, California will be presented with the 2013 National Medal for Museum and Library Service by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

In recognition of their outstanding public service and dedicated community outreach to the families, schools and residents of Orange County, the Discovery Science Center will be given one of our nation's highest honors in the area of arts and humanities.

The Discovery Science Center exemplifies the innovative ways in which a museum can strengthen our communities and foster the creative and educational integrity in our youth. The humanities are an important part of our national fabric and institutions like the Discovery Science Center are inspiring, educating and leading our nation's future.

Congratulations Discovery Science Center and thank you for making Orange County proud.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL MPS
AWARENESS DAY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the National MPS Society for their 38 years of supporting families while searching for cures for this genetic disease. Mucopolysaccharidosis or MPS is a group of genetically determined lysosomal storage diseases that render the human body incapable of producing certain enzymes needed to break down complex carbohydrates. The damage caused by MPS on a cellular level adversely affects the body and damages the heart, respiratory system, bones, internal organs, and central nervous system. MPS often results in intellectual disabilities, short stature, corneal damage, joint stiffness, loss of mobility, speech and hearing impairment, heart disease, hyperactivity, chronic respiratory problems, and, most importantly, a drastically shortened life span. Symptoms of MPS are usually not apparent at birth and without treatment; the life expectancy of an individual affected begins to decrease at a very early stage in their life. Research towards combating MPS has resulted in the development of limited treatments for some of the MPS diseases.

I ask my colleagues and their staff to join me in recognizing May 15, 2013 as National MPS Awareness Day. This is an important time during which the MPS disease community will help increase the awareness of this devastating disease, as well as supporting research to improve treatments, find cures and receive early diagnosis. The MPS families are encouraged to reflect and support each other and to reach out to those families who have lost loved ones to MPS. By wearing their purple ribbons and sharing these ribbons within their community, they are increasing public awareness about this disease. This date is also the start of the National MPS Run/Walk season along with other local community activities to raise awareness along with money for research and for family assistance programs. I commend the National MPS Society and their many volunteers for an unwavering commitment to bring about awareness of this disease and to continue to advocate for federal legislation to streamline the regulatory processes and to speed effective treatments and cures for their loved ones. More must be done to find cures and effective treatments, but let us reflect on the importance of this day. I ask that all of my colleagues join me in commemorating National MPS Awareness Day.

INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS
HOME LOAN REFINANCE OPPOR-
TUNITY ACT OF 2013

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Veterans Home Loan Refinance Opportunity Act of 2013. This bipartisan legislation improves the federal Qualified

Veterans Mortgage Bonds (QVMB) program to allow eligible States to use tax-free bond proceeds to refinance the home mortgages of our military veterans.

This legislation is necessary during our troubled economic times. QVMB home loan financing was not available to newly discharged veterans returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan until passage of the Heroes Earning Assistance Relief Tax Act of 2008 (H.R. 6081) in the 110th Congress.

Prior to 2008, some veterans may have taken out adjustable-rate mortgages (ARM) to purchase a home during the real estate boom earlier in the decade. It is only fair to them that they have the same opportunity as newly discharged veterans to take advantage of the low-interest, fixed rate mortgages available through QVMB financing.

For some veterans with a costly ARM or interest-only mortgage, this legislation could prevent a foreclosure.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, this legislation includes an inflation index to ensure the QVMB program remains viable in the future.

I urge passage of the Veterans Home Loan Refinance Opportunity Act.

CELEBRATING PUBLIC SERVICE
RECOGNITION WEEK

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Nation's public servants and thank them for their invaluable contributions to our country.

In every community, federal employees work to make sure the government is effective, promote the common good and keep us safe. They are the people you call when you need help. As we celebrate Public Service Recognition Week, which started on Sunday, May 5, and ends on Saturday, May 11, I rise to express my gratitude to our civil servants for their tireless dedication and service.

Federal employees often get little recognition for their work, despite the fact that day in and day out many of them are repeatedly put in dangerous situations. From the Customs and Border Patrol and DEA agents working to combat illegal immigration and human trafficking and drug runners, to the FBI agents rescuing children who have been kidnapped and finding suspected terrorists—federal employees perform vital jobs that make our country a safer and better place.

Every day intelligence agents and Foreign Service officers on the front lines of duty sacrifice to defend democracy and keep us safe. The CIA agents who coordinated the raid to kill Osama bin Laden are federal employees. On the evening of the September 11, 2012 terrorist attack on the U.S. mission in Benghazi, Libya, the Foreign Service officers representing our government at the consulate and annex where the attack occurred were federal employees.

In addition to providing security abroad, federal employees regularly risk their lives to protect us here at home. Just last month, FBI and ATF agents worked diligently to track down the suspects in the Boston Marathon bombings. Without their hard work, we could not

bring the individuals responsible for these unspeakable acts to justice.

It is also important to recognize that many federal employees who are not directly in harm's way graciously serve our Nation. Nurses and doctors at the VA who care for our veterans and wounded warriors, medical researchers at NIH searching for a cure for cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer's, and autism are all federal employees. The FDA inspectors who trace E. coli and salmonella outbreaks to ensure that our food is safe to eat are federal employees.

There are federal employees who propel our country to the forefront of scientific advancements. Scientists at Department of Energy labs, NASA astronauts, engineers and scientists all work to keep America competitive in the increasingly global economy. Meteorologists at weather service storm centers track hurricanes, tornadoes, tsunamis, and blizzards so that we can prepare for inclement weather and natural disasters.

Defense civilian riggers, machinists, refuelers, and engineers who repair sophisticated electronic weaponry systems at our Army depots, Air Force bases, and shipyards are the federal employees who support our military personnel. Air traffic controllers work to make sure we are safe when we travel. Federal firefighters protect homes and businesses when a lightning strike sets a national forest on fire. Park Service rangers facilitate safe hiking and camping in our national parks and tours of our national battlefields.

These are but a few of the essential services federal employees provide. I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking them for their service to ensure the safety and security of our Nation.

MIKE AND CORKY HALE STOLLER
CIVIL RIGHTS MEMORIAL THE-
ATER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on April 27th, in Montgomery, Alabama, leaders of the civil rights movement and the Southern Poverty Law Center came together to dedicate the Mike Stoller and Corky Hale Stoller Civil Rights Memorial Theater.

It is appropriate that the theater is named for Mike and Corky because of their ongoing commitment to the civil rights movement. The Stollers are two of kind—in music, in activism, in their generosity of spirit.

Since the day Corky came to Mike's studio to record demos as a musician, they have been partners in every sense of the word: fighting together for liberty and justice for all, for the basic dignity of every human being.

Mike and Corky's values run deep. They are tireless in their work. They are idealistic and compassionate, dedicated and determined. They know what they believe and recognize what's needed to follow through and get the job done. Thanks to their boundless energy, their beautiful relationship with one another, and their friendship with so many others, they have made a difference in advancing the cause of civil rights.

At the opening of the theater dedicated in their names, we heard Chairman Emeritus of

the NAACP Julian Bond's extraordinary presentation of how African Americans influenced and shaped musical history from around World War II to the days of Elvis Presley and beyond.

Through the story of music, he told the story of the civil rights movement—how music popular among Americans emerged from the compositions well-known among African Americans; how the attraction of American teenagers in the 1950s to traditionally African-American styles helped advance the movement and break down barriers among races.

What a fitting tribute to Mike and Corky Stoller, whose music made them famous and whose compassion made them special. When Mike joined Jerry Leiber to write "Hound Dog," "Jailhouse Rock," and countless other hits, he was helping sow the seeds of an effort that would connect communities through music, that would transform American culture, and that would grow with Mike and Corky's leadership for the cause of justice.

Now, Mike and Corky's names will remain inscribed on the Civil Rights Memorial Theater in Montgomery. Their legacy will be intertwined with the names of the men, women, and children remembered at the memorial, who gave their lives in the cause of freedom. Their theater will stand tall alongside the Wall of Tolerance and the wheel of water that reminds us of the biblical charge to "let justice roll down like waters, righteousness like a mighty stream."

At this theater and across the country, may all Americans associate the names of Mike Stoller and Corky Hale Stoller with their contributions to music and their leadership for civil rights.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ARTURO
ALBERTO DIAZ, SENIOR OWNER'S
REPRESENTATIVE FOR NEW
CONSTRUCTION, MILITARY SEA-
LIFT COMMAND

HON. SCOTT H. PETERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. PETERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary contributions of Mr. Arturo Alberto Diaz, a public servant of the highest caliber who dedicated his entire life to the service of our nation. Over a career that exceeded three decades, Mr. Diaz selflessly served the United States Navy shipbuilding and maritime industry, contributing directly to the delivery of over 40 ships to the nation's maritime forces. Mr. Diaz passed away on December 24, 2012, but he has left behind a long and lasting legacy to our nation—both through his unparalleled technical contributions to the strength and flexibility of our Navy's surface fleet and through the generation of professionals that he has mentored throughout his time in federal service. Today, it is my great honor to recognize his achievements and thank his wife and family for his service.

Mr. Diaz's pursuit of a life of public service began in 1972 at the Admiral Farragut Academy in New Jersey, where he spent three years and ultimately achieved the Battalion Executive Officer position his senior year. Upon graduation, he entered the United States

Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering in 1979 and a Third Assistant Engineer License from the U.S. Coast Guard. While attending the United States Merchant Marine Academy, he further achieved the rank and position of Regimental Executive Officer his senior year. He served with distinction as a U.S. Coast Guard officer from 1979 to 1984 before joining the federal civil service, where he went to work for the Navy as a civilian Construction Representative for the Military Sealift Command (MSC). Mr. Diaz rose through the chain of command to become the MSC Senior Owner's Representative for New Construction. During his tenure, he became widely known as an unparalleled expert in his field, working tirelessly to ensure that the operator's needs were integrated throughout the ship design and construction process.

Mr. Diaz had a long and distinguished career of innovative thinking and aggressive execution of shipbuilding programs across the entire spectrum of military sealift new construction and conversion. A man of uncommon character and boundless passion, he was highly respected throughout the naval shipbuilding and ship operations community as a visionary leader, team builder, and technical problem solver. Since joining federal service in 1984, he held a variety of technical and key leadership roles throughout his professional career. He also provided strong technical consultation to groups such as the National Shipbuilding Research Program and the Marine Engineering and Shipyard Management Program, where he worked tirelessly with his peers throughout government and industry across the globe to promote the open interchange of ideas and information and constantly improve shipbuilding and conversion processes and technology. When technical assistance was required on both U.S. Navy and Military Sealift Command ships, the Navy often called upon Mr. Diaz for his support. The expert technical leadership and ship design, construction, and ship operational knowledge that he shared throughout his career contributed to hundreds of millions of dollars in taxpayers' savings in ship acquisition and annual operation costs over the life of the forty ships that he was responsible for delivering to the Navy's Military Sealift Command. Beyond the shipbuilding programs with which he was actively involved and which serve as tangible evidence of his commitment and technical acumen, perhaps his most lasting and profound legacy will be the development he fostered and advocated in emerging leaders in naval shipbuilding. He left a lasting impression on countless young professionals who will exemplify his leadership principles throughout their promising careers. Simply put, he brought out the best in them and cultivated a love of the trade. Throughout his distinguished federal service career, he has been honored with numerous awards for his exceptional service, including Superior and Meritorious Civilian Service Medals, Navy Unit Commendation, and other prominent citations.

Mr. Diaz's contributions to our nation extend far beyond his material achievements and specific accomplishments. He was an inspiration to all who served with him, government and industry alike, ensuring that all members of his team were keenly aware of their importance to the Navy and the true appreciation

that he held for their efforts. His unique ability to recognize talent and to foster respect and camaraderie throughout the workforce has had an enormous influence on everyone he met and will continue to steer the course of our Navy well into the future. One of his most memorable quotes is "Friends build ships." Mr. Diaz recognized both the arm's length nature of government and industry negotiations as well as the necessity for teamwork. During a challenging time in the completion of the lead ship of the Navy's new Joint High Speed Vessel (JHSV), Mr. Diaz provided a compilation of "22 Attributes of a Good Team" to help bring the team together. The soundness of his observations regarding teams is clearly reflected in the teamwork that exists in the shipbuilding community today, as well as through the scores of young engineers who are now carrying forth his legacy into the next generation of ships for the Navy.

Mr. Diaz's tireless leadership and lifelong commitment to Navy shipbuilding new construction and conversion have earned him the deep respect of his peers and shipmates throughout the Military Sealift Command, Navy acquisition, and commercial shipbuilding community. His was a life of courage and consequence—a life devoted to the security of our nation. Mr. Diaz touched the lives of all who knew him, and it is my great honor to recognize him posthumously for his service. I know my colleagues join me in thanking his wife, Lisa, for sharing him with us these many years and wish her fair winds and following seas.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ISABELLA CATHERINE INGLES

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the enormous contributions of a true American patriot: Isabella Catherine Ingles (nee Hankel). Isabella has done a lot with her life: she is a wife, a mother, a grandmother, a World War II veteran, and so much more. She is a great example of what we call the "greatest generation."

Isabella was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1921, and graduated from Senn High School. A few short years afterwards, the United States was attacked at Pearl Harbor and entered into World War II. Isabella felt the need to contribute to the war effort, and enlisted in the United States Navy in early 1944. After basic training, she attended the Control Tower Operator School, and graduated second in her class. Isabella was stationed in the Pacific Northwest, and spent the next two years working in the control tower at Naval Air Station Pasco, in Washington State. While stationed here, Isabella met her future husband, Roy Ingles, who was at the time serving as an Aviation Chief Machinist Mate, and had survived the sinking of the USS *Lexington* during the Battle of the Coral Sea.

Isabella left the Navy in 1946, having achieved the rank of Specialist (Control Tower Operator) First Class, and returned to her home in Chicago. Roy soon followed and the two were married on her birthday the next year.

Isabella Ingles has kept very busy in the years since. Settling in Des Plaines, Illinois, Isabella and Roy had two boys and two girls. Following in their parents' footsteps, both of her sons went on to serve, joining the United States Air Force. After raising her children, Isabella became a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, and worked with senior citizens in her local community as the Activities Director for a local assisted living facility. Since then, she has continued to contribute. Isabella is a long time volunteer all over our community: helping with the Des Plaines Self Help Closet & Pantry, visiting the local Veterans Administration hospital and volunteering for over six decades with the Women's Service League.

On behalf of myself and a grateful nation, I want to thank Isabella Catherine Ingles for all that she has done for our nation: for her service, her sacrifices, and for all the contributions she has made to our community. I want to welcome her, and all the other veterans participating in the "Honor Flights" to Washington, DC to visit the World War II Memorial.

CONGRATULATING DANIEL
MCCAULEY, M.D.

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Daniel McCauley, M.D. who was named as the recipient of the 2013 John Darroch Memorial Award for Physician of the Year by The Stanislaus Medical Society. He will be honored during a ceremony in Modesto, California on May 9, 2013.

Dr. McCauley was born and raised in Northern Ireland. He dreamed of joining the Merchant Marines but unable to pursue that career choice, he turned to medicine. He obtained his medical degree at the University College in Dublin, Ireland in 1968. He continued his education with residencies at Hammersmith Hospital and Kingston Hospital located in England and also, Boston City Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts.

For the last thirty years, Dr. McCauley has practiced in Turlock. He is known for being well trained, cooperative, dedicated, and having moral character with excellent clinical judgment. Dr. McCauley gives selflessly by providing indigent care throughout the Valley.

During his free time, Dr. McCauley is an avid reader and gardener. Dr. McCauley and his colleague enjoy sailing on the San Francisco Bay.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in praising Dr. Daniel McCauley for his significant contributions to the medical field and to the people of Stanislaus County.

HONORING THE 2013 INDUCTEES OF
THE MAINE FRANCO-AMERICAN
HALL OF FAME

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the four outstanding individuals

being inducted into the Maine Franco-American Hall of Fame this year. Father Jacques LaPointe of Madawaska, Dr. Lisa Marraché of Waterville, Cindy Larouck of Lewiston, and Judge Michael Cantara of Biddeford are representative of the enduring strength and influence of Maine's French heritage.

This year's inductees join the ranks of Maine's finest Franco-American leaders. Each of these honorees have made enormous contributions to the preservation and advancement of our state's unique history and culture.

Father Jacques LaPointe is a key member of the greater Madawaska community and a respected author on the history of the St. John Valley.

Lisa Marraché is an accomplished physician and legislator who has long worked to preserve French culture in Maine, including as a founder of the Franco-American Heritage Society of the Kennebec Valley.

Cindy Larouck is well-known across her hometown of Lewiston and the state of Maine for her efforts to share and revive her love of traditional Franco-American dance and music.

Michael Cantara is a highly regarded public servant, having previously served as Mayor of his hometown of Biddeford, York County District Attorney, Maine Public Safety Commissioner, and now as a District Court Judge. He has long been an unyielding force for the preservation of Maine's Franco-American heritage.

The Franco-American Hall of Fame will also posthumously honor five Mainers for their outstanding contributions to the State of Maine: Leon Albert Guimond, Adolphe and Napoleon Gingras, Louis Phillippe Gagne, and Camille Bolduc.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring these outstanding individuals as they are permanently and fittingly recognized for their tremendous contributions to the state of Maine and Franco-American culture.

TRIBUTE TO MARK PALMER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, there are some who argue that the world's destinies are shaped by impersonal forces rather than by the courage and determination of individual men and women.

I believe that historians of that persuasion never met my friend, and freedom's friend, Mark Palmer. I rise to celebrate the life of Ambassador Mark Palmer, who died recently after a characteristically brave and uncomplaining twenty year battle against melanoma.

But for Mark's controversial determination while U.S. ambassador to Hungary that the barbed wire fences between Hungary and Austria should be severed in order to allow East Germans to leave the Communist orbit, the Berlin Wall might still be standing. But for his brave willingness to openly challenge Hungary's Communist government when conventional thinkers at the State Department and elsewhere were worried about the "destabilizing" effects of a Communist collapse, the Soviet Empire might still be in power. But for Mark's years of incomparably influential service as a speechwriter and pro-democracy ad-

vocate to three Presidents and six Secretaries of State, America might not have understood how the promotion of human rights, democracy and American values strategically tracks with the promotion of American national security interests.

There are many examples of how history was made by the man once described by The New York Times "as the most active Western booster for economic and political liberalization" of Communist dictatorships. They are examples of why, at the celebration of the 20th anniversary of Hungary's liberation from communist dictatorship, Mark was awarded a Commander's Cross of Hungary's Order of Merit because, as "the right man at the right time at the right place . . . he rose to the occasion [of] shepherding democratic opposition . . . through . . . turbulent times by giving [it] legitimacy." They are reasons why Mark received three Presidential Awards and two Superior Honor Awards from the Department of State during a 26 year career as a Foreign Service officer.

A great moment in Mark Palmer's career—and proof of how his ideas have shaped events—was his role while in the Foreign Service as co-drafter of President Ronald Reagan's great 1982 Westminster Hall "Democracy Crusade" speech on democracy and human rights. The speech, whose every word had to be fought through a resistant bureaucracy, was a critical step in moving the United States from a policy of accepting and containing communism to what became the successful policy of peacefully challenging it. Thanks to Mark, the speech also led to the establishment of the National Endowment for Democracy—which he had proposed and later served as a key board member.

After his Foreign Service career, Mark served for nearly twenty years as Vice Chair of Freedom House, one of America's primary human rights organizations. He was honorary chair and co-founder of the International Management Center in Budapest, Hungary and served on the boards of the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, the Georgetown University Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, the Budapest International Centre for Democratic Transition, the American Academy of Diplomacy, the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training, the University of the District of Columbia, the Friends of Falun Gong, and the Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Democracy Promotion.

Mark was the brains and inspiration behind another great institution whose positive impact will grow over the years. He helped to establish the Community of Democracies, a global assembly of democratic governments that now meets annually in support of democracy and human rights and to deepen the bonds between democratic governments. Mark served as Vice Chair of the Community's permanent operating body, its Council. As but one example of the Council's work and Mark's efforts on its behalf, he initiated and helped write increasingly influential training handbooks that guide U.S. diplomats and military officers to assist democratic promotion and transition. In Mark's honor, the Council established Palmer Prizes for contributions by diplomats to the advancement of democracy that were first awarded in 2011 to diplomats from seven countries for pro-human rights efforts in such nations as Belarus, Cuba and Zimbabwe.

A frequent author of policy and advocacy pieces to leading media outlets, and of expert

testimony and counsel to Congress and the Executive Branch, Mark published in 2003 his groundbreaking *Breaking the Real Axis of Evil: How to Oust the World's Last Dictators by 2025*. In it, he argued for a revamping of U.S. foreign policy to make worldwide promotion of democracy a primary goal. Legislation based on the book was sponsored by Senator JOHN MCCAIN and my late colleague and fellow Palmer admirer Tom Lantos, and was signed into law by President George W. Bush on August 3, 2007. Entitled "ADVANCE Democracy Act of 2007", it was described by a scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace as ". . . the most important bill . . . on democracy promotion since the 1983 initiative to establish the National Endowment for Democracy . . ."

Mark's business career was as successful as his diplomatic career and was often focused on the same objectives. Knowing the critical value of free and unmonitored information in dictatorial and post-dictatorial countries, he founded Central European Media Enterprises Ltd. which, with local partners, established, owned and operated the first politically independent national television stations in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Romania, Ukraine and Poland. He was a co-founder of Television Development Partners and Signal One Media Corporation—ventures for the establishment of independent, commercial satellite TV channels in the Middle East. He chaired the advisory board of New Tang Dynasty Television, and strongly backed the launch of the first uncensored satellite TV broadcasts into China.

In what may prove as great a contribution to 21st century world freedom as those Mark made during the 20th century, he led the effort to establish a robust U.S. initiative to overcome the Internet firewalls of China, Iran and other closed society regimes. Mark knew what the world's dictators know—that Internet firewalls are present day equivalents of the brick and barbed wire walls he helped bring down in the 20th century. He knew what China's former Premier Hu Jintao has openly acknowledged—that the ability of closed society regimes to "purify" the Internet is critical to their ability to remain in power. Thus, when millions of house church Christians freely and safely conduct worship services over their mobile phones in China, and when hundreds of thousands of Iranians in and out of the country conduct interactive town meetings—as I believe will soon occur—this development will be a tribute to the vision that Mark inspired many of us to share during the latter part of his productive life.

Mark came early to his activism in the cause of human rights, participating during the early 1960s in Freedom Bus rides and other civil rights demonstrations while a student at Yale University, from which he graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. Taking similar action, Mark regularly sought out and met with dissidents in Moscow and Belgrade early in his career as a junior Foreign Service Officer. As a private citizen, he returned to Belgrade in 1996 to march with students against the criminal regime of then Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

Patriotism is said to be an honorable competition with one's ancestors, and Mark had many models that helped make him the man he became. He was born on July 14, 1941 in Ann Arbor, Michigan to the late Captain Robie

Ellis Palmer, USN and the late Katherine Hooker Palmer. His mother was the granddaughter of Civil War Colonel George W. Hooker, an Antietam Medal of Honor winner of the 4th Vermont Volunteers who was later appointed Assistant Adjutant General of Union Army Volunteers by President Lincoln. Not long after Mr. Palmer's birth, his father left to take command of the submarine USS *Pollack*, which operated in the Pacific theater and served in several dangerous missions in Japanese waters.

America—and the world—will miss Mark. But as my colleagues on both sides of the aisle know—Mark's legacy will be with us for years and generations to come. When men and women escape the chains of 21st century oppression, they will be in Mark Palmer's debt as we, his friends, will forever be.

Finally, in rising to celebrate Mark I rise as well to celebrate his cherished partner in all that he accomplished during his distinguished career—his wife of 47 years, Dr. Sushma Palmer.

TRIBUTE TO MICKEY EDWARDS

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute a remarkable American, Mickey Edwards, who has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in recognition of his excellence in journalism, public affairs, and communication.

An Ohio native, Mr. Edwards has achieved continued success throughout his long career as a public servant. After receiving his education from the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma City University School of Law, he began his career in news media and public relations. He was later elected to represent the 5th Congressional District of Oklahoma for sixteen years and was a senior member of the House Republican leadership. He served as Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee, was a member of both the House Appropriations and Budget Committees, and was the ranking member of the House Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. After leaving Congress, he taught government and public policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, Harvard Law School, and Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute.

Mr. Edwards is a widely respected columnist and contributor whose work has appeared in news outlets including the Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Examiner, the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and The Washington Post. He is the author of two books, the co-author of a third, and has contributed chapters to several more publications.

Mr. Edwards has chaired several task forces for the Brookings Institution, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the Constitution Project. He has also been an adviser to the U.S. Department of State and is a member of the Princeton Project on National Security. He is currently a lecturer at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, is a vice president of the Aspen Institute, and is director of the Institute's Aspen-Rodel Fellowships in Public Leadership program. I came to know, like, and

respect Mr. Edwards through the Aspen-Rodel program.

Mr. Edwards' impressive resume does not fully encompass the accomplishments of this extraordinary man. He continues to fight for cooperation between parties and for placing national interest ahead of political gain, encouraging and educating young Americans on the benefits of civil discourse and compromise. A man worthy of professional accolades and personal respect, Mr. Edwards is truly committed to his family, his community and his country. His is an example we should all strive to emulate. I am privileged to call him a friend and salute him for this tremendous and well-deserved honor.

YOM YERUSHALAYIM, JERUSALEM DAY

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, 66 years ago today Israel liberated its capital city of Jerusalem during the Six-Day War, allowing Jews for the first time in decades to visit Judaism's holiest site, the Western Wall. That is why Jews across my home District in South Florida today are celebrating Yom Yerushalayim, Jerusalem Day.

In synagogues and community centers from Palm Beach, to Boca Raton, to Ft. Lauderdale, and indeed around the world, Jews are rejoicing with song, dance, and prayer, while also commemorating the solemn sacrifice of hundreds of Israeli soldiers whose lives were cut short in the Battle for Jerusalem.

Jerusalem has been the heart of the Jewish people for thousands of years. Through centuries of exile, Jerusalem remained the focal point of Jewish aspiration. In fact, Jews have always prayed toward the Western Wall regardless of where they stood geographically in the world.

That is why Israel's founding Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion said in 1947, "No city in the world, not even Athens or Rome, ever played as great a role in the life of a nation for so long a time, as Jerusalem has done in the life of the Jewish people."

IN RECOGNITION OF MT. MARIAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of Mt. Mariah Missionary Baptist Church in Omaha, Georgia as the church's membership and leadership celebrates a remarkable 200 years. The congregation of Mt. Mariah Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate this very significant anniversary with a Bicentennial Celebration on Sunday, May 12, 2013 at the Church in Omaha, Georgia.

Tracing its roots back to the antebellum era, the church was an illustration of the segrega-

tion and slavery practices of the South. From 1813 to 1856, the black community of Omaha worshipped with the white community although only a select number of blacks were allowed to attend church, including the overseer, the maids and the cooks. They had to sit in the back of the church and were not allowed to participate. As time passed, more members of the black community were allowed to attend the worship service but remained unsatisfied with the arrangement of services being held at Summer Hill Baptist Church, as it was known then.

After the Emancipation Proclamation was signed in 1865, the black community of Omaha was still discontented with the church service arrangement and called for a church of their own. In 1866, the white community had a church built within the city limits of Omaha and donated the old church to the black community. It was then used as both a school and a church and the name was changed to Mount Mariah Missionary Baptist Church.

In 1890, a church was built within the Omaha city limits for the black families living and working there so they wouldn't have to walk as far on Sunday and be tired for work on Monday. The church continued to grow and formed an organization named the "Mt. Mariah Baptist Church Association."

In 1911, the church bought six acres of land for \$412.00 to build a new church, fellowship hall and cemetery. This structure stood until a tornado tore through the Omaha area and destroyed the church. Through the sadness and the tears came a firm resolve and an unyielding faith in the Lord to build a new church. After working hard to raise the funds, on November 9, 1947, the new church was dedicated with much prayer, song, and joy.

Throughout the years, the church was remodeled and improved with help, funds and donations from its members. It has seen many great leaders, each one leaving their lasting mark on the church. Today, under the leadership of Pastor Marcus B. Hunter, the prospering church looks back on 200 years of hardship, unending faith, and ultimate success.

The story of Mt. Mariah Missionary Baptist Church, which began during a dark and divided time in our nation's history, is a truly inspiring one of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful congregation of people who put all their love and trust in the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mt. Mariah Missionary Baptist Church in Omaha, Georgia for their long history of coming together through the good and difficult times to praise and worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

HONORING THE DOS PALOS DIVINO ESPIRITO SANTO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th "Festa do Divino Espirito Santo" or the Festival of the Divine Holy Spirit in Dos Palos, California. This annual festa is a lively gathering that promotes family reconciliation and peace, through prayer and charity.

The celebration began in the early 1920s when Azoreans began to emigrate from the Azore Islands to Dos Palos. In 1923 the Divino Espirito Santo, DES, Association was incorporated, and it stands as one of the city's oldest organizations. The Dos Palos DES has been successful over the past nine decades due to the donations and support from residents, business owners, dairymen, and ranchers. The organization is supported by individuals of all backgrounds and faiths. The money that DES raises goes to their annual celebrations, scholarships for young men and women, and parks for children. They also provide assistance to those who are in immediate need.

Dos Palos DES is known for its sense of community and comradeship. Neighbors are like family in Dos Palos, and there is no question that there is a sense of loyalty between everyone. Each year, the Festa do Divino Espirito Santo serves as a place for citizens to come together, appreciate their town, and enjoy each other's company. The traditional meal of sopas is served to over 2,000 people.

As someone with a strong Portuguese background and up-bringing, I truly admire all of the efforts made by Dos Palos DES. The individuals who have put together this wonderful celebration must be recognized for all of their hard work and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Festa do Divino Espirito Santo as residents from all over the Central Valley celebrate the 90th celebration. These wonderful traditions are passed down from generation to generation, and we can expect that Dos Palos DES will be hosting celebrations for many years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHILD SUPPORT RECOVERY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2013

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with Ranking Member DOGGETT and other Members of the Human Resources Subcommittee, introduce the International Child Support Recovery Improvement Act of 2013. This bill is nearly identical to H.R. 4282, which passed the House by voice vote on June 5, 2012, and serves as the implementing legislation for the Hague Convention on International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance. This multilateral treaty, to which the Senate provided its consent in 2010, provides for the structured exchange of information and consistent enforcement of international cases of child support.

The bill also builds on the Subcommittee's recent bipartisan efforts to standardize data within and across social programs. This includes applying to the child support enforcement program the same no-cost data standardization provision recently enacted in the child welfare, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and unemployment insurance programs.

The data provision is designed to recognize the need for standards in the exchange of data both across state-level programs and between states and the federal government. The

goal is to better organize data within programs so that data can then be more easily shared across multiple human services programs that serve similar populations.

The data provision recognizes that multiple standards may well be needed to address different types of data exchanges, and that some data exchanges may already be standardized. It provides some authority to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to exercise some flexibility in situations where standardized systems are found to operate efficiently. Certain sectors, such as financial institutions, that interact with covered programs have well-established data exchange standards that need to be taken into account and should serve as the base for moving forward. In the case of child support, this data provision does not require that systems such as the Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS) be retrofitted, but instead encourages incremental, cost-effective implementation of consistent data standards across human services programs.

I invite all Members to join me in supporting this important legislation and look forward to its speedy consideration. That way we can take the next step toward ratifying the Hague Convention so that more child support is collected in international cases, providing more children the financial support they deserve.

PROCLAIMING SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL ARSON AWARENESS WEEK

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support National Arson Awareness Week, which runs from May 5th–11th this year.

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) has made tremendous strides in educating the public about the dangers of Arson during its annual Arson Awareness Week. This year's theme, "Reducing Residential Arson," is focused on ways for community members to come together and develop plans to combat arson in their neighborhoods. According to USFA, over 14,700 law enforcement agencies report 43,400 arsons every year.

This is an issue that hits home for my constituents in the city of Lewiston, who have endured three large fires during the past week. The fires have destroyed over 79 apartments and left roughly 200 people homeless. Firefighters from Lewiston and the surrounding communities have performed heroically to contain the fires and protect residents from harm. These brave men and women place themselves at enormous risk every day to keep us safe, and I applaud them for their efforts.

USFA is recommending a number of strategies to help communities better protect themselves against arson. Neighborhood cleanups have enabled residents to remove flammable materials and identify possible hazards. Groups have also had success by improving internal and external security for their homes and at abandoned properties. Working together, we can all help make our communities a safer place to live.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in recognizing National Arson Awareness Week for its

role in helping our communities educate themselves about ways to combat arson.

DRURY UNIVERSITY'S THREE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Drury University's Men's Basketball and Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Teams on their national championships.

Drury University is the only school in the NCAA at any level in this 2012–13 school year to have won three national championships.

The Panthers Basketball Team won in dramatic fashion over Metro State to win 74–73 after they overcame a 17-point deficit to win on a last minute free throw in Atlanta, Georgia, on April 7. This is Drury's first NCAA-II National Basketball Championship, and it also marked Drury's 23rd straight win of the season. They won through their hard work and the sheer determination to win.

I want to commend Head Coach Steve Hesser, Assistant Coaches Ja Havens and Steven Gum, and Graduate Assistant Brandon Kimbrough for guiding the team through its extraordinary season. Coach Hesser did a remarkable job, and the National Association of Basketball Coaches honored Coach Hesser as its National D-II Coach of the Year, an award he certainly deserves.

Drury University's Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Teams, coached by Brian Reynolds, swept the titles on March 9 in Birmingham, Alabama. This was the ninth straight national championship for the Drury Men—a record for NCAA Division II schools—and the fourth national title in the last five years for the Drury Women. I also want to commend Assistant Coach Jason Hite, Diving Coach Richard Hackett, Graduate Assistant Michal Winiewicz, and Graduate Assistant Marta Stepien for all their work this year.

I also congratulate Coach Reynolds, who was named National Coach of the Year for both the men's and women's competitions for his efforts this year. Coach Reynolds has developed a truly unique and dominant program.

The Springfield community is proud of the Drury teams for reaching such a high level of success. Drury University won three national titles and three national championships in the span of a month. Drury's national championships are remarkable achievements, and the teams will have memories to last a lifetime.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Drury Panthers on their outstanding athletic performances this year.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WATER QUALITY PROTECTION AND JOB CREATION ACT OF 2013

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I join with 27 of my colleagues in introducing bipartisan legislation to make long,

overdue investments in our nation's water infrastructure systems that will benefit both our communities and our economy.

When it comes to America's infrastructure, the role of the Federal government is both critical and clear. Never has the need for Federal investment been greater, and in my district, perhaps more urgent both in the short term and long term.

As the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure heard at its Water Resources and Development Act hearing last month, America's waterways related infrastructure projects are in drastic need of Federal investment that will create jobs and benefit our economy. So too, will federal investment in our wastewater infrastructure systems provide economic benefits and create jobs while rebuilding and expanding our treatment systems. For every \$1 billion this nation spends on wastewater infrastructure it can create as many as 33,000 jobs in communities across America while improving our public health and the environment. It is a win-win proposition.

Around the country, states report a need of close to \$300 billion in wastewater treatment, pipe replacement and repair, and stormwater management projects over the next twenty years. This need is especially pressing in many cities and communities where pipes and sewage treatment facilities are reaching the end of their expected useful life.

Without a greater Federal investment, communities that cannot upgrade and expand their wastewater systems will find it harder to attract new business and build new homes. Existing businesses and homes will see treatment costs rise as short term fixes are sought. Current Federal appropriations that equal a small fraction of the identified need to modernize and repair these systems are clearly not sufficient. The time for a new approach to Federal investment and financing of these efforts is now.

The "Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2013" we are introducing today is intended to provide the "all of the above" approach to water infrastructure investment and financing that will be needed to close our current funding gaps. The bill renews the Federal commitment to addressing our Nation's substantial needs for wastewater infrastructure by investing \$13.8 billion in the State Revolving Funds over the next five years. For decades, the SRFs have been the traditional mechanism for Federal wastewater infrastructure assistance.

Yet, also recognizing that significant additional resources will be necessary, the bill establishes two complementary new initiatives for the long-term, sustainable financing of wastewater infrastructure. The first is a direct loan and loan guarantee program and the second, a Clean Water Infrastructure Trust Fund. These proposals, when implemented in concert, would leverage billions of additional dollars to meet local wastewater infrastructure needs, create jobs, and protect our public health and environmental quality.

Meeting the critical water infrastructure investment needs of our local communities is a bipartisan issue, and indeed, this bill has bipartisan support. Members from both sides of the aisle recognize that the investments that we make will benefit our local constituents, the economies of our towns, cities, and States, and provide the added benefit of protecting public health and the overall condition of the environment.

I am pleased that this legislation has garnered bipartisan support for introduction, and I am also pleased that Republican and Democratic staff on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee have had several productive meetings to discuss this issue and explore a collaborative path forward. I look forward to working with Chairmen SHUSTER and GIBBS and Ranking Member RAHALL to advance long-term, sustained investment in our nation's wastewater infrastructure that has broad support from cities and communities around the country, industry, utilities, environmental groups, unions, equipment suppliers, and engineers.

In short, Mr. Speaker, this bill is good for America and American workers, and I urge my colleagues to join myself and my fellow co-sponsors in supporting this very important legislation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BALANCING FOOD, FARM, AND THE ENVIRONMENT ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Balancing Food, Farm, and the Environment Act of 2013. This legislation modernizes the conservation title of the Farm Bill to better reflect farmers' needs and the priorities of the American public. I know from working with farmers in Oregon that many farmers are the best possible stewards of their land, and they are producing healthy, local food in ways that protect their livelihood, their farm, and the environment. The Farm Bill as a whole, however, does far too little to reward good stewardship, support sustainable farming practices, or meet conservation priorities.

The Balancing Food, Farm, and the Environment Act of 2013 leverages current Farm Bill programs to produce better environmental outcomes and increase ease of access for farmers. The bill prioritizes longer terms of protection for high-priority environmentally-sensitive lands, providing a better return for taxpayers and stability for farmers. It also makes clean water a higher priority in conservation programs, increasing protection and restoration for riverbanks. The Balancing Act targets wetlands and critical habitat to protect wildlife population. It increases access to program funding for farmers, and expands the funding available for technical assistance. It helps keep antibiotics out of our water and food by reducing grants to factory farms and by helping farmers transition to organic or less antibiotic intensive farming methods. Finally, the Balancing Act acknowledges that American farmers are experiencing impacts from climate change, and it provides funding for adaptation and mitigation of these effects.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to advance this legislation on behalf of our farmers, the millions of Americans who care about a safe, healthy, domestic food supply, and our grandchildren, who will live with the air, water, and soil we pass on to them.

CONGRATULATING THE PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 49th class of U.S. Presidential Scholars, composed of 141 high school seniors who have excelled in academics or the arts. I am especially proud that a student from my district, James Y. Wang, has been selected as one of two students from Indiana for this prestigious honor.

These outstanding young people are selected by the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars as a result of their academic success, community service, leadership, and commitment to excellence. Each state will send a young man and a young woman to Washington, DC, on June 16, where they will receive a Presidential Scholar Medallion.

This achievement is a wonderful reflection of the quality of academic instruction in my district and of the hard work and dedication of the students. I would like to congratulate not only Mr. Wang, but also University High School in Carmel, Indiana, and Derek Thomas, who has been recognized as an outstanding educator.

As a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I know how important it is to our nation's future to encourage academic excellence in high schools across the country. We must do everything we can to support our great educators and train a generation of students ready to succeed in a dynamic 21st century economy.

The winners of this unique competition are an inspiration to their peers, educators, and parents throughout Indiana's 5th District and across the nation. Once again, congratulations to Mr. Wang, Mr. Thomas, and University High School. I am very proud of you.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE THAT CONGRESS AND THE STATES SHOULD INVESTIGATE AND CORRECT ABUSIVE, UNSANITARY, AND ILLEGAL ABORTION PRACTICES

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I'm heartbroken as I've heard more and more about Dr. Kermit Gosnell's Philadelphia medical practice during the past few weeks. The brutal method Dr. Gosnell used to ensure death from a botched abortion, severing the spinal cord of a baby born alive, is disgusting. I pray we are all shocked and disturbed by what has been revealed about abortion during this trial.

While Dr. Gosnell stands trial, there are still over a million babies who die from abortion each year in the United States. That's almost 2 times more deaths than caused by cancer in the U.S. every year and 2 times more than heart disease. Abortion is taking an innocent life and we have to stand against it.

That's why I am introducing this House resolution to review public policies that led to the

illegal abortion practices of Dr. Kermit Gosnell and others. The resolution resolves that Congress and States should gather information about and correct abusive, unsanitary, and illegal abortion practices and the interstate referral of women and girls to facilities engaged in dangerous or illegal second- and third-trimester procedures.

The resolution also recognizes that there is substantial medical evidence that an unborn child is capable of experiencing pain at 20 weeks after fertilization, or earlier, and resolves that there is a compelling governmental interest in protecting the lives of unborn children beginning at least from the stage at which substantial medical evidence indicates that they are capable of feeling pain.

Life is precious, children are precious. People talk about choice when we talk about abortion, and we should encourage more Americans to choose life and protect the most innocent in our nation.

HONORING CHIEF JOHN STEVENS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the leadership of John Stevens, former Chief of the Passamaquoddy and Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the State of Maine.

Chief Stevens is known throughout Maine as a man of great wisdom and compassion. His distinguished career in public service has led him to serve the state's native peoples in a variety of capacities. As a Tribal Councilor, John worked to strengthen Passamaquoddy cultural values and promote economic progress. During his terms as Chief, John worked effectively to combat unemployment and crippling debt. He also played an enormous role in the legal battle that would eventually result in Congressional Legislation to grant federal recognition to the Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, and Maliseet. Chief Stevens would also go on to serve as the first Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the State of Maine.

In addition to his devotion for the native peoples of Maine, John is also a proud veteran of the Korean War. He has often cited the war-devastated villages he encountered overseas as an inspiration behind his efforts to improve conditions for his own people. Today, the Passamaquoddy Tribe owns more than 200,000 acres of land in the State.

I consider myself privileged to have had the opportunity to work with John as a fellow public servant and as a friend. On May 9, 2013, Chief Joseph Socobasin, Vice Chief Clayton Sockabasin and the Indian Township Tribal Council will dedicate the Tribal Government Office Building in Chief Stevens' honor. I can think of no one more deserving of this tremendous honor.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in honoring Chief John Stevens for his long and remarkable career of public service.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of National Nurses Week. Nurses form the backbone of our nation's healthcare system. Patients depend upon nurses when they are at their most vulnerable, families entrust the care and comfort of their loved ones to their capable hands, and a happy and healthy nursing workforce means a happy and healthy American people.

This week is an opportunity for us to thank the roughly 3 million registered nurses in the United States, who provide the front-line patient contact that is critical to medical treatment that is effective and efficient—and they do so with a humanity that is refreshing. They provide understanding care to victims of domestic violence, a compassionate touch for family members who have lost a loved one, and the support and strength our wounded veterans need to recover.

As our nation looks towards implementing the Affordable Care Act, nurses will play a leading role in providing cost-effective, high-quality care to millions of new patients. One of the most important things we can do to control costs and improve patient outcomes is encourage and support both current and future members of the nursing profession. The current nursing shortage is a major hurdle that we must confront if we want to lead the world in health care quality and efficiency. By recruiting, training, and retaining the best nursing workforce that we possibly can, our nation will be investing in itself.

The acknowledged relationship between increased nurse staffing levels and decreased patient complications and reduced hospital stay lengths is too important to ignore. Shorter hospital stays means smaller premiums for all Americans. It also means fewer tax dollars being spent. But in more important terms, it means husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, sons and daughters who are around longer, with better quality of life. That is what nurses provide, and it is that for which I rise to say thank you.

IN CELEBRATION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to recognize the 21st anniversary of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month during the month of May. It is with great honor that I stand to commemorate the many accomplishments and contributions from Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. As leaders in business, education, STEM, military, medicine or the arts, Asian Americans have contributed to our nation's prosperity and culture. The story of the APA community is a testament to what is possible in America.

This year's theme is Building Leadership: Embracing Cultural Values and Inclusion

which is definitely portrayed throughout this country and New York. The Asian Pacific American population is 18.2 million and expected to reach 20.9 million in the next five years. New York is home to 1.7 million Asian Pacific Americans and 10.1 percent of APA-owned businesses. Organizations in my congressional district in New York City, such as The Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans improve our communities with advocacy efforts for APAs, and cultural contributions. In addition, the Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce in New York has dedicated itself to the economic empowerment of APAs, and building the relationship between Asian and U.S. companies.

My colleagues in the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus and I are committed to fulfilling the various economic needs and civic engagement of the APA community as we work to secure comprehensive immigration reform and business empowerment opportunities for small business owners. Through strength and determination, the APA community has overcome prejudice, oppression and countless barriers to achieve enormous heights in America. I join Asian Pacific Americans in celebrating their heritage and their well-deserved successes."

COMMEMORATING THE SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SULLY DISTRICT POLICE STATION SHOOTING

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, it was seven years ago today that two Fairfax County police officers were killed outside the Sully District Police Station in a tragedy that galvanized our community. I was Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors at the time. Master Police Officer Michael Garbarino and Detective Vicki Armel showed tremendous courage, heroism, and self-sacrifice in protecting their fellow officers when a troubled young man launched an assault on the station with an arsenal of high-powered weapons. They were the first officers to be killed in the line of duty in the Fairfax County Police Department's 72-year history.

MPO Garbarino, 53, had just returned to the station and was sitting in his cruiser, preparing to go off duty, when he was shot. Detective Armel, 40, was at her car nearby, preparing to respond to a report of a carjacking. We later discovered that the shooter, 18-year-old Michael Kennedy, had a history of mental illness. The assailant stole a van and drove to the station armed with two rifles and five handguns. Detective Armel immediately returned fire, but she was fatally wounded when a high-powered round pierced her protective vest. She died on scene. Despite his injuries, MPO Garbarino was able to use his police radio to call for assistance and provide tactical information to responding officers that led to the killing of the shooter and prevented further casualties at the Sully Police Station. In standing their posts, they saved other lives.

MPO Garbarino was transported to the hospital in critical condition and succumbed to his injuries nine days later. He was a 23-year veteran of the Fairfax County Police Department.

He was a mentor to many young people in our community and regularly volunteered at one of the local alternative high schools. He is survived by his wife, Susan, their two children, his parents, and a sister.

Detective Arnel was a 17-year law enforcement veteran. A graduate of Fairfax High School, she spent eight years with the Fairfax Sheriff's Department before transferring to the Police Department. She was active in the Mountain View Community Church in Culpeper, and she is survived by her husband, Tyler, who also serves as a detective in Fairfax, and their two children.

This tragedy was a grim reminder that we can never take for granted the outstanding work of our men and women in blue who put themselves in harm's way every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. The remarkable heroism and bravery displayed by MPO Garbarino and Detective Arnel exemplifies the valor of all our public safety personnel and first responders and reflects their commitment to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the memory of these outstanding police officers and extending our condolences to their families. They and their brothers and sisters in the public safety community are deserving of our highest praise and appreciation.

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, today, we remember the Armenian people who lost their lives almost a century ago in the Armenian Genocide. In the first genocide of the 20th century, Ottoman officials arrested more than 200 Armenian leaders. Subsequently, 1.5 million Armenians were arrested and forced to march hundreds of miles to the present-day Syrian Desert. Men, women, and children were starved and tortured solely because of their faith and ethnicity.

Yet, there are some today who still choose not to recognize the atrocities that occurred between 1915 and 1923. But we know the truth. We know there were men, women, children, and families who were detained and ordered to march into the desert. We know there were those who were forced to escape their homes in search of safety. And we know there were those who never made it out.

Scripture says before you make comment about the speck in someone else's eye, remove the plank from your eye. Well, we certainly have a plank in our eye from the Administration and from the State Department, who is just refusing to do what is right in this area. So, we must first address and remove that plank in our eye and make the admission in this country and then we can call even more strongly on other countries, specifically Turkey.

We must continue to remember the injustice and acts of hatred that occurred almost a century ago. By doing so, we work to prevent a repetition of atrocities. And by continuing to hold events such as the annual commemoration, we make our voices heard. I can only hope that our acknowledgement and recogni-

tion of the crimes against humanity will set an example, paving the way for a peaceful resolution between the Turkey and Armenia. Thank you.

WELCOMING THE NINTH HONOR FLIGHT SOUTH ALABAMA TO WASHINGTON, DC

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Honor Flight South Alabama and the World War II veterans. This very special organization is bringing its ninth flight to Washington, DC on May 8, 2013. I am honored to insert this tribute in the RECORD on the anniversary of the unconditional surrender of Germany to the allies.

Founded by the South Alabama Veterans Council, Honor Flight South Alabama is an organization whose mission is to fly heroes from Alabama to see their national memorial.

Nearly seven decades have passed since the end of World War II and, regrettably, it took nearly this long to complete work on the memorial that honors the spirit and sacrifice of the 16 million who served in the U.S. Armed Forces and the more than 400,000 who died. Sadly, many veterans did not live long enough to see this memorial, yet for those veterans still living, Honor Flight provides for many their first—and perhaps only—opportunity to see the National World War II Memorial, which honors their service and sacrifice.

During their time in their nation's capital, the veterans will visit the World War II Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and other memorials.

Mr. Speaker, the May 8, 2013, journey of heroes from South Alabama is an appropriate time for us to pause and thank them—and all of the soldiers who fought in World War II. They collectively—and literally—saved the world. They personify the very best America has to offer, and I urge my colleagues to take a moment to pay tribute to their selfless devotion to our country and the freedoms we enjoy.

I salute Sid Hamilton and L.C. Malone, veterans from Alabama's Second Congressional District who made the trip to Washington. May we never forget their valiant deeds and tremendous sacrifices.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for

printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 13

3 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Brian C. Deese, of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

SD-342

MAY 14

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the Secretary of the Senate, the Sergeant at Arms and the U.S. Capitol Police.

SD-138

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on SeaPower

To hold hearings to examine Marine Corps modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-222

10 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act of 2013".

SR-328A

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine Medicare physicians payments, focusing on advancing reform.

SD-215

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2014 for the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet

To hold hearings to examine the state of video.

SR-253

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 793, to support revitalization and reform of the Organization of American States, and S. 579, to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan at the triennial International Civil Aviation Organization Assembly.

S-116

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the Coast Guard.

SD-138

Committee on Armed Services
To receive a closed briefing on the situation in Syria. SVC-217

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine the ADA and entertainment technologies, focusing on improving accessibility from the movie screen to your mobile device. SD-430

Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219

3:15 p.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment
To hold hearings to examine returning private capital to mortgage markets, focusing on housing finance reform. SD-538

MAY 15

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine United States Policy toward Iran; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing in SVC-217. SD-419

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine performance management and congressional oversight, focusing on 380 recommendations to reduce overlap and duplication. SD-342

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Defense
To hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for National and Military Intelligence programs. SVC-217

Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine pending benefits legislation. SR-418

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the National Institutes of Health. SD-138

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the Department of Energy. SD-192

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Subcommittee on National Security and International Trade and Finance
To hold hearings to examine improving cross border resolution to better protect taxpayers and the economy. SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine advanced vehicle technology and its implications. SR-253

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert D. Okun, and Michael Kenny O'Keefe, both to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. SD-342

Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the views and priorities of Interior Secretary Jewell with regard to matters of Indian affairs. SD-628

MAY 16

9:15 a.m.
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider the nomination of Thomas Edward Perez, of Maryland, to be Secretary of Labor, and any pending nominations. SD-430

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the law of armed conflict, the use of military force, and the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force. SD-106

10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-366

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine certain nominations. SD-430

2:30 p.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219

MAY 22

10 a.m.
Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook. SH-216

2 p.m.
Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine the Medicare prescription drug program, focusing on 10 years later. SD-366

JUNE 4

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet
To hold hearings to examine the state of wireless communications. SR-253

JUNE 11

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Airland
Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SD-G50

11 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support
Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SD-G50

2 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Personnel
Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SD-G50

3:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-232A

6 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-232A

JUNE 12

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on SeaPower
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-222

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-222

JUNE 13

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-222

JUNE 14

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014. SR-222