EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF COLONEL GRAHAM W. FOUNTAIN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Graham W. Fountain upon his retirement after a highly decorated and distinguished twenty-eight-year career in local and state law enforcement. Colonel Fountain's dedicated service to protecting and serving the people of Florida has been exemplary.

After graduating from Crestview High School in Crestview, Florida, Colonel Fountain attended Troy University, where he received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Criminal Justice. After completing his studies at Troy University, Colonel Fountain returned to his native Okaloosa County to become a Deputy Sheriff in the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office. Colonel Fountain quickly established himself as a first-class law enforcement officer, and in 1991 he began his service in state law enforcement as a Law Enforcement Investigator with the Florida Office of the State Treasurer, where he served as an undercover operative, conducted interrogations, provided training to local law enforcement agencies, and drafted bill language for the agency to present to the Florida Legislature.

In 1995, Colonel Fountain returned to the Okaloosa County Sheriff's office, where he served as Undersheriff. In this important position, Colonel Fountain provided unparalleled leadership and administrative excellence overseeing over 250 law enforcement officers and support personnel.

Colonel Fountain's excellent record and demonstrated success led Florida Governor Jeb Bush to appoint Colonel Fountain as the Director of the Florida Department of Transportation's Office of Motor Carrier Compliance and Law Enforcement Operations. During his eight-year tenure at the department, Colonel Fountain spearheaded efforts to bring stakeholders in the trucking industry together with the Florida Legislature and Department of Transportation to dramatically improve the safety of Florida's highways without compromising the trucking industry's ability to transport freight. Colonel Fountain then brought his vast knowledge of the transportation sector to help develop Florida's "Pre-Pass" credentialing system, which has boosted efficiency and saved millions of hours of downtime. Colonel Fountain is an exceptional law enforcement officer and leader, and his sedulous work on behalf of the State of Florida was recognized by the Florida Department of Transportation when he was awarded their top honor, the "Leader of the Year" award.

Colonel Fountain has also used his vast experience in law enforcement to help improve local, state, and national efforts in homeland security, disaster preparedness, transportation, and law enforcement development. He has served in numerous important capacities outside of his law enforcement career, including as the Commissioner and Chairman of the Florida Commission on Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation, President of the State Law Enforcement Chiefs Association, Vice-Chair of Florida's Joint Task Force of Law Enforcement Communications for the Department of Justice's Homeland Security Advisory Council, and as a member of the Florida Seaports Security Standards Council. Colonel Fountain continues his outstanding service to Florida today as the Commissioner of the Florida Historical Commission.

Outside of his service to Florida, Colonel Fountain is a loving and devoted husband to his wife Felicia and a man of great faith. He is an active member of First Baptist Church in Crestview, where he serves in the church leadership. Colonel Fountain has also served in numerous capacities in state, local, and national political campaigns, including county chair and member of the National Public Safety Advisory Council and as Florida Co-Chair for Public Safety/First Responders.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Colonel Graham W. Fountain for his twenty-eight years of outstanding leadership and service to Florida. My wife Vicki and I wish Colonel Fountain and his family all the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF MONMOUTH COLLEGE AND THE COMPLETION OF THEIR NEW CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND BUSINESS

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Monmouth College and the college's president, Mauri Ditzler, on the completion of the Center for Science and Business, which will have its dedication ceremony tomorrow, May 10. This is their first new academic building in over twenty years. It is a testament to Monmouth's commitment to its students by creating a learning environment conducive to motivating students to maximize their potential.

I visited Monmouth College on April 29, and was greatly impressed with this new facility as well as with the dedication President Ditzler and his staff have to the institution and its students. The idea of this building has now become a building of ideas.

The innovative combination of business and science within a single facility will promote interaction between what have traditionally been independent departments and will prove to be important for the academic and economic growth in the region. This new $40 million complex will house the departments of biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics and computer science, psychology, political economy and commerce, and accounting.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Monmouth College for this giant step forward and I look forward to working with the College, its faculty, and graduates as they make their dreams a reality.

IN MEMORIAM OF JACK GOSCH

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 09, 2013

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues KEN CALVERT and RAUL RUIZ to honor the memory of a friend of mine, Jack Gosch, who passed away late last month. As an active member of the Hemet, California, community, Jack was a natural salesman who lived a long, enthusiastic, and vibrant life. He contributed greatly over his lifetime to the economic success and vitality of the city, and will long be remembered.

Jack was born on June 26, 1928, in Norwich, Kansas. He attended Wilson High School in Long Beach and the University of California Los Angeles. He graduated from the university in 1951 with a business degree and served two years in the U.S. Air Force. Following his service managing a Post Exchange, he joined Ford Motor Company, where he worked his way up from an entry-level data position to general field manager for the Los Angeles region. In 1964, he established his first dealership in Hemet, California. In the following years he added to the Gosch Auto Group with new dealerships in Temecula and other cities throughout Riverside County.

During the 1970s, Jack was president of the Hemet Chamber of Commerce and the Hemet-San Jacinto Exchange Club. In 1974, Jack co-founded The Bank of Hemet, and through his retirement in 2001, Jack served as chairman of the board. He was also a founding board member of Valley-Wide Parks & Recreation District, which was established in 1972 and has since grown from one park to over 75 throughout San Jacinto, Menifee, and French Valley. He was a partner in many local businesses, such as Hemet Valley RV, Hemet Insurance, and the Valley Chronicle Newspaper, among others.

Jack is survived by his wife Gwenyth; sons Eric (Gisela) and Marc (Marie); grandchildren Courtney, Patrick, Kurt and Matthew; great-granddaughter Lily Mae, and sister Betty Davidson.

HONORING KANEKO BISHOP

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Kaneko Oshima Bishop, whose work and contributions have

made her a well-known figure in San Diego and, most recently, recognized by the government of Japan.

On May 15, Ms. Bishop will receive the country's most prestigious decoration, the Order of the Rising Sun, with Gold and Silver Rays, for her contributions to promoting the regional relationship between Japan and the United States. Established in 1875, the Order of the Rising Sun is the Japanese government's oldest decoration.

Born in Nagoya, Japan, Kaneko Bishop moved to San Diego in 1972 and has since then made countless contributions to the Japanese-American community. She is the President of the San Diego-Yokohama Sister City Society. After the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, she led a fundraising effort that resulted in more than $10,000 for relief efforts. Our friends in Yokohama have also noted her tireless work. In 2003, when the wildfires ravaged in San Diego, it is no doubt that because of the good will and relationship she fostered, the Mayor of Yokohama led a campaign that raised $17,000 for relief efforts here at home.

Her life's work exemplifies what it means to promote mutual understanding and friendship between countries. As someone who has spent some time in Japan, it gives me tremendous pride to see such unwavering dedication to fostering cross-cultural understanding. Our communities are all the more better because of it, and it gives me great pleasure to congratulate Kaneko Oshima Bishop on receiving this prestigious honor.

HONORING OUR NATION'S TEACHERS

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, May 6–10 is Teacher Appreciation Week, and I rise today to honor teachers all across America.

My husband, Dean, is a teacher, and I see firsthand every day the love and dedication that go into teaching. By investing in the lives of our children and educating the next generation, our educators are ensuring a bright future for our nation.

Behind every successful adult is an even more successful teacher. Each Member of Congress would not be here today if we did not have teachers who invested in us, and I am sure each of us remembers a favorite teacher who made learning fun and empowered us to chase our dreams. As the first person in my family to attend college, I know firsthand the value of hard work and a quality education.

I am proud of the excellent, dedicated teachers we have in the State of Indiana, and I am grateful for their commitment to our children. To all the teachers in Indiana and across America, thank you for all you do for this nation and for the next generation. You are an inspiration to us all.

HONORING DIAGÉT MILLER

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor Diagét Miller, a Sprayberry High School student from Kennesaw, Georgia, and founder of Diagét Design Studio. Diagét was recently recognized as one of the National Federation of Independent Business' (NFIB) 2013 Young Entrepreneur Award winners.

It is a great source of pride to see one of the young people in Georgia's 11th District being nationally recognized for such focused ambition and willingness to take risk. It is this kind of initiative that truly embodies the American dream.

Diagét founded her design studio at the young age of 14 after realizing her talent for digital art when helping her mother design brochures. Since then, her company has grown, attracting business state-wide.

The yearly NFIB Young Entrepreneur Award is selected by an independent committee comprised of educators and small business leaders who not only evaluate applicants based on the quality of their businesses, but on their academic records, leadership qualities, and overall character.

As one of this year's deserving winners, Diagét's prize will include a $1,000 scholarship from the National Federation of Independent Business Young Entrepreneur Foundation, which she will put toward her education and goal of someday becoming an anesthesiologist.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Georgia's 11th District, I congratulate Diagét Miller on her tremendous success as an entrepreneur and wish her luck in all of her endeavors.

HONORING NANCI VANDERWEEL

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished public servant from the 6th District of Illinois. Nanci Vanderweel has dedicated her life to her community and has worked tirelessly to help the less fortunate. She serves as a role model for us all and as proof that one dedicated person can change the lives of many.

In 1971 Nanci was elected as the first female Trustee for Elk Grove Village. A position that many would view as an impressive career finale, Nanci saw as a good starting point. She went on to become a Trustee for the Elk Grove Township where she currently serves as the Supervisor, after again becoming the first woman selected for the position. In addition she serves as the President of the Supervisor's Division of the Township Officials of Cook County.

While working full time for her community, Nanci found the time to be the Chairman of the Cook County Public Aid Committee; Chairman of the Judiciary, Planning and Zoning Committee for Elk Grove Village; she started the Elk Grove Village Community Blood Drive Program; is a Charter Member of the Friends of Harper College; served as the President of the Board of Directors for the Northwest Community Services; became a member of the United Way Needs Assessment Committee; a Unit Chair for the Salvation Army; and she chaired the referendum to assist ambulance accessibility on the I–290 interchange at Biesterfield Road.

As if that was not enough, Nanci published a book on the History of Elk Grove Township and even started the first free library in the township, for which she received the Governor's Hometown Award. Through hard work and no small amount of perseverance, Nanci Vanderweel has helped countless people and tremendously improved her community. Distinguished Members, please join me in congratulating Nanci Vanderweel on an accomplished life, and wishing her happiness and peace in her well-earned retirement.

HONORING HELEN LUCILE FISTONICH DIMAGGIO

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my friend and lifelong San Pedro resident, Helen Lucile Fistonich DiMaggio, who passed away on April 25, 2013.

Born on June 1, 1919 to Andrew and Mary Fistonich, Helen was the eldest daughter of three siblings. An independent and fearless spirit, Helen's greatest legacy lives in her dedication to others.

As a young woman, Helen excelled at school while working in the family business, Star Fisheries. A 1937 graduate of San Pedro High School, Helen earned a full scholarship to the University of California in Los Angeles, but chose instead, like so many women of her time, to remain in the workforce. In 1938, Helen met and married the love of her life, Neno DiMaggio, second-cousin to Joe DiMaggio, one of the greatest baseball players in history. Helen became the business director of Star Fisheries, and with Neno at her side, they managed the company for more than 60 years.

Helen was an avid supporter of many local charitable organizations such as the San Pedro Peninsula Cancer Guild, Little Sisters of the Poor, Mary Star of the Sea Church, Holy Trinity Church and the Assistance League of San Pedro. In the 1990's she was recognized among the ''Who's Who'' in America. Recently, she was named one of San Pedro's ''Living Treasures'' at a ceremony commemorating the 125th anniversary of our town and the individuals who were instrumental to its history.

She will be remembered as a woman of elegance and a pillar in our community. I was privileged to have called her my friend and she will be missed by her family, friends and loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members of the House to join me in a moment of silence to commemorate the memory of the late Helen Lucile Fistonich DiMaggio.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD J. CLAYTON

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Richard J. Clayton on his selection as the Greater Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce 2013 Citizen of the Year. Mr. Clayton's contributions to his community are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Richard Clayton grew up in Spring Lake, New Jersey, graduating from St. Catharine's School in Spring Lake and Manasquan High School. He lived in Spring Lake with his wife Linda until 1980, when they moved to nearby Manasquan where they remain today. Mr. Clayton currently serves as President and co-owner of Clayton Livery Service in Spring Lake, which his family founded in 1917.

He began working at Clayton Livery Service after completing two years of higher education at Ocean County College and began a full-time career there in 1977. In addition to his employment at the Livery Service, Mr. Clayton also spent time working at a local funeral home, which has been an asset in the advancement of the Livery Service.

Mr. Clayton is a member of the Greater Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Chamber's Board of Directors, a member of the Spring Lake Downtown Steering Committee and Chairman of the Board of the Spring Lake Business Improvement District (BID). In addition to his role of Chairman of BID, he also serves on its Land Use Committee, Management Committee and Design Committee.

Not only is Mr. Clayton an active member of the Spring Lake business district, he is also active in the community. Together with his family, he began a LGB train display to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House in Long Branch and the Spring Lake Community House. Since beginning the display in their office, they have raised over $65,000 for the charities.

Mr. Speaker, please join me once again in honoring Richard Clayton as the Greater Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce 2013 Citizen of the Year. His dedication and service to the Spring Lake community is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN BRANDON CYR

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and sacrifice of Captain Brandon Cyr of the United States Air Force. Captain Cyr died in the Zabul province of Afghanistan when the MC–12 Liberty aircraft he was commanding crashed on April 27, 2013. He was a member of the 906th Air Refueling Squadron within the 375th Air Mobility Wing.

Captain Cyr, a former Oswego, Illinois resident, grew up in a military family. From a young age, he knew he wanted to serve his country, and in 2009 he was assigned to Scott Air Force Base in St. Clair County, Illinois. Over the course of his four deployments, Captain Cyr accumulated more than 1,700 hours of flight time, 900 of which were in combat. Commander Colonel David Almand, of the 375th Air Mobility Wing, called him ''an outstanding pilot, and a dedicated airman.''

Captain Cyr's patriotism, commitment and service are an example to us all. He made the ultimate sacrifice for his country, and his legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of his friends and family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Captain Brandon Cyr. Our thoughts are with his loved ones, especially his parents, Phillip and Debbie Cyr. He will be deeply missed.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ERIE TIMES-NEWS ON THEIR 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the Erie Times-News is celebrating its 125th anniversary of providing its readers with keen and extensive coverage of all relevant news and events.

The very first Erie Times-News newspaper was published on April 12, 1888, with the headline, ''Erie's Opportunity,'' at the price of 2 cents per issue. Having begun in a basement with only nine employees, the paper has flourished into a well-respected company that is a staple among the Erie community.

Within the past decade, the Erie Times-News was named Pennsylvania's ''Newspaper of the Year'' twice. In 2012, it was honored as one of ''10 Newspapers That Do It Right'' by Editor & Publisher. These accomplishments attest to the outstanding reputation the Erie Times-News has achieved in outputting valuable information.

I congratulate the Erie Times-News on the 9th day of May in the year 2013. I praise the paper for its devotion to covering all major events and breaking news stories throughout the Erie region over the past 125 years. The Erie Times-News continues to be an iconic media operation and is justly valued by the communities it serves.

HONORING ROCHESTER AREA HIGH SCHOOLS FOR BEING NAMED AMONG AMERICA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOLS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate 14 distinguished high schools in Monroe County, New York for being included in Newsweek and The Daily Beast's 2013 list of America's Best High Schools. I am honored to represent this community, which values the enrichment of a quality education and demands the best of its students, and in turn, its future workforce.

America's Best High Schools are schools that have proven to be the most effective in turning out college-ready graduates. An astounding 14 schools from my congressional district were chosen, including: Brighton High School, Brockport High School, Churchville-Chili Central School, East Rochester Jr./Sr. High School, Eastridge High School, Fairport High School, Irondequoit High School, Penfield High School, Pittsford Sutherland High School, Pittsford Mendon High School, Rush-Henrietta Senior High School, School of the Arts, Webster Thomas High School, and Webster Schroeder High School.

These remarkable schools scored at the top of the country in graduation rates, college acceptance rates, and enrollment and success in Advanced Placement (AP) courses, among several other criteria. Rochester's commitment to education is truly remarkable; thanks to the dedication of the many school administrators, teachers, parents, and students who understand that a quality high school education provides a critical foundation for future opportunities and endeavors, both personal and professional.

Please join me in congratulating these 14 outstanding Rochester area high schools and let us strive to provide all children with an education of the caliber offered by these schools.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, on May 6, 2013, I missed rollcall votes No. 129–131 due to illness. Had I been present I would have voted ''yes.''

THE OCCASION OF STAFF SERGEANT CHARLES L. AARON III'S TRANSFER FROM THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS LIAISON OFFICE

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and pay tribute to Staff Sergeant Charles L. Aaron III, U.S. Marine Corps, on the occasion of his transfer from the Marine Corps liaison office. I, and many other members of this chamber, have had the pleasure of working with him over the past three years that he has served as part of Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps, Office of Legislative Affairs and as the Congressional Liaison Staff Non-Commissioned Officer of the U.S.M.C. Liaison Office in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Everyday he served in direct support of not only the Marine Corps, Office of Legislative Affairs, but in support of every member of Congress. His keen abilities in organization, interpersonal relationships, and communication were extremely critical to the successful accomplishment of the Marine Corps, Office of Legislative Affairs' mission of serving the U.S. Congress.

While serving in the Liaison office, Staff Sergeant Aaron was able to develop and execute the legislative strategy for the U.S. Marine

Corps that was instrumental in creating a fiscal and policy landscape conducive to training and equipping the nation's most elite fighting force, which has helped to ensure our Marines success on the battlefield.

He routinely turned broad guidance into action which energized the Office of Legislative Affairs and members of Congress alike. His actions allowed the Marine Corps to engage members of Congress and their staffs, directly facilitating the increased emphasis on improving congressional relationships—a cornerstone of the Commandant of the Marine Corps' strategic vision.

The Marine Corps House of Representatives Liaison Office that Staff Sergeant Aaron leaves behind is responsive, highly integrated, and favors a proactive legislative strategy. While helping to lead the House Liaison Office through the extraordinary challenges associated with two ongoing wars he concurrently ensured that a myriad of daily congressional communications, taskings and events were executed flawlessly.

During Staff Sergeant Aaron's tour as the Staff Non-Commissioned Officer, he accomplished the full spectrum of the Marine Corps' legislative mission. He exemplified the candor and knowledge that we have come to expect from the Marine Corps and he played a key role in maintaining superb relationships between the Marine Corps and the House of Representatives.

Throughout his tour, Staff Sergeant Aaron effectively responded to several thousand congressional inquiries, many of which gained national level attention. During his time on Capitol Hill, Staff Sergeant Aaron successfully planned, coordinated and escorted over 50 international and domestic congressional and staff delegations. His detailed coordination with foreign government officials, U.S. State Department, and senior military officials ensured that each delegation was conducted professionally and flawlessly. His attention to detail and anticipation of requirements allowed representatives to focus on fact-finding and gleaning new insights to make informed critical decisions to support the interests of the people of the United States. He has made lasting contributions to the House of Representatives and for that I am eternally grateful.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 135, I was unavoidably detained off of the House floor. Therefore, I was unable to cast my vote on Amendment No. 1 to H.R. 1406, requiring the GAO to report to Congress on the use of and complaints related to compensatory time allowed under the FLSA. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was also unable to cast my vote on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions for H.R. 1406, the Working Families Flexibility Act of 2013, rollcall No. 136. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was also unable to cast my vote on H.R. 1406, the Working Families Flexibility Act of 2013, rollcall No. 137. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was also unable to cast my vote On Ordering the Previous Question, rollcall no 138. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

I was also unable to cast my vote On Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 202, rollcall No. 139. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

INTRODUCTION OF SUPPORTING WORKING MOMS ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing an important piece of legislation, the Breastfeeding Promotion Act with my colleagues Ms. MOORE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. LEE, Mr. CONYERS.

The health benefits of breastfeeding, to both mother and child, are significant. Scientific studies show babies who are breastfed the first six months of life have a greatly reduced risk for acute and chronic disease, yet only ten percent of all infants in the U.S. are breastfed.

A 2001 USDA study found that if just half of the babies in the U.S. were exclusively breastfed for six months (as recommended by the United States Surgeon General), our nation would realize a savings of $3.6 billion in health care costs for the three leading childhood illnesses alone. According to the United States Breastfeeding Committee, if we replicate that study based on current breastfeeding statistics, the savings could reach nearly $11 billion in health care costs for all childhood illnesses in a single year.

I was so proud to partner with Senator JEFF MERKLEY (D–OR) to pass into law a provision of our bill, the Breastfeeding Promotion Act of 2009 (H.R. 2819, S. 1744), in comprehensive health care reform legislation signed by President Obama on March 23, 2010. The provision requires that employers provide breastfeeding employees, who are hourly workers, with "reasonable break time" and a private, non-bathroom place to express breast milk during the workday, up until the child's first birthday.

This was a great success but more work needs to be done. Our bill will further encourage and promote breastfeeding by removing common obstacles to breastfeeding and expressing milk in the workplace that many women face. This bill expands the requirement under current law for employers to provide break time to express breast milk, as well as make reasonable efforts to provide a private place for them to do so, to salaried workers in traditional work or office environments.

Public opinion and awareness of the benefits of breastfeeding continue to grow, and the momentum we've recently gained presents the perfect opportunity to build on that progress in achieving our goals.

We urge all of our colleagues to support this important legislation. The health and economic benefits of breastfeeding are overwhelming and public opinion and awareness of these benefits continue to grow. We must ensure that working moms who choose to breastfeed have the support they need to do so.

We urge all of our colleagues to support this important legislation.

REMEMBERING VINCENT ROPER

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember Vincent Roper, who passed away on April 4 of natural causes at the age of 79.

For decades, Vince and his wife Roberta worked tirelessly to advance victims' rights in Prince George's County and throughout Maryland, advocating for rights and support services for crime victims and their families as they heal and seek justice.

Vince and Roberta suffered an unimaginable tragedy in 1982 when their daughter, Stephanie, was murdered. Following this tragic crime, the Roper family wasn't permitted to observe the trial and was denied the right to address the court at the sentencing. Their frustration led them to establish the Stephanie Roper Committee and Foundation, Inc., which is now known as the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center. The Center actively lobbies legislators in Annapolis and played a significant role in the passage of the Federal Crime Victims Rights Act, the Maryland Crime Victims Rights Act of 1997, and other legislation that is making a substantial difference in the lives of crime victims and their families in Maryland.

Born in Hazleton, Pennsylvania, in 1933, Vince later enlisted in the U.S. Navy at the age of 17 and was selected to attend the U.S. Naval Academy. A graduate of the class of 1956, he served our nation for thirty years as a naval officer and retired as a Captain. In addition to serving as the Treasurer of the Stephanie Roper Committee and Foundation, he served our community as a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Most Holy Rosary Council No. 11511, and the Naval Weather Service Association.

Prince George's County and the State of Maryland owe a great deal to Vince for his hard work and dedication to ensuring that every crime victim in Maryland is treated with the dignity and respect they deserve. I join our community in mourning his passing, and my thoughts and prayers are with Roberta and their family.

TRIBUTE TO JANET M. JOHNSON

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a dear friend of mine, Janet M. Johnson. Janet passed away on Wednesday, April 24, 2013. A resident of Corona since 1968, she was a pillar of the community and will be deeply missed.

Beverly was born in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Samuel N. and Elsie C. Miller. She attended a one-room schoolhouse until the eighth grade and graduated from Huntingdon High School. In the early 1950s, she and her sister Rachel moved west to Santa Monica, California, where Janet worked as a secretary at General Electric and the University of California, Los Angeles. At a dance at the Avalon Ballroom, she met her future

husband, Glenn E. Johnson and on November 7, 1953, they were married at the Trinity Baptist Church in Santa Monica. After living in Santa Monica, Janet and Glenn relocated to La Mirada before settling in Corona in 1968.

Janet and Glenn contributed generously to many civic causes, and she always found time for her community. She was active in several organizations, including the Buena Park Lionesses, Women's Improvement Club, Red Hats Society, Republican Women, California Republican Association (CRA), Navy League, Corona Heritage Park, Croquet Club, Model A Club, Packard Club, Ford Retractable Club, Bible Study Fellowship and Joy Bible Study. Janet's faith was important to her and she attended many churches throughout southern California: First Baptist in Buena Park, Riverside Baptist Temple, Faith Baptist in Corona, Pacific Coast Church in San Clemente and finally Crossroads Church in Corona.

Janet is survived by her husband Glenn; four children: Sandra Rowe (Rick), Linda Rither (Ross), Kirk Johnson (Dolly) and Eric Johnson; four grandchildren: Jessica Scautling (Kevin), Becky Cass (Drew), Cody Johnson and Morgan Rither; three great-grandchildren: Kassie Scautling, Kolten Scautling and Derik Cass; and one sister-in-law Louise Miller. She was preceded in death by her parents and four siblings: Dallas Miller, Dorothy Miller, Beulah Rose and Rachel Nagel.

On Thursday, May 9, 2013, a memorial honoring Janet's extraordinary life will be held. Janet will always be remembered for her incredible work ethic, generosity, contributions to the community and love of family. Her dedication to her family, work, and community are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Janet's family and friends; although Janet may be gone, the light and goodness she brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

HONORING GUNNERY SERGEANT LYNDON RAY SMITH'S RETIREMENT

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gunnery Sergeant Lyndon Ray Smith, who will retire after 34 years of service to our country.

While he currently serves as the first Naval Science Instructor in Kennesaw Mountain High School Navy Junior Reserve Officer Corps, he has worked in many different military capacities. After joining the Marines in 1974, Smith was first assigned to the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing in New Orleans. He served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and has been assigned to military installations across the country.

Throughout his service, Smith has been awarded a Marine Aircraft Wing Marine of the Year Award, two National Recruiter of the Year awards, and several meritorious promotions.

Since becoming the first Naval Science Instructor at Kennesaw Mountain High School, Gunnery Sergeant Smith has been an invaluable leader and role model for the young people in his community. Under his leadership, his unit has been recognized nationally as a distinguished unit 11 consecutive times, and went to the U.S. Navy National Drill Championships in 2005. More importantly, Smith has directly helped develop over 2000 young adults into responsible citizens who value patriotism, community, and service to our great nation.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 11th District of Georgia and my staff, my deepest thanks to Gunnery Sergeant Smith for devoting his life to upholding the Constitution of the United States and to the protection of its citizens. I wish him a happy—and well deserved—retirement.

COMMEMORATING COLONEL CHARLES E. MCGEE FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the Columbia College Alumni Association in my home state of Missouri in recognizing one of the College's most prestigious alumni. Colonel Charles McGee is among the most decorated and accomplished Air Force aviators, holding an Air Force record of 409 fighter combat missions flown in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. He has also served as a former public servant to the Kansas City area. I am proud to know Colonel McGee and applaud him for his invaluable service and contributions to the Air Force, Kansas City, and to our country.

Charles E. McGee was one of the renowned Tuskegee Airmen of World War II and continued as a career officer in the United States Air Force for 30 years. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio on December 7, 1919, and as a youth, Charles was a member of the Boy Scouts of America and earned the Eagle Scout award on August 9, 1940. He later served in district and regional positions in the Boy Scouts. At the 2010 National Scout Jamboree, he was recognized with the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award.

During the Vietnam War, as a Lt. Colonel, McGee flew 172 combat missions in a McDonnell RF–4 photo–reconnaissance aircraft. After a series of other appointments both in the United States as well as in Italy and Germany, and promotion to Colonel, McGee retired on January 31, 1973. He ended his military career with an impressive 6,308 flying hours. Following his military service, Col. McGee has held many prestigious functional and honorary positions within the field of aviation.

In 1978, at the age of 58, he completed his college degree at Columbia College in Kansas City, over thirty years after his initial enrollment at the University of Illinois. Though interrupted by World War II, attaining a college degree had been a lifelong goal. I am honored to have the opportunity to congratulate Colonel McGee for this great achievement and am proud that he chose to complete his studies and continue his impressive career in the great State of Missouri.

In his civilian life, Charles served as the Director of the Kansas City downtown airport and as a member of the Aviation Advisory Commission. For 30 years, he has been an ambassador of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., serving three times as national President and giving numerous public addresses and has received accolades including the National Aeronautical Associations ''Elder Statesman of Aviation.''

In 2005, Col. McGee was part of a group of former Tuskegee Airmen, who flew to Balad, Iraq, to speak to active duty airmen serving in the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, the current incarnation of the 332nd Fighter Group.

Colonel McGee has been recognized for his combat and military service with a number of awards including: Distinguished Flying Cross with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Legion of Merit with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star, Air Medal with 25 Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Korean Presidential Unit Citation, Hellenic Republic World War II Commemorative Medal along with related campaign and service ribbons.

In 2007, President George Bush awarded him and the surviving Tuskegee Airmen the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor, the nation's highest civilian award, and in 2011, he was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame in Dayton, Ohio.

I am honored to join Columbia College in celebrating Colonel Charles McGee's accomplishments and service, from which we have all greatly benefited. I want to thank Colonel McGee for the lives he has touched and his leadership in the field of aviation, in our military, and in his community.

RECOGNIZING THE CHARTER CLASS GRADUATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the charter class of medical students at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine. The commencement ceremony and graduation of the charter class will take place on May 17, 2013, and will be an historic and celebratory moment for the UCF College of Medicine.

The planning and development of the University of Central Florida College of Medicine was brought about as one way to address the shortage of physicians in the state of Florida. In 2005, the proposal for a College of Medicine was unanimously supported by the UCF Faculty Senate, and on May 30, 2006, the UCF College of Medicine was approved and established by Governor Jeb Bush. After receiving preliminary accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), in February 2008, the College of Medicine began recruiting students for the fall 2009 term. Less than four years ago, these same students donned their white coats to symbolize the beginning of their medical training. Now, after thousands of hours of rigorous study and practice, they will embark on the next phase of this journey—residency—before hopefully returning to the state of Florida to serve their local communities.

The UCF Health Sciences Campus for the College of Medicine is located at Lake Nona's

Medical City in southeast Orlando. As a new medical school, the college plays a vital part in the foundation and the growth of the Medical City at Lake Nona and is strongly supported by the entire Central Florida community. UCF College of Medicine has a vision to become the nation's premier 21st century college of medicine and a national leader in medical education and research. UCF's College of Medicine empowers its students to discover their healthcare specialty of choice for their upcoming residencies and, in doing so, further prepares them to enter the healthcare profession.

I trust that the charter class of 2013 commencement will be an exciting day for the UCF community to celebrate their many exceptional accomplishments. On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, it is my pleasure to congratulate President of UCF Dr. John Hitt, Dean of UCF College of Medicine Dr. Deborah German, the charter medical school graduates, and the facility and staff of the University of Central Florida College of Medicine on this outstanding accomplishment. I wish them all great success in their future pursuits.

HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF MARINE CORPORAL KYLE R. SCHNEIDER

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor fallen Marine Corporal Kyle R. Schneider, who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect his fellow Marines and the freedoms of the United States of America.

On December 28, 2012, President Obama signed into law H.R. 5837, legislation renaming the post office at 26 East Genesee Street in Baldwinsville, New York, in honor of Corporal Schneider.

Kyle Schneider embodied the same values that make this country extraordinary: Dedication, Honor and Pride. I am moved that the Village of Baldwinsville will have this opportunity to pay a lasting tribute to Kyle's Legacy.

Corporal Schneider was born in Syracuse and grew up in Baldwinsville, New York. Kyle was an avid athlete, playing baseball, football, and track, before graduating from C.W. Baker High School in 2006. While at Onondaga Community College, Kyle realized that he wanted to do more for his country. As a result, in March 2008, Kyle fulfilled a lifelong dream and joined the United States Marine Corps.

In January of 2011, Kyle was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with the II Marine Expeditionary Force. Kyle earned many distinguished military awards while in Afghanistan including the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, and the NATO Medal. On June 30, 2011, Corporal Kyle R. Schneider died as a result of enemy action in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He was 23.

Kyle is survived by his parents, Richard and Lorie Schneider; a brother, Kevin Schneider of Phoenix; his fiance, Theresa Lynn Dodge of W. Columbia, TX; his maternal grandparents, Richard and Dianne Vrotny of Baldwinsville and maternal grandfather Gary E. (Helen A.) Younis; and his paternal grandparents, Carol Schneider and John Rouselle of Central Square.

Mr. Speaker, in appreciation of this young man's love for country who gave his life protecting this great nation, I ask this Honorable Body to join me in honoring the legacy of Marine Corporal Kyle R. Schneider.

''PREVENTING VICTIMS OF STALKING ACT OF 2013

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, under current federal law, individuals convicted of ''misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence'' are disqualified from possessing firearms. This policy has proven crucial to protecting victims of domestic violence from serious injury or death.

However, many states do not define stalking as a type of domestic violence crime, allowing convicted stalkers to own and purchase firearms and leaving victims of stalking unprotected. Moreover, while federal law prohibits the sale of firearms to someone ''subject to a court order restraining them from harassing, stalking or threatening an intimate partner,'' not all stalkers have a romantic relationship with their victims and thus don't fall into this category. However their lack of a romantic relationship does not preclude the fact that they still pose a considerable threat to their victims.

The Protecting Victims of Stalking Act of 2013 works to remedy these gaps in federal law. All victims, whether or not they have had a romantic relationship with their stalker, should be afforded these critical protections. The Protecting Victims of Stalking Act of 2013 closes these dangerous loopholes by prohibiting the sale of firearms to any person subject to a restraining order for stalking as well as prohibiting any individual convicted of stalking from buying or possessing a firearm. Only by addressing these glaring vulnerabilities can we begin to reduce the many injuries and deaths often associated with domestic violence.

IN HONOR OF BISHOP SIMON P. RAWLINGS

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of a Kentucky native, Bishop Simon P. Rawlings. Bishop Rawlings was the Second Chief Apostle of the House of God, International, whose National Cathedral and World Headquarters are located in Lexington, my hometown and the center of the sixth Congressional District which I represent.

The House of God, International has churches in Africa, Australia, Canada, and Jamaica, but I am proud to state that the church was founded in the United States of America. Bishop R.A.R. Johnson initially founded the ''Commandment Keepers'' in 1910. The doctrine evolved and the church was firmly established in 1918 as the House of God, International. The Hebrew-Pentecostal denomination is based on Old Testament law and doctrine and is enthused by the joy, fervor and zeal of Christ's New Testament of spiritual revivalism.

Bishop Rawlings was born August 2, 1914 in Stamping Ground, Kentucky. He joined the House of God at the age of 16. He later exclaimed that God sent him to Lexington to build Him a church, also giving him a higher calling as detailed in Psalms 50:5 ''gather my saints together unto me, those that have made covenant with me by sacrifice.''

For 11 years he preached over the airways each Sunday night; a program that was enjoyed by many in the Christian community. With his lovely wife, Elect Lady Mary Scott Rawlings of Charlottesville, Virginia, whom he married on July 3, 1935, and other dedicated church members, Bishop Rawlings set up churches throughout the country and overseas. They built their first little church on Black Street in Lexington in 1937 and the following year they built the second church on Ash Street. In 1959, the church purchased the Chandler Arms School, a landmark of Kentucky Black history. They renovated the property. So, the next year in 1960, a host of members and friends marched from the Ash Street church to the new church at 548 Georgetown Street.

In 1947, he was ordained as a bishop. In 1950, Bishop Simon Rawlings was installed as the second Chief Apostle of the House of God, International—a position in which he humbly served for 40 years until his death on January 1, 1991. He received his Bachelor of Sacred Theology and Master's Degree from the Cooper Institute of Jacksonville, FL and a Doctor of Divinity degree from the Kentucky College of Contemporary Religion. He was very instrumental in the formation of the college and later served as its president until his death.

One of his greatest achievements was in 1987 when the church purchased the Julius Mark property, another one of Lexington's Black historical landmarks. In February 1990, Bishop Rawlings shared his vision with his wife, church and city officials, church members, and the general public at the groundbreaking ceremony of the present National Temple and World Headquarters, which is situated on that site located at 866 Georgetown Street.

During his 40 years of service as Chief Apostle and General Superintendent, and 56 years as pastor of the Lexington congregation, he held the following positions:

1. National Y.P.U. President
2. State Superintendent of Georgia
3. State Superintendent of South Carolina
4. Southern Division Superintendent
5. President of the Black Church Coalition of the Bluegrass
6. Honorary Citizen of Lexington Award (1991)
7. Kentucky Colonel

Though he was in failing health, Bishop Rawlings was able to attend the pre-dedication service of the National Temple he envisioned and built. He gave his farewell sermon during the Feast of Tabernacles in October of 1990.

Sadly, Bishop Rawlings did not live to see the visionary temple, but his legacy lives on in

his building, its congregation, and their commitment to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF KEVIN SANDERS

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the courageous actions of Kevin Sanders, a native resident of Plainfield, Illinois, who passed away earlier last month. Kevin was one of the first responders who gave their lives in the evacuation efforts when a fire broke out at a fertilizer plant in West, Texas on April 17, 2013.

Kevin was an extraordinary individual who made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting others. From a young age, he looked to heroes like Superman for inspiration. He was an individual who truly lived to serve others, as exemplified by his participation in the Plainfield Emergency Management Agency in Illinois and the Bruceville-Eddy Volunteer Fire Department in Texas.

His heroism lives on through his wife, Sarah, and his 3-month-old son, Reeve. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a true hero—Kevin Sanders, a real life man of steel.

HONORING THE AROOSTOOK MEDICAL CENTER

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Aroostook Medical Center (TAMC) on becoming the first facility in Maine, and second in the Nation, to use compressed natural gas for both heat and cooling.

For over 100 years, TAMC has played a vital role in providing health services to Maine's northern communities. TAMC is one of the area's largest economic drivers, employing over 1000 staff members and 60 physicians. On May 13, 2013, this Maine institution will cement its role as an environmental leader as well, kicking-off National Hospital Week by officially transitioning from oil fuel to compressed natural gas (CNG).

According to TAMC's Vice President of Diagnostic and Support Services James McKenney, CNG produces about 45 percent less carbon dioxide than coal, 30 percent less than oil, and 15 percent less than wood. In addition to dramatically reducing its environmental footprint, the conversion is expected to save the hospital between $400,000 and $500,000 each year.

TAMC's "valve turning" ceremony on the 13th is just part of the hospital's broader efforts to improve its environmental impact. The Food Service Department has eliminated foam cups and trays, while incentivizing staff to purchase coffee with mugs rather than paper cups. The hospital is also revamping its recycling processes, expanding composting activities, and switching to environmentally friendly chemicals wherever possible. These efforts have brought TAMC closer to local producers, the University of Maine at Presque Isle, and the City of Presque Isle itself.

I am pleased to join countless families across northern Maine in helping TAMC celebrate this exciting new chapter.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating TAMC for taking this important next step forward.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Nurses Week. I am proud to honor the tireless work of the more than three million men and women who form the core of the American healthcare system.

Nurses are at the forefront of patient care in our hospitals and clinics, our schools and workplaces, in the military, and throughout our communities. They handle the daunting responsibility of caring for millions of unique patients with unparalleled grace. From bedside care to university classrooms, nurses are the leaders in promoting and maintaining our Nation's health. As equal parts caretakers, advocates, researchers, and educators, nurses work selflessly to protect the safety and well-being of all Americans. They are truly some of our Nation's most devoted professionals.

As our population ages, and our healthcare industry focuses increasingly on preventative care, the demand for nursing services will be greater than ever. We must do everything we can to support nursing students, and ensure that our healthcare system is able to meet growing patient needs for years to come.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring nurses across the country. We should all be tremendously grateful for their invaluable work, not just this week, but every day of the year.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, thank you Congresswoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON for hosting this special order and for your ongoing and unwavering leadership.

I rise today in recognition of National Nurses Week, and to thank the millions of nurses who are on the front lines of our health care system.

Although a doctor is usually considered to be the primary health care provider for a patient, Nurses are expert clinicians who provide high-quality and cost-effective care in every care community and in every setting throughout the world.

Let me just say that I have witnessed first-hand the dedication and commitment nurses have to their patients' health and well-being. Their crucial role delivering health care cannot be understated.

Around the world, nurses are the first and often the only link to health care for millions of people living in resource limited settings, particularly in Africa and parts of Asia.

So this week I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking the nurses who continue to serve us, and to renew our commitment to supporting this profession.

ACADEMIC COMPETITION RESOLUTION, 2013

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome and congratulate students from the Oswego East High School Rocket Team and the Nequa Valley High School Rocket Team.

The Oswego East and Nequa Valley Rocket Teams are coming to Washington, D.C. to compete in the Team America Rocketry Challenge National Fly-Off competition on May 11th. They qualified for the National Fly-Off by finishing in the top 100 out of 725 teams that competed nationwide to build a rocket that could carry a raw egg 750 feet in the air, and then use a parachute to return the egg uncracked.

These students have spent many hours designing, building, testing and launching model rockets in order to create the entries that qualified for the National Fly-Off. I am proud of their hard work, perseverance, and creativity, and I commend them on this achievement.

I am also thrilled to see students embracing a project that involves elements of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. As a scientist and manufacturer, I know how rewarding it can be to research and explore, and to discover what you can accomplish when you design and build things from scratch.

This country needs more young people who are excited about studying and working in the STEM fields. STEM graduates are critical to a thriving national economy, but at present, our education system is not producing nearly enough STEM graduates to meet the private sector's need for highly skilled employees. I'm pleased to see that there are contests like the Team America Rocketry Challenge that are encouraging students to explore STEM fields through fun, hands-on projects, and I'm proud of the students from my district who took on this challenge. I hope that this will be only the first of their accomplishments in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, on May 6, 2013, I was unavoidably detained and missed the following rollcall votes: number 129 for H.R. 588, number 130 for H.R. 291, and number 131 for H.R. 507. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all three rollcall votes.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 7

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the 100th Anniversary of Boy Scout Troop 7 of Grapevine, Texas. This troop has a rich history of developing boys into responsible young men.

Boy Scout Troop 7 was founded in 1913, only three years with WIlliam D. Boyce founded Scouting in the United States. The origin of Troop 7 began when the Mayor of Grapevine, Benjamin Richard Wall, traveled to New York to learn about scouting. He returned home to Grapevine with the number 7 Boy Scout Unit Charter, one of the first charters west of the Mississippi River. Mayor Wall was actively involved with the troop from its founding until 1954.

In 1923, Troop 7 was chartered in Arlington, Texas, but it moved back to Grapevine in 1931 whereupon it was chartered to the Grapevine Business Men's League. In 1932, the group's charter transferred to the Grapevine City Council under Mayor Ernest E. Lowe as the Scoutmaster. In 1939, the Grapevine Lions club assumed the troop's charter. The Lions Club till this day continues to support Troop 7 by collaborating with the scouts at Grapevine festival events. The St. Lawrence Episcopal Church hosted the troop charter from 1976–1978. The charter lapsed in 1979 which broke the long tenure for Troop 7. St Francis Catholic Church in Grapevine became the chartering organization in 1980 and continues as such today.

As of today, Troop 7 is led by Scoutmaster Don Blan, who is an Eagle Scout. Troop 7 has over 50 scouts who actively assist community organizations such as Bluebonnet Hills during its Memorial Day service, schools, municipalities, and other organizations that benefit from Eagle Scout projects.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Boy Scout Troop 7 on its 100th Anniversary.

WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1406, The Working Families Flexibility Act. This bill is a sham! It does not offer working families flexibility, nor does it protect employee rights. But what it does is strip employees of their rights by eliminating the Federal Labor Standards Act statute guaranteeing overtime pay for time worked over 40 hours per week.

It shifts control of overtime from a monetarily incentivized program for the employee to an employer-controlled one incentivized by cheaper labor and less need to hire more workers. This bill also contains no avenue for employees to file grievances if requests for time off are denied or not responded to.

Under H.R. 1406, after the employee makes a request to use compensatory time, the employer's only responsibility is to permit the employee "to use such time within a reasonable period after making the request if the use of the compensatory time does not unduly disrupt the operations of the employer." There is no responsibility on the part of the employer to respond in a timely manner or accommodate an employee request.

H.R. 1406 turns back years of hard won victories for American workers and their families by undermining the Federal Labor Standards Act and giving the employer virtually complete control over when the overtime is used.

The AFL-CIO, the Communication Workers of America, the National Partnership for Women & Families, and numerous other organizations oppose this bill. However, imagine my surprise when I received an e-mail from the U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce also urging me to oppose this bill!

As a rule, Chambers of Commerce usually support "pro-employer" bills. However, in this case, the U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce wrote, "all employers want as low a payroll expenditure as possible but there is a reason to be concerned that employers incentivized by H.R. 1406 would reward those employees who agree to "comp time" in lieu of overtime payments. Employers incentivized by a reduced payroll might well give "comp time" employees the preferred shifts, the needed hours, and the promotions. There is no protection in H.R. 1406 against this kind of employer behavior."

Make no mistake about it—H.R. 1406 hurts American workers and their families. This bill is just another Republican attempt to destroy the American worker. So I ask my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 1406.

HONORING OUR NATION'S TEACHERS FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise for National Teacher Appreciation Day. I would like to thank Ms. Lillian Anderson who gave me my first exposure to government with a 4th grade class history project on the State of Illinois at Ben Franklin School in Glen Ellyn. I still have the folder with the assignment featured in my district office to remind me of why I entered public service. Unfortunately, Ms. Anderson passed away a few years ago but I am reminded of her invaluable contributions to the community every time I am back home.

We often take our teachers for granted. We drop our children off at school or send them to the bus stop and pick them up at the end of the day, but the job of our nation's teachers is hardly 9–5. It starts well before the children arrive and continues long after they leave.

We forget that the job involves countless hours of preparation; weekends spent shopping for supplies, and most importantly working with our students to help them become the next generation of authors, doctors, young professionals, and yes, even teachers.

I encourage everyone to take time at their next parent teacher conference or other interaction with you children's teacher to take a moment and thank them for all the hard work they are doing to prepare the next generation.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSOLIDATION OF WINSTON-SALEM, NC

HON. MELVIN L. WATT

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the residents of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, part of which is located in my congressional district, as they celebrate the 100th anniversary of the consolidation of the Town of Salem and the City of Winston. Winston and Salem consolidated on May 9, 1913 and the city is now hosting a four day celebration (May 9–13, 2013) to celebrate this historic consolidation.

Today, Winston-Salem has approximately 229,000 residents, is the fourth largest city in North Carolina and is the county seat of Forsyth County. Winston-Salem is a city with a focus on education and healthcare. It is the home of Winston-Salem State University, Salem College, Wake Forest University, the North Carolina School of the Arts, Forsyth Technical Community College, Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center and Forsyth County Hospital. Winston-Salem is also a city with a focus on the arts. Along with the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, it is home to the Reynolda House Museum of American Art, the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art and the National Black Theatre Festival.

I wish all the best to Mayor Allen Joines and to the residents of Winston-Salem as they celebrate "Winston-Salem Centennial 1913–2013."

THE STORY OF OUR TIME

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, in light of ongoing budget discussions and damaging sequestration cuts to programs that help our most vulnerable populations, it is time to end the austerity debate. I urge all of my colleagues to read and consider Paul Krugman's New York Times Opinion piece, "The Story of Our Time."

Those of us who have spent years arguing against premature fiscal austerity have just had a good two weeks. Academic studies that supposedly justified austerity have lost credibility; hard-liners in the European Commission and elsewhere have softened their rhetoric. The tone of the conversation has definitely changed.

My sense, however, is that many people still don't understand what this is all about. So this seems like a good time to offer a sort of refresher on the nature of our economic woes, and why this remains a very bad time for spending cuts.

Let's start with what may be the most crucial thing to understand: the economy is not like an individual family.

Families earn what they can, and spend as much as they think prudent; spending and earning opportunities are two different things. In the economy as a whole, however, income and spending are interdependent: my spending is your income, and your spending is my income. If both of us slash spending at the same time, both of our incomes will fall too.

And that's what happened after the financial crisis of 2008. Many people suddenly cut spending, either because they chose to or because their creditors forced them to; meanwhile, not many people were able or willing to spend more. The result was a plunge in incomes that also caused a plunge in employment, creating the depression that persists to this day.

Why did spending plunge? Mainly because of a burst housing bubble and an overhang of private-sector debt—but if you ask me, people talk too much about what went wrong during the boom years and not enough about what we should be doing now. For no matter how lurid the excesses of the past, there's no good reason that we should pay for them with year after year of mass unemployment.

So what could we do to reduce unemployment? The answer is, this is a time for above-normal government spending, to sustain the economy until the private sector is willing to spend again. The crucial point is that under current conditions, the government is not, repeat not, in competition with the private sector. Government spending doesn't divert resources away from private uses; it puts unemployed resources to work. Government borrowing doesn't crowd out private investment; it mobilizes funds that would otherwise go unused.

Now, just to be clear, this is not a case for more government spending and larger budget deficits under all circumstances—and the claim that people like me always want bigger deficits is just false. For the economy isn't always like this—in fact, situations like the one we're in are fairly rare. By all means let's try to reduce deficits and bring down government indebtedness once normal conditions return and the economy is no longer depressed. But right now we're still dealing with the aftermath of a once-in-three-generations financial crisis. This is no time for austerity.

O.K., I've just given you a story, but why should you believe it? There are, after all, people who insist that the real problem is on the economy's supply side: that workers lack the skills they need, or that unemployment insurance has destroyed the incentive to work, or that the looming menace of universal health care is preventing hiring, or whatever. How do we know that they're wrong?

Well, I could go on at length on this topic, but just look at the predictions the two sides in this debate have made. People like me predicted right from the start that large budget deficits would have little effect on interest rates, that large-scale ''money printing'' by the Fed (not a good description of actual Fed policy, but never mind) wouldn't be inflationary, that austerity policies would lead to terrible economic downturns. The other side jeered, insisting that interest rates would skyrocket and that austerity would actually lead to economic expansion. Ask bond traders, or the suffering populations of Spain, Portugal and so on, how it actually turned out.

Is the story really that simple, and would it really be that easy to end the scourge of unemployment? Yes—but powerful people don't want to believe it. Some of them have a visceral sense that suffering is good, that we must pay a price for past sins (even if the sinners then and the sufferers now are very different groups of people). Some of them see the crisis as an opportunity to dismantle the social safety net. And just about everyone in the policy elite takes cues from a wealthy minority that isn't actually feeling much pain.

What has happened now, however, is that the drive for austerity has lost its intellectual fig leaf, and stands exposed as the expression of prejudice, opportunism and class interest it always was. And maybe, just maybe, that sudden exposure will give us a chance to start doing something about the depression we're in.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with my colleague Rep. JO BONNER to celebrate National Travel and Tourism Week.

From California's Central Coast to Alabama's Gulf Coast and every single Congressional district in between, travel and tourism plays an important economic role in all of our local communities. This week is National Travel and Tourism Week, a celebration of the $2 trillion economic engine that helps drive our nation's economy. As the co-chairs of the bipartisan Congressional Travel and Tourism caucus, we would like to take this moment to raise awareness for America's number one export and to explain how the ''Travel Effect'' benefits everyone.

The Travel Effect is simple: It is the economic benefit that every single community feels thanks to travel. Supporting over 14.6 million American jobs, the travel industry is a top 10 employer in 48 states and the District of Columbia. Today, one in every eight jobs depends upon travel.

Contributing more than $129 billion to the federal, state and local tax base, the Travel Effect means that Americans pay fewer taxes. Without those added revenues, the average household would pay over $1,000 in additional taxes. At 2.8% of our nation's GDP and growing at a rate faster than all other industries, travel will play an important role in driving down deficits for years to come.

Thanks to our efforts here in Washington, the United States is now promoting the entire country as a premier travel destination to the world. Brand USA, the nation's Destination Marking Organization created by Congress, will help bring in 81 million visitors to the United States by 2016, a 36 percent increase equivalent to 21 million more travelers as compared with 2010. This influx of new visitors will help create over a half a million new jobs in communities all across the country.

And you do not have to live in a coastal district or near a major tourist destination to feel the Travel Effect. Historic sites, museums in your community and other local destinations all play a role in building our travel economy. In other words, travel is right in your own backyard!

During this year's National Travel and Tourism Week, we call on all members to support the travel industry. While the Travel Effect is great now, its potential is even greater. If we recognize that potential in all of our communities, then the Travel Effect will continue to benefit every town across the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. BERT BERKLEY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the 90th birthday of Mr. Bert Berkley, Chairman of the Board, and former President of the Tension Envelope Corporation. Tension is a prestigious family-owned business in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, which I am honored to represent. Bert and his late wife, Joan, have three children and seven grandchildren.

Mr. Berkley was born May 8, 1923, son of E.B. Berkowitz and grandson of William Berkowitz, who founded the forerunner of Tension Envelope in Kansas City, Missouri in 1886, Berkowitz and Company. The company specialized in popular advertising novelties and business stationery. In 1894, the company put into operation the first envelope machine west of the Mississippi River.

In 1937, the company acquired another pioneer in the U.S. envelope industry, the Tension Envelope Company of Brooklyn, New York, with all sales operations consolidated under the widely recognized name of Tension Envelope Corporation. In 1962, Bert Berkley, took over his grandfather's company as President and CEO of Tension. In 1967, Bert was named Chairman of the Board.

During his time as President and CEO, the Tension Envelope Company opened a plant and established a sales organization in Los Angeles, California. In addition, a satellite of their Kansas City plant was opened in Marysville, Kansas, furthering their production and manufacturing capabilities. In 1981, Bill Berkley, Bert's son, joined the company and helped his father open yet another manufacturing facility in St. Clair, Pennsylvania, creating a satellite location for the already established South Hackensack plant and a nationwide presence for the Tension Envelope Company. In 1988, Bill Berkley went on to become President and CEO of the company, while Bert remained in his role as Chairman of the Board, overseeing international expansion of the company to Australia, Taiwan, and China.

Today, Tension Envelope Corporation is one of the nation's leading manufacturers of envelope products, selling directly to companies and organizations across the United States. With its headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri, the heart of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, Tension produces over eleven billion envelopes a year with plants, distribution, and service offices stretching from coast to coast.

Not only has Mr. Berkley revolutionized an industry with his ingenuity, he is also a dedicated philanthropist. He has a long history of participation in local, regional, and national civic and advisory councils. He even co-authored a book, Giving Back, on the subject of volunteering, sharing with the community, and involvement with charitable endeavors.

Considering the tremendous contributions of Tension Envelope Corporation to Missouri's Fifth Congressional District and surrounding areas, it is an honor and a privilege to recognize Mr. Bert Berkley in celebration of his ninetieth birthday. My wife, Dianne, and I have had the pleasure of knowing the Berkley family for many years and we are better people

for it. Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Mr. Bert Berkley and expressing our gratitude to his incredible dedication to both the industry and our community.

RECOGNIZING THE PIERCE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM'S COMMITMENT AND SERVICE TO THE SOUTH PUGET SOUND REGION OF WASHINGTON STATE

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the employees and leadership of the Pierce County Library System, recipients of the 2013 National Medal for Museum and Library Science. This is the highest honor that our nation bestows upon libraries and museums. The library system has served Pierce County with steadfast dedication for over 60 years. This award is well-deserved.

The Pierce County Library System operates 18 libraries, and serves the county's diverse readership of over 555,000 residents. The library system has seen a continuous rise in the number of residents that rely on the accessibility of the library and its ancillary services.

For five consecutive years the Pierce County Library System has faced major budget reductions. Despite this, the Pierce County Library System has found innovative solutions to continue providing excellent services to the community.

Mr. Speaker, the library system's pioneering research informed their decision to implement one of Washington State's first non–Dewey Decimal systems. It was an immediate success—in the first four hours, 780 visitors checked out 1,566 items.

The library system's flagship Early Literacy Program has produced outstanding results in the community. Library staff continue to work with many partners, including the Pierce County Health Department and Child Care Aware of Tacoma/Pierce County, in developing successful curriculum and services to provide caregivers and parents with tools and training to help children prepare for school. Early learning is vital to eliminating the preparation gap and ensuring that every child has the building blocks and resources they need to achieve in school and in life.

As I close, I can say with confidence that our community is a better place thanks to the careful thought, innovation, and dedication of the Pierce County Library System. I am pleased to recognize the service of the dedicated employees and leadership of the Pierce County Library System today in the United States Congress.

HONORING ANGELA KREPS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize a special member of my staff. After more than six years of service, Angela Kreps will be leaving her post in my Kansas City District Office.

Angela began working in my campaign office, then joined the District staff in 2005. She has filled many roles in the office including caseworker, staff assistant, and field representative.

Most recently serving as a caseworker, Angela is known for her patience and kindness in dealing with constituents. Whether it is listening to a veteran's retelling of war stories, helping a bride-to-be get her passport renewed, or assisting a single-mother in dealing with the IRS, Angela's experience and listening ear can put constituents at ease.

I have received many letters of thanks for the outstanding constituent service Angela has provided. Her professionalism and dedication to serving my constituents was a great example of how government should work. While I am losing a valuable member of my team, I am excited for Angela to begin the next chapter of her career.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in thanking Angela Kreps for her many years of service to the people of the Sixth Congressional District. I know Angela's colleagues, family and friends join with me in thanking her for her commitment to others and wishing her best of luck in all her endeavors and many years of success to come.

COMMEMORATING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF LONG-TIME PUBLIC SERVANT, CONGRESSMAN SID MORRISON

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, May 13, to commemorate the 80th birthday of Congressman Sid Morrison, who for more than 50 years and counting has served our nation and the great state of Washington as a public servant. Sid's career has represented results-oriented government, bipartisanship and service to all with integrity and honor.

His service began in 1966 when he was elected as a Washington state legislator, serving in the House until 1974, when he was elected to the Washington State Senate and served until 1980. During his time as a Washington legislator, he developed a reputation for taking on tough issues and reaching past politics to find bipartisan answers.

In 1980, at the age of 47, he was elected to this great body and served in the U.S. Congress for 12 years, from 1981 to 1993. As a Member of the House, Sid worked on many issues including energy, water, forestry, agricultural markets and immigration. As a leader in Congress, he worked to ensure reliable energy supplies to support the energy needs of the nation, science and space research, advanced technology and providing the nation with a strong defense. Sid's congressional service also saw him as an advocate for civil rights, small businesses, people in need of organ donations, and the wide variety of needs of every citizen seeking help with the federal bureaucracy.

Throughout his many endeavors since serving in Congress, Sid has been actively involved in federal policies to make Washington and our nation better for all citizens.

He was appointed as Washington State Secretary of Transportation in 1993 and served until 2001. In that post, Sid spearheaded work for safer roads, new ferries to make Washington the nation's largest fleet, the rebirth of freight and passenger rail, transit expansion and airport improvements.

During the last 10 years, Sid has worked on special projects for Washington governors and continues to serve on many public boards. He has been a leading voice on behalf of public power and consumer–owned utility service in Washington state through his work as the chair of the Energy Northwest Executive Board. He also serves in the water, agriculture and education arenas including: on the Yakima Basin Storage Alliance, Board Chair; on the State Fair Park Board; and the Central Washington University Board of Trustees Chair.

Despite all the above, he is officially retired, but don't tell Sid that, as many of us seem to be moving in slow motion next to him.

I have personal and professional respect and admiration for Sid. As he celebrates his 80th birthday, I wish him happiness and good health and my best wishes.

IN TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTHA McLEOD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Martha McLeod and to celebrate her distinguished career in advance of her upcoming retirement as president of Asnuntuck Community College in Enfield, Connecticut.

Under Dr. McLeod's leadership, Asnuntuck Community College has maintained a strong commitment to eastern Connecticut's students. Through the school's professional programs such as manufacturing technology and allied health, students have developed skills that have matched the needs of local employers. Asnuntuck's transfer programs have prepared students to continue their education at Connecticut's world class four year universities and colleges. Dr. McLeod's administrative and leadership expertise have guided many students to rewarding careers in growing fields throughout the state.

Throughout her career, Dr. McLeod has advanced opportunities and the quality of education in Native American communities across the country. She was the founding president of Bay Mills Community College, a tribal college, in the upper peninsula of Michigan. Dr. McLeod has also applied her expertise at the national level, by serving as an evaluator for tribal programs for the Department of Education and the Department of Labor. Dr. McLeod has also served on the President's advisory board for the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities.

Highly engaged in the local business community and committed to economic growth, Dr. McLeod is an active member of Rotary International and serves on the Board of the North Central Connecticut Chamber of Commerce (NCCCC). She also serves on the Economic

Development Commission for the city of Enfield and has previously served on as Chairperson for Enfield's 10 Year Plan of Conservation and Economic Development. She has worked with the Connecticut Department of Labor and the Connecticut Director of Economic Development, to work with incoming European businesses to identify needed workforce skills and provide appropriate preparation and training to potential employees.

During her long career, Dr. McLeod has empowered students across Connecticut and the nation through her many contributions to education and economic development. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the career of Dr. Martha McLeod.

THE BENEFITS OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM CELEBRATING NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, from California's Central Coast to Alabama's Gulf Coast and every single Congressional district in between, travel and tourism plays an important economic role in all of our local communities. This week is National Travel and Tourism Week, a celebration of the $2 trillion economic engine that helps drive our nation's economy. As the co-chairs of the bipartisan Congressional Travel and Tourism caucus, we would like to take this moment to raise awareness for America's number one export and to explain how the "Travel Effect" benefits everyone.

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During this year's National Travel and Tourism Week, we call on all members to support the travel industry. While the Travel Effect is great now, its potential is even greater. If we recognize that potential in all of our communities, then the Travel Effect will continue to benefit every town across the United States.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SANDRA KELLER HAAS

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sandra Keller Haas, who has been a member of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution for 27 years, giving back to her community and to our veterans across the world.

As a member of the Kushkushkee Trail Chapter of the Pennsylvania State Society Daughters of the American Revolution (PSSDAR), she has served as a chapter officer and as the Chairman of the Daughters of the American Revolution Service to Veterans Committee. This committee has a long and proud history of serving our country's veterans and making sure they are never forgotten.

Mrs. Haas is a precious constant in so many veterans' lives as she volunteers her time at the Pittsburgh Veterans Hospital. She organizes toiletry and clothing drives, delivering goods and spending hours with the veterans, thanking them for their service to America.

Mrs. Haas also supports the troops currently serving in our military, including her work spearheading a coupon-clipping initiative for an Army base in Okinawa, Japan. Under Mrs. Haas' leadership, the ladies of the Kushkushkee Trail Chapter clip coupons and send them to the base where they are placed in the commissary and can be used past their expiration date. She has collected and sent almost 150 pounds of coupons for our troops and their families to use. What one might see as a small gesture of clipping coupons, it tells our troops and families immensely that they are not forgotten back home.

Mrs. Haas is a Pennsylvania native, born in Eastern, PA. She has been married for 54 years to Jim Haas, a retired U.S. Army officer, and is the mother of two and grandmother of four. She worked as a Home Economics teacher and dietician for years, working with students around every community to where her family was deployed. Outside of her work with veterans and troops, she has volunteered at the local food bank and loves spending time with her family.

I applaud Mrs. Haas for her extraordinary dedication to our troops and to our veterans. Her work with the Kushkushkee Trail Chapter of the PSSDAR demonstrates an outstanding dedication and love of country. I thank her for her extraordinary contributions to the community and thank her for the positive impact she has had on one of our most treasured national assets, our veterans.

A TRIBUTE TO BURBANK FIRE DEPARTMENT'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Burbank Fire Department upon its 100th Anniversary. For a century, the Burbank Fire Department has been an integral part of the community, keeping the residents of Burbank safe and well informed about fire prevention.

The Burbank Fire Department started as a small group of volunteers defending the population of 500 from the devastating effects of fire in the community. After multiple fires caused damage to the area, the Burbank Board of Trustees established the Burbank Fire Department in 1913.

Over the years, the Burbank Fire Department has expanded their services to fit the various needs of the community. In 1974 the department started a paramedic program and has been an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) provider ever since. Burbank Fire Paramedics established field treatment protocols in 1993 and these protocols are now used across Los Angeles County as the EMS standard for clinically effective and safe field care. The department's EMS program has been recognized as one of the best in the State of California.

As a part of the Verdugo Fire Communications Center, established in 1979 by the cities of Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena, the Burbank Fire Department makes optimum use of fire services available in the area and increases the effectiveness of the cities' fire defense system. The Verdugo Fire Communications Center is still owned by the three original cities, but it also provides services as needed to the Bob Hope Airport, Alhambra, Arcadia, Monrovia, Montebello, Monterey Park, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, and South Pasadena.

Today, the Burbank Fire Department is a full service fire agency with six fire stations, a training center, and seven divisions: Fire Prevention Bureau, Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Management, Fire Apparatus & Equipment, Training & Safety, and Administration. The department responds to 9200 incidents a year and serves approximately 108,000 people over a 17.14 square mile area. I am honored to recognize the men and women of the Burbank Fire Department for their commitment to keeping our community safe and ask all Members to join me in congratulating the Burbank Fire Department upon its 100th Anniversary.

HONORING OUR NATION'S NURSES FOR THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS IN DELIVERING QUALITY CARE

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to highlight the crucial work of nurses in America.

Few individuals touch the lives of others in the manner in which nurses commit to aiding

their patients. This is one of the many reasons that we honor and celebrate our nation's nurses during this week of National Nurses Week

Unique from almost any other profession, nurses join us in some of life's most exciting milestones as well as some of its most challenging seasons. Nurses share in the joyous moment of a newborn's cries to assisting our grandparents as they transition into their golden years. Nurses help clean up our children's first schoolyard scrapes and tumbles just as they help our Nation's homeless when they fall off their feet.

This commitment to patient care dates back to Florence Nightingale. The archetype of modern nursing, Nightingale demonstrated both commitment and compassion to the fallen soldiers of the British Crimean War. It was this paradigm that helped reduce the death rate of the Crimean War by two-thirds.

As a result of this patient-centric model of aid, patient advocacy and hospital administration have both adapted into what we are familiar with and thankful for today. That is why Nursing Appreciation Week is celebrated during the week of May 12, Nightingale's birthday.

There are more nurses than any other workers in the health profession. However, when nursing staffs decrease, individual patient attention decreases as well. This can lead to medical complications and increased hospital stay increase. It is not only a single nurse that encourages patient recovery; it is a team of nurses that play a pivotal role in patient wellness.

In the upcoming years while the American healthcare system undergoes substantial changes, we will depend on nurses more than ever when seeking healthcare. Nurses will serve alongside their colleagues in discovering the next steps in innovative care models as we transition to the next chapter in patient care.

I would encourage all of my fellow members to remember this week next time they visit a hospital or take their child to the doctor; remember to thank your nurse as well.

HONORING OUR WWII MERCHANT MARINERS ACT OF 2013

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, during World War II, millions of Americans in uniform fought bravely to secure freedom and peace throughout the world. We made sure to honor their sacrifices by ensuring we took care of them at home, through initiatives such as the G.I. Bill and other services meant to support our veterans. However, many of those who made the ultimate sacrifice during the war were not actually part of the U.S. military.

During the war, U.S. Merchant Mariners were responsible for transporting troops and delivering supplies for the military. Even though they were mainly used as an auxiliary fleet, hundreds of ships and thousands of men were lost to enemy submarines and aircraft, including dangerous missions ferrying supplies to western Europe and even Russia. Though the role of non-uniformed merchant sailors in World War II may have faded, it was one of the most critical roles played during the early part of the war.

Unfortunately, those who served this nation so valiantly during that time, have never been eligible for the tuition subsidies, home loan guarantees or other provisions of the G.I. Bill that helped millions of veterans go to college, secure a home and transition seamlessly into civilian life. The fact that we are not providing similar benefits to those who have risked their lives for this country is simply unfathomable.

That's why I am introducing the ''Honoring Our WWII Merchant Marine Act for 2013.'' This bill would provide a $1,000 monthly benefit to the nearly 10,000 surviving World War II Mariners. By providing this modest benefit, we will finally be giving our brave merchant mariners the recognition they rightfully deserve.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE RAAHAUGE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a dear friend of mine, Mike Raahauge. Mike passed away on May 6, 2013 after a long battle with esophageal cancer. He was a pillar of the community in Corona and will be deeply missed.

The story of Mike's shooting range, Raahauge's Shooting Enterprises, began with his father, Linc, who had operated a pheasant hunting facility in Dixon, California in the 1950s. While on a family trip to Disneyland, Linc got lost and ended up on Highway 71. He believed the area would be ideal for pheasant farming, and in 1971 Mike helped his father move the facility to southern California after signing a lease with the Orange County Water District.

Mike's father had always wanted to move south because the region had a larger population. The family's first hunting facility, which hunted pheasants and ducks, opened on Bluff Street in Norco, California. Target traps were set on the balcony of the clubhouse and alongside a dirt road which overlooked the basin below with views of the Santa Ana River. The range was eventually moved to River Road in Corona. Throughout the years, the Raahauges offered chukar, quail and other upland game hunting. After his father's death in 1989, Mike, his wife Elaine, and their son Pat continued to operate the range as a family business.

Today, about 2,000 men, women and children annually come to Raahauge's to take the hunter safety course required to obtain a hunting license. Mike said of the program, ''Of everything I do here, that's the most important . . . It makes it a safer world. There are guns in our society. People need to know how to handle them safely. We're giving them a safe way to deal with guns.''

About 1.5 million rounds are fired by shotguns in sporting clays at the property in a year, and ten police agencies including Anaheim, Fullerton and Buena Park practice at the pistol range. It is also home to many shooting groups such as Shooting Sports Alliance, The Cowboys, LUHT Steel Challenge, Gen X and Running Gun, The Appleseed Project, SoCal Top Guns Youth Shooting, NRA Shooting Programs and Firearms Training Associates. The ranch also hosts events for local wildlife and conservation organizations such as the Cowboys, who turn the ranch into the Old West twice each year to compete with old cowboy guns. In 1982, Mike worked together with gun manufacturers to create the Hands On Shooting Sports Fair, which began that year and still occurs every first weekend in June in Corona.

Carolyn Morse, the office manager for Raahauge's, said that Mike's success came from his desire to get boys and girls and women involved in what was traditionally seen as a male-dominated sport. In fact, the most prominent girl to pick. up the sport at the range was Mike's daughter, Cindy, who competed as part of the 2000 U.S. Olympic team in Sydney. Mike said his time spent in Australia watching his daughter take fifth place in women's skeet shooting was the ''highlight of my life.'' Cindy was trained by 1984 Olympic Bronze Medalist Dan Carlisle, who lives in Houston but still makes frequent appearances at the range to give private lessons. Michael Reagan, son of President Ronald Reagan, also took shooting lessons at the range.

Mike is survived by Elaine, his wife and partner of 48 years; his son, Pat, who has three sons and two daughters; and his daughter, Cindy Shenberger, who lives in North Carolina with her husband, Kevin, and their two daughters.

Mike was a great American patriot who will always be remembered for his incredible work ethic, generosity, contributions to the community and love of family. His dedication to her family, work, and community are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Mike's family and friends; although Mike may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONSTRUCTION QUALITY ASSURANCE ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as we look for ways to ensure government dollars are used efficiently, Congress should reform the procurement process to limit bid shopping on federal construction contracts. Restoring equitable safeguards in the low bid system will assure that agency practice will conform to the highest standards adhered to by industry professionals and contractor associations, and will reflect best practices followed by a great many other public procurement systems nationally and internationally.

That is why I am introducing the Construction Quality Assurance Act, legislation that would require prime bidders on low-bid projects valued at $1 million or more to list each subcontractor on work categories of $100,000 or more with their bid submissions. Substitutions of listed subcontractors after contracts are awarded would be allowed only in exceptional circumstances and only with the consent of the contracting officer.

The bill would impose financial penalties for improper substitution of listed subcontractors.

It would also apply to subcontractors. Both prime contractors and subcontractors would be subject to debarment or ineligibility determinations in cases where there are two infractions of the prohibitions over any three-year period.

I urge my colleagues to pass this bill and ensure integrity in the federal procurement system.