

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMBATING SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE MILITARY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, our nation's armed forces are the best in the world, but I rise today to speak against a form of cancer spreading within the ranks that is compromising the integrity of our armed forces.

For 25 years, Congress has pressured the Department of Defense to take bold action against sexual assault among our service men and women, and for 25 years, we've heard the same promises. In hearing after hearing, they've offered the results of study after study; told us about their zero tolerance policy; created task forces; and promised to prioritize this issue within the chain of command.

Despite these promises, sexual assault in the military is at an all-time high and rising. According to the Defense Department, there were more than 70 assaults per day in 2012, an estimated 26,000 total and a 30 percent increase over two years. Worse, only three percent of estimated sexual assaults in the military in 2012 were prosecuted. Countless service members continue to have little faith in the military justice system, and countless more suffer in silence for fear of retaliation.

The existing military justice system has clearly demonstrated its inability to solve this problem. As the civilian institution tasked with military oversight, it is incumbent upon Congress to act.

The amendment offered by my colleague, Representative SPEIER, is an effective and meaningful solution. This amendment is modeled on legislation, the Sexual Assault Training Oversight and Prevention Act (STOP Act), which I'm proud to cosponsor.

The STOP Act rightfully removes the sexual assault response process from the military chain of command and replaces it with an accountable, civilian-controlled oversight office. It ensures that trained, impartial prosecutors respond to allegations of sexual assault, not higher ranking commanders with a potential bone to pick.

It provides victims with real access to justice, via an objective response system. And it means no more fear of retaliation, lost promotion, re-victimization, and pushback. Sexual assault is a scourge that weakens our military and our nation and has absolutely no place in society. I encourage my colleagues in the strongest possible terms to support this sensible amendment.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN D. WROTH

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel John D. Wroth's recent retirement from a distinguished military career in the United States Air Force. His service to our nation is one of honor and devotion, to which the people of West Virginia and the United States of America owe a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Born in Parkersburg, West Virginia, John Wroth received his bachelor's degree from the University of Charleston in 1987 and began serving his country in 1989, the year he received his commission from the United States Air Force Officer Training School. He has led unit deployments to Europe, the Pacific and Southwest Asia and, as a graduate of the elite Air Force Weapons School, he led as mission commander on the first night of Operation ALIED FORCE in the Balkan Peninsula and served as the Master Air Attack Plan Team Chief in support of both Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. In addition, Lieutenant Colonel Wroth has served as a unit scheduler, standardization/evaluation officer, tactics and training instructor, flight commander, platform instructor and lead electronic warfare instructor at the U.S. Air Force Weapons School.

Lieutenant Colonel Wroth has received numerous awards and decorations throughout his service to our nation: the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, and the NATO Medal. Furthermore, Wroth led the Air Force ROTC of Duke University to a number one rating for all small detachments.

Currently, Lieutenant Colonel Wroth is Chief, Nuclear Operations Branch serving on the Nuclear Command and Control System, and is the primary liaison to the Department of Homeland Security and the White House Military Office.

In addition to his devoted service to our country, Wroth also managed to raise a wonderful family with his wife, Lydia. Together they have four children, Ian, Sarah, Jacob, and Dylan.

Mr. Speaker, the exemplary service of Lieutenant Colonel John D. Wroth is deserving of the utmost respect. His dedication to country and family is a model for all of us, and I am proud to call him a fellow West Virginian.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF PETE VONACHEN

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Harold "Pete" Vonachen, an American veteran from Illinois, who passed away on Monday, June 10th, 2013 at the age of 87. Pete was best known as "Mr. Baseball" around Peoria, and as a dedicated community leader and philanthropist. His loss will be felt throughout the community.

Pete Vonachen, who graduated from Bradley University in Peoria with a Bachelor of Science in business administration, started out in the restaurant business, opening Vonachen's Junction in 1955. He carried over many of the same philosophies from his restaurant days to his other businesses, including a recognition of the importance of people. Pete treated everyone as a friend, regardless of whether you were a coworker, customer, or competitor.

As his name and reputation grew, Pete purchased the Peoria Suns Minor League baseball franchise in 1985, later changing the name to the Peoria Chiefs, a tribute to Peoria's last baseball team. With the help of his close friend the great baseball broadcaster Harry Caray, he was able to reach an affiliation agreement with the Chicago Cubs. Under Pete's leadership, the once struggling franchise became the first Midwest League team to draw more than 200,000 fans in one season.

Pete Vonachen also served his community in many roles, including as the Director of the Peoria Cerebral Palsy Board, a member of OSF St. Francis Medical Advisory Board, the Chairman of the Children's Hospital of Illinois Medical Center, a Peoria Park District trustee, the Director of the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Peoria Rotary Club, among others.

Mr. Speaker, I am forever grateful for Pete's contributions as a serviceman and leader in his community, and am deeply saddened by his passing. I offer my sincerest thoughts and prayers to his wife Donna, the rest of the Vonachen family, and the entire Peoria community.

CONGRATULATING TERRY AND ROSY BROMELL

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to commemorate and congratulate Terry and Rosy Bromell on the occasion of their 50th

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

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

wedding anniversary, which they will celebrate with their loved ones on June 15. Mr. and Mrs. Bromell have led incredible lives, truly worthy of this distinction.

Terry and Rosy are the parents of four wonderful children: Alicia Lowther, Teena Doxley, Ty Bromell, and Rose Marie Dillon. They are also blessed with seven grandchildren: Ric Lowther, Jonah Doxey, Sarah Doxey, Erin Dillon, Ruth Dillon, Vivian Dillon, and Ellie Bromell.

Both graduates of Louisiana Tech University, Terry and Rosy are well-known and appreciated in the North Louisiana area. In 1983, the couple opened their family-owned and independently operated insurance agency, Bromell Agency, Inc. For the past 30 years, the Bromells have benefitted both Ruston and Shreveport families and businesses with their commitment to service, as well as their active involvement and leadership in the Chamber of Commerce, local bureaus, boards, and 4H programs, and various charitable organizations in the community.

As the Bromell family and friends prepare to join together to honor Terry and Rosy Bromell, this couple continues to exemplify admirable dedication to serving our region. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Terry and Rosy Bromell on this very special 50th anniversary.

CONGRATULATING THE PENSACOLA ICE FLYERS AS CHAMPIONS OF THE SOUTHERN PROFESSIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE'S PRESIDENT'S CUP

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pensacola Ice Flyers for their recent victory in the Southern Professional Hockey League's President's Cup Championship series and offer my congratulations to the team members, owners, coaching staff, and front office staff:

Team members, Steve Bergin; Dan Buccella; Jordan Chong; Joe Caveney; Brent Clarke; Brad Cooper; Ron Cramer; John Dunbar; Nick Dupuis; Gerry Festa; Jeremy Gates; Mitchell Good; Patrick Knowlton; Kevin Kozlowski; Justin MacDonald; Mike MacIntyre; Ross MacKinnon; Ryan Salvis; Tyler Soehner; and Brandon Vossberg; Owners, Greg Harris; and Tim Kerr; Coach, Gary Graham; Equipment Manager, Mark "Bonez" Bradtmueller; Athletic Trainer, Jen Lorenzo; and front office staff, Tina Burnham; Patrick Casey; Kayleigh Kerr; Josh Kersh; Willa Licata; Chuck McCartney; and Brittany Tindell.

The Pensacola Ice Flyers were founded in 2009 and named to honor Pensacola's long and proud history as the "Cradle of Naval Aviation." From the beginning, the Ice Flyers have been strong competitors in the Southern Professional Hockey League, SPHL, making it to playoffs in each year of their existence. Last season, the Ice Flyers made it all the way to the championship series, before narrowly losing in the final game.

After coming agonizingly close to victory last season, the Ice Flyers entered into the 2012-13 season with only one goal: to win it all. The

Ice Flyers enjoyed a successful regular season, finishing with the third best record in the league. The team also enjoyed tremendous support from the Pensacola community, drawing more than 100,000 fans to their home games this season.

The President's Cup series between the Ice Flyers and the Huntsville Havoc was a closely contested affair. In the first game, the Ice Flyers prevailed at home in overtime 2-1; however, the Havoc fought back just three days later to claim a series tying 2-1 victory, sending the series back to Pensacola for a third and final game.

A passionate crowd of nearly 4,700 fans showed up at the Pensacola Bay Center to watch as the Ice Flyers faced the Havoc in the third and final game of the President's Cup series on April 14, 2013. The Ice Flyers took an early lead after just two minutes and seven seconds of play, and they never looked back en route to a 2-0 shutout victory to claim the crown and bring the President's Cup to Pensacola. With their victory, the Ice Flyers became just the third professional hockey team from Florida to capture a championship, and they became the first team from Pensacola to bring a professional sports trophy to the area.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize the players, coaches, staff, and fans of the Pensacola Ice Flyers for their championship winning season. The entire Northwest Florida area looks forward to many more winning seasons to come.

LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES CENTURY GROUP INC. AS A RECIPIENT OF THE 2013 LANTERN AWARDS

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Century Group Inc. as the Southwest Louisiana Region recipient of the 2013 Lantern Awards.

The Lantern Award provides an opportunity to salute manufacturers for their outstanding contributions to the Louisiana economy and to their communities. Recipients are selected on the basis of their contributions over a period of time to the betterment of their communities, growth in the number of employees, and expansion of their facilities.

The Century Group Inc. started out as one man, Alma Como, who built a wooden cast to create concrete steps in 1942. Today, Century Group is the leading manufacturer of precast concrete steps, concrete railroad grade crossings, railroad spill collection systems and other precise concrete products in North America.

During the first 30 years, Century Group Inc. set up seven manufacturing locations servicing home building material dealers in 27 states. In the mid 1960's the Century Group Inc. entered the railroad market providing services to industry along the Louisiana-Texas Gulf Coast. By the late 1970's, it had established a precast division which served state Department of Transportations, municipalities, military facilities, heavy industry, harbors, and general contractors.

With over 59 years of experience in the precast concrete manufacturing railroad and industrial construction industry, Century Group Inc. continues its legacy of innovation and superior service. It is due to the efforts of businesses and individuals like the Century Group Inc. that Louisiana continues to grow and prosper economically.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF
SENATOR FRANK LAUTENBERG

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I thank my friends and colleagues in the New Jersey delegation for organizing this tribute to the late Senator Frank Lautenberg.

This is a personal loss as well as a loss for New Jersey and for this Nation. I don't think there has been, nor do I think there will ever be, anybody quite like Frank Lautenberg in the United States Senate.

What stands out to so many about Frank is that he never forgot his humble beginnings. He was the son of immigrants who was born and raised among the silk mills of Paterson. His father died while he was serving in the Second World War—and "serve" is the right word. He saw service as his duty, as his life—serving other people, never forgetting the common person and the common good. The GI Bill sent him to Columbia University, and he always felt grateful for that and felt a need to pay back.

Much has been said in recent days about Frank's successful business career. And it certainly was a success. The qualities that drove Frank to be a successful businessman also made him an exemplary legislator. Frank was dogged; he was persistent. His colleagues in the Senate would sometimes laugh or smile about that—"Here comes Frank again to try to twist our arms." Frank did his homework; he knew what he was talking about, and he just kept fighting for equality of opportunity, for fairness, for safety, for ever-expanding access to the American Dream.

Frank's legislative legacy will remain relevant for generations to come. He fought tirelessly to keep trains and buses safe, to promote public health, to safeguard chemical plants, to keep cigarettes out of airplanes, and so much more. But what stands out in my mind is what Frank did to prevent drunk driving. As part of his transportation work, Frank established limits on blood alcohol levels and raised the drinking age. Today, you could fill several football stadiums with people who are alive only because of Frank Lautenberg—and not one of them knows who they are.

Throughout his time in the Senate, Frank was always thinking about the ordinary person. He never forgot that they were the people who had sent him to serve, he never stopped fighting, and the people of New Jersey knew that. They knew they had somebody in the Senate who was looking out for them.

Frank and I worked on a number of important issues together. From strengthening and securing our rail system to combating bullying with the Tyler Clementi bill, I always relished the opportunity to work with such a premier

legislator as Frank was. I feel this loss very personally.

I again send my most heartfelt condolences to Bonnie and to Frank's children and grandchildren. I hope they find comfort in knowing that his ideas and his legacy will live on through the many lives he saved and touched.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF LINDA AND RICHARD KERR

HON. DAVID B. MCKINLEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Linda and Richard Kerr on their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

Richard Kerr and Linda Fleming were married in Morgantown, West Virginia on June 4, 1964. They proudly raised two daughters with love and a wonderful sense of humor. They are committed to continuous learning and have a natural curiosity that they share with their four grandchildren.

Dr. Richard Kerr practiced medicine in West Virginia for over 35 years, while Mrs. Kerr served as a teacher at Morgantown High School. Dr. and Mrs. Kerr are two incredibly patriotic people who have tirelessly worked towards the improvement of our country, and our home State of West Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 1st Congressional District of West Virginia, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating my friends, Linda and Richard Kerr, on their fiftieth wedding anniversary and wishing them fifty more.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD GAINES

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor Richard Gaines, an accomplished journalist and great friend of the fishing industry who passed away unexpectedly on June 9, 2013.

I began working with Mr. Gaines when he was employed at the Gloucester Daily Times in Massachusetts as a staff writer with a reputation for thorough, effective reporting.

Through his passionate coverage of the fishing industry, he became an advocate for fishermen across the country. Elected officials, peers, and readers alike admired Mr. Gaines' ability to clearly and accurately communicate the issues facing the industry.

Mr. Gaines began his career in the 1960's as a reporter for United Press International. He went on to become editor-in-chief at the Boston Phoenix, where he was well-known as an investigative journalist and garnered national attention when the paper was named as a runner up for a Pulitzer Prize. He authored a book and worked as a political consultant before joining the Gloucester Daily Times.

Mr. Gaines regularly reported on issues directly affecting the Third District of North Carolina, and his insight into the fishing industry will be greatly missed. We have lost not only

a talented journalist, but a man of honesty and integrity and a true friend to America's fishermen. I am grateful for Mr. Gaines' service and pleased to have him recognized by the United States Congress, an honor which he truly deserves.

HONORING THE PINE BROOK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Pine Brook Volunteer Fire Department, located in Montville Township, New Jersey, which is celebrating its Centennial Anniversary.

In 1913, the citizens of Pine Brook, an area within Montville Township, decided to organize a Fire Department to protect their community. Using land donated by Abram A. Van Wert, the people of Pine Brook built their own firehouse, which is still in use; the only changes being the addition of overhead doors and a rear meeting room. The people also provided the funds needed to start the fire company through donations. With the location and funds in place, the Pine Brook Fire Department was able to designate bell codes and zones, and purchase their first pieces of equipment; two hand-pulled chemical fire extinguishers. Over the following eight months, the Fire Department held a number of fundraising raffles, giving away pigs, ponies, clocks, and watches. With these funds, they were able to purchase a chassis from Republic Truck with two chemical tanks, a 150-foot reel of hose, and a small chemical holder and acid receptacle. Two years later, the headlights and bumper were purchased. This served the town until 1924, when the truck was sold to Hanover, and an American-LaFrance truck was purchased in its place. Throughout these early years the Pine Brook Volunteer Fire Department provided protection to the towns of Hanover, Parsippany, and to the Township of Caldwell.

Over the coming years, the department struggled to maintain operation due to insufficient funds. The citizens were informed that, because of their lack of interest and support, the fire department would have to be turned over to the Township of Montville. This prompted the people to pledge greater support in the future, and the Fire Department has since thrived. In later years, the department successfully petitioned for a Fire Commission Board, and held elections in February 1937. By this time, demand for aid had grown, and a 750 gallon Mack pumper truck was acquired. In 1954, the department joined the North Jersey Volunteer Firemen's Association, and in the following year joined the Montville Firemen's Relief Organization. Around the same time, the population had increased to a problematic number; the water supply was unable to cope with the fires in the area, and feasible solutions were difficult to find. However, in 1955, the department was able to build a special 1,500 gallon tank truck, the only one of its kind in this area. In 1965, the department purchased a Mack Diesel Pumper, the second diesel fire truck to be delivered in the State of New Jersey. Later, in 1969 a

Hahn Pumper was purchased, and in 1972 a Telesquirt Pumper was added to the fleet.

Since 1963, the substantial growth has transformed Pine Brook from a rural community to an area diverse with industrial, commercial, and residential properties, all of which are served by the Pine Brook Volunteer Fire Department. This increase caused the department to build another fire station on Konner Avenue, which was dedicated and placed into service in June 1969. The Township of Montville, recognizing the growth, expanded the water system with the installation of water mains and hydrants throughout the township in 1970. Later in 1975, plans for a new, larger headquarters on Bloomfield Avenue next to the existing firehouse began. Two years later, the department was able to operate out of the new station. With the increases in demand over the coming years, they added a Rescue and Salvage truck, a ladder truck, as well as other pumper trucks to their fleet. With the enactment of the Uniform Fire Code in 1986 by the State of New Jersey, Montville Township established three separate Local Enforcing Agencies, with the Pine Brook Fire Prevention Bureau serving under District #3 LEA. To meet the new inspection and code requirements, the Pine Brook LEA hired a part time Fire Official and Fire Inspector.

Today, the Pine Brook Volunteer Fire Department has remained an important part of community, and adapted to its ever-changing needs. The department has kept up to date with its rigs, equipment, and radio devices, as well as with volunteer training in fire safety and techniques. Due to the efforts of the Pine Brook Volunteer Fire Department, a Fire Prevention Bureau ordinance was introduced to the Township. Additionally, during Fire Prevention Week, firefighters have visited schools and educated children on fire safety for the past 29 years. After one hundred years, the Pine Brook Volunteer Fire Department continues its proud tradition of service, while maintaining a high level of professionalism and readiness for any emergencies that may arise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Pine Brook Fire Department as they celebrate their 100th anniversary.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, June 1st marked the beginning of the 2013 Atlantic hurricane season. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has once again predicted an "active or extremely active" hurricane season this year, with the potential for 13 to 20 named storms, of which 7 to 11 could become hurricanes. In fact, less than two weeks into hurricane season, we've already seen our first named storm, Tropical Storm Andrea. As the Chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security's Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, I rise today to urge citizens in hurricane prone areas to take steps to prepare themselves and their families.

This is also a good time for citizens not in areas susceptible to hurricanes to consider the

threats to their areas; be it from tornadoes, earthquakes, flooding, or other severe weather. Many of the steps necessary to prepare for hurricanes are the same for other hazards. I urge all Americans to develop a disaster plan; assemble an emergency kit, including medications, important documents, and food and water; and become familiar with the evacuation routes and emergency management officials in their areas.

Unsure of what to do to get prepared? There are resources online that can help. In my home state of Indiana, Hoosiers can visit the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's "Get Prepared" site at www.in.gov/dhs/getprepared.htm. Information is also available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency at www.fema.gov. The Department of Homeland Security's Ready program has useful information on ways to get prepared at www.ready.gov. Through this site resources are also available for kids, businesses, and non-English speakers in 12 languages. Information on ways to plan and prepare is also available from the American Red Cross through its "Be Red Cross Ready" module at www.arcbrcr.org.

Severe weather can occur at any time, with little notice. Super Storm Sandy, the tornadoes in Oklahoma, and the recent flooding in my congressional district are proof of the devastation that disasters can have on our nation. The time to prepare is now. Taking some simple steps to prepare yourself, and your family, can make all the difference when disaster strikes.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HISTORIC
MARKER DEDICATION FOR
CUSSETA INDUSTRIAL HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the upcoming Historic Marker dedication ceremony for Cusseta Industrial High School in Cusseta, Georgia. The grounds of this historic edifice will be dedicated Saturday, June 15, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

The dedication ceremony will serve as tribute to the preservative efforts of dedicated alumni, the Chattahoochee County Historic Preservation Society, and members of the community who saw fit to treasure this jewel of American history.

Beginning in 1912, a beacon of light was shone on the education of African-American students when philanthropist Julius Rosenwald worked with Booker T. Washington and other African-American educators at the Tuskegee Institute to build a number of black schools in the racially segregated rural South. Known as the Rosenwald Fund, these endeavors supported the construction of approximately 5,000 schools in fifteen states—242 of which are located in Georgia.

With the support of the Rosenwald Trust Fund, the neighboring African-American community, and funds from Chattahoochee County, Cusseta Industrial High School served as the only high school in the county to educate students of color. The school was built in 1929–1930 in conformance with standardized plans for efficient new schools for the edu-

cation of African-American students within the county. The Cusseta School is among the best surviving examples of the roughly fifty remaining Rosenwald schools in Georgia. It was placed on the National Historic Register on April 15, 2011.

This "little school on the hill" educated a number of African-American scholars until its closure in 1958. Of the seventeen students in the last graduating class, four have passed away. Echoing the sentiments of the place where "everybody was somebody and Christ was all," a place where Friday worship experiences sourced spiritual renewal, many hold the memory of this vibrant community in the corridors of their hearts.

Since its closure as a public school, the building has served the community as a Country Club, Lion's Club, Kiwanis Club, Boy Scouts meeting place, and a school of dance. Envisioned by alumni, Rev. Andrew L. Thomas, Jr., Dr. Mildred Gardner, and fifteen others as well as three community partners, the dream of establishing a historic marker on the grounds of Old Cusseta Industrial High School has become a reality.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this historic moment as the community of Cusseta, Georgia rises to honor and preserve Old Cusseta Industrial High School, a beloved landmark where many young African-American students were given the opportunity to earn an education.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2014

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2217) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2217, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2014. I remain firmly committed to the security of the United States and the Department's mission of ensuring our communities are safe and secure from terrorism and other threats. However, I have serious concerns about a provision of this bill that cause me to be unable to support it.

I am disappointed that the House adopted the controversial King amendment. This amendment offered by Representative STEVE KING will prohibit the administration from implementing the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. Children who were brought to the United States at a young age should not be penalized for the actions of their parents. These individuals, commonly referred to as DREAMers, may only know the United States and speak English. Deporting them to a country they may know nothing of, where they may not speak the language or know any relatives, is counterproductive to the principles that define our nation. I believe we need comprehensive immigration reform which addresses the issue of DREAM Act eligible youth and

develops a framework for ensuring they can maintain a legal status in the United States. That is why, as a member of Congress who voted for the DREAM Act, I cannot support the King Amendment.

While I agree with the necessity of providing adequate resources to the Department of Homeland Security, due to the inclusion of this unnecessary and controversial ban on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, I am unable to support the bill.

RECOGNIZING THE PENSACOLA
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL CRU-
SADERS BASEBALL TEAM AS
CLASS 4A FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL
SPORTS ASSOCIATION STATE
CHAMPIONS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the First Congressional District of Florida's Pensacola Catholic High School Crusaders for winning its second-straight Class 4A Florida High School Sports Association Baseball Championship and offer my congratulations to the team members, coaches, trainer, and school principal:

Team members, Tanner Halstead (#3); Gavin Wehby (#4); Drew LaBounty (#5); Zane Gill (#7); Jon Jon Burkett (#8); Clarke Berry (#9); Brandon Wiley (#10); Gregory Ciangiotta (#11); Evans Bozeman (#12); Avery Geyer (#13); Bronson Chancellor (#14); Chandler Burns (#15); Cooper Jones (#16); Cody Henry (#17); Zach Allen (#21); James McGhee (#22); Jacob Knorr (#23); Michael Neal (#31); Brandon Lockridge (#32); Nick Helton (#40); Zach Wyant; Kai Wilson; Hunter Wilson; and Jason Borcz; Coaches, Richard LaBounty; P.J. Smith; Sonny Reedy; Glenn Currie; Keith Haynes; Jak-y Kohr; Christian Macon; and Russell Deason; Trainer, Lexi West; and Principal, Sister Kierstin Martin.

The Catholic Crusaders ended a spectacular season with thirty wins and no losses to clinch this year's state championship. The final game was played against Miami Monsignor Pace High School at JetBlue Park in Fort Myers, Florida, on Tuesday, May 21, with the Crusaders earning an eighth inning victory by a score of seven to five. Many of the exceptional plays leading up to the victory occurred in the eighth inning itself. Junior James McGhee hit a two-run double in the top of the eighth inning, and senior pitcher Cooper Jones handled all three outs himself in the bottom of the eighth, striking two batters out and fielding a ground ball to the pitcher's mound to close out the game.

This extraordinary triumph marks a proud moment in the sports history of Northwest Florida and builds upon its already strong baseball tradition. The Crusader's winning streak has risen to thirty-five, which it was reported has not occurred in the Pensacola area since Escambia High School reached that level in the 1965–1966 season. Perhaps more impressive is the fact that no team in Pensacola history, prior to this one, has ever ended a season undefeated.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the citizens of Northwest Florida, I congratulate the team, students, and faculty of

Catholic High School for its extraordinary victory. My wife Vicki joins me in offering our best wishes to the school and its talented athletes for their continued success.

HONORING LANDON BONNIEPAUL
VERNON

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life of Mr. Landon Bonniepaul Vernon. A loving son, brother, husband, father, grandfather and friend, Mr. Vernon was exemplary in his familial devotion, entrepreneurial spirit and community pride. With his passing on March 5, 2013 we are reminded of his life's journey and the joyful legacy he inspired.

Born in Franklinton, Louisiana on August 26, 1936, Landon was the third of six boys born to Sherman Vernon and Sara Crawford. The family relocated to California in the early 1940s, settling in Oakland, where Landon attended local schools and played high school and college basketball.

Mr. Vernon married his high school sweetheart and the love of his life, Barbara McKellar-Vernon, and together they raised three children, Landon Carl, Wayne and Darlene. An avid businessman and entrepreneur, Mr. Vernon started a janitorial service as early as high school. Over the years, he also worked in a variety of roles at stalwart Bay Area businesses like Aerojet, Wonder Bread, The National Association of Home Builders and Oakland's Outreach Development Program.

Yet, Mr. Vernon also continued to achieve his dream of entrepreneurial success while becoming co-owner and co-manager of several Bay Area clubs, including Celebrity Club, Consultants Lounge, Bird Kage, Dock of the Bay, Old Golden, Bosn's Locker and Nick's Lounge. Many of these locales were African American cultural institutions that contributed to the important legacy of Black- and minority-owned small businesses in the East Bay. Mr. Vernon was also the owner of the vending machine company LV Rentals.

In addition to Mr. Vernon's commitment to his business ventures, he was an avid sports buff who supported East Bay athletic organizations and cofounded the Bird Kage Golf Tournament. As a member of the "Sportsmen Club All Stars" basketball team, Mr. Vernon played with the likes of Wilt "The Stilt" Chamberlain, Charlie Hardy, Don Barksdale, Richard Whitehurst and Harold Theus. His enthusiasm in supporting athletic and business communities of color undoubtedly helped to pave the way for more organizations to follow.

In addition to this community activity, Mr. Vernon loved to travel. He was especially fond of visiting extended family and friends back in Louisiana and making sure that the bonds of family and friendship were always strong. Fishing was also one of his favorite pastimes for relaxation, and he often noted that if all mankind could fish, the world would recognize and want that kind of peace every day. His life was truly one that was "well-lived and well-loved," and his memory is a testament to the benefits of forming and sustaining meaningful

relationships with others. Furthermore, Landon was a personal friend who I met in the early 1970s. He was fun, smart and extremely kind to my family. We are deeply grateful for his friendship.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors Mr. Landon Bonniepaul Vernon. His vibrant spirit and sense of fellowship will continue to guide others to connect with their communities and loved ones for years to come. I offer my sincerest condolences to Landon's surviving family and to the many friends and associates whose lives he touched over the course of his incredible life. He will be deeply missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF SRIRAM
HATHWAR

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sriram Hathwar, a resident of Painted Post, New York. Sriram, a seventh-grader at the Corning Alternative School for Math and Science, placed third in this year's Scripps National Spelling Bee. This thirteen-year-old stands as a representative of the bright young minds of the 23rd Congressional District of New York.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee is the nation's largest and longest-running educational promotion, with the purpose of helping students build the foundations for English language skills they will use all their lives. Only 281 spellers out of 11 million won regional bees to advance to the national level, and Sriram rose up through the ranks to place in the top three. He has competed at the national level four times, and his performance this year has placed him at his highest ranking thus far. Sriram has not taken his eye off the prize, though, as he plans to compete in the bee again next year, his final year of eligibility.

I am proud to have students like Sriram in my district. His accomplishments show the brilliance set to come forth from this district in the future, and I am honored to recognize him today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 30TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF LOAVES AND
FISHES

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Sacramento's Loaves and Fishes homeless shelter, and congratulate them as they celebrate their 30th anniversary. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring this organization.

Founded in 1983, Loaves and Fishes has been serving the Sacramento area by providing food, shelter, and social services for the area's homeless. They are a haven of safety, sustenance, and shelter for the men, women and children that seek their assistance. Today's "30 Years of Food, Warmth, and a Path Home" celebration has been dedicated to the

hard work of Loaves and Fishes' countless volunteers.

Loaves and Fishes, led by Sister Libby Fernandez and a committed Board of Directors, has shown compassion and devotion to meeting the needs of the homeless and indigent in the greater Sacramento area. They place the dignity of each person that they serve at the forefront of their efforts and strive to meet the needs of each person that walks in their doors. To fulfill its mission of compassion, Loaves and Fishes relies on financial support from a number of private donations and church groups.

Mr. Speaker, I hereby recognize Loaves and Fishes for their continued service to the homeless men, women, and children of the Greater Sacramento area. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this organization and wishing them continued success as they endeavor to serve Sacramento's homeless.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LAKE-
WOOD FOUNDATION AND THE
2013 NATIONAL INTERCOLLE-
GIATE WHEELCHAIR BASKET-
BALL ASSOCIATION TOUR-
NAMENT

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, it is the privilege of the State of Alabama and the City of Homewood to be the site of the renowned Lakeshore Foundation, a center whose focus on personal fitness and competitive athletics has benefited countless individuals with physical disabilities throughout my state, our country, and the world.

Lakeshore started as a hospital dedicated to treating the national scourge of tuberculosis in the 1920s. In 1984, it became fully focused on its current mission: to provide rehabilitative recreational and sports programs to improve the lives of people with disabilities. At Lakeshore, the connection between physical activity, from basic fitness to competitive athletics, and emotional restoration is understood and nurtured.

The world-class athletic facilities at Lakeshore Foundation are used by individuals of all ages, from young children to senior citizens. It is a training location for the U.S. Paralympic Team. After 9/11, it created a special program called "Lima Foxtrot" to help courageous wounded warriors recover their physical skills after severe injury.

Most recently, Lakeshore Foundation and the University of Alabama at Birmingham have formed the UAB/Lakeshore Research Collaborative. The joint effort between Lakeshore and UAB is a world-class research program in rehabilitative science. The collaborative links Lakeshore's extraordinary programs for people with physically disabling conditions with UAB's research expertise.

A special event took place from March 7 through March 9 of this year when Lakeshore Foundation teamed with the University of Alabama and the National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA) to successfully host the National Intercollegiate Wheelchair Basketball Association Tournament. The University of Alabama is known for having one of the top adaptive athletic programs in the nation.

Eight men's teams and four women's teams from across the country competed in the tournament.

In the women's finals, the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater team defeated the University of Alabama team 55–41 to become the 2013 Women's National Champions.

In the men's finals, the University of Alabama team came out victorious, defeating the University of Texas-Arlington 71–52 to become the 2013 Men's National Champions.

The wheelchair play on the Lakeshore basketball courts was every bit as intense as you would have seen during the NCAA's "Final Four." The lesson that athletes on each of the participating teams taught us about determination and overcoming obstacles made them all champions. The event brought great pride and honor to the State of Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the combined efforts of the achievements of all the players, coaches, and staff who contributed to the championship season and to congratulate Lakeshore Foundation and the University of Alabama for successfully hosting the 2013 National Intercollegiate Wheelchair Basketball Association Tournament. Under the leadership of President and Chief Executive Officer Jeff Underwood, the Lakeshore Foundation will continue to change the way we think about physical disabilities and challenge all of us to expand our horizons.

RECOGNIZING CHUCK HERSEY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of Southeast Michigan's environmental leaders, Chuck Hersey, on the occasion of his retirement from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments after 35 years of dedicated service.

After graduating with a degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Chuck joined SEMCOG in the spring of 1978 as a co-op research assistant. He was promptly hired full time to work on transportation planning, and was promoted to the position of Air Quality Planner in 1980. Since that time, Chuck has been intimately involved in our region's implementation strategy for meeting air quality goals. Over the course of many years, he has also worked tirelessly in the cause of improving water quality in Michigan.

SEMCOG was formed over 40 years ago to fill a vital need—to bring together distinct communities in Southeast Michigan, and provide a forum to help them plan and work together for the common good. The philosophy at the heart of SEMCOG is that the whole is sometimes greater than the sum of its parts, and that our region faces challenges we can only meet by working together.

Chuck's work on air pollution is a good example. Air pollution does not recognize political boundaries. You can't deal with ozone and particulate pollution unless you are able to look at pollution on a regional basis, and then develop strategies that both meet the health-based standards of the Clean Air Act and are achievable and cost-effective. This is precisely

the work that has occupied Chuck during his tenure at SEMCOG, whether it was his efforts behind the formation of a Southeast Michigan Ozone Strategy; his work on air quality attainment strategies; and his development of the Ozone Action! Program, which became a national model on air quality education.

I am also grateful for the work Chuck and SEMCOG have done to advance water quality improvements in Lake St. Clair, and, in particular, his efforts to advance the Lake St. Clair Strategic Implementation Plan.

Among his other accomplishments, Chuck holds a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Michigan. He is the devoted husband of Agnes, and father of Mathew and Angela. Chuck and Agnes have two grandchildren, Cameron and Giovanni.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Chuck Hersey for his commitment to the citizens of Michigan as well as our state's precious environment.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

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

Today, it is \$16,738,715,835,680.58. We've added \$6,111,838,786,767.50 to our debt in 4 and a half years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT OF OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 27 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial this Saturday in Washington, DC through Honor Flight of Oregon. On behalf of a grateful State and country, we welcome these heroes to the nation's capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are as follows: Albert G. Archer, U.S. Army; Edmund D. Fowler, U.S. Army; Wilbur "Wib" Hart, U.S. Army; Walter E. Koerschner, U.S. Army; Ernest J. Lathrop, U.S. Army; Elmer Lively, U.S. Army; Richard H. Young, U.S. Army; Milton F. Cook, U.S. Army Air Force; Ovie "Bob" Holman, U.S. Army Air Force; Brook "Hap" Lovell, U.S. Army Air Force; Clifford J. Larson, U.S. Air Force; James A. Curran, U.S. Navy; Marvin E. Haynie, U.S. Navy; Raymond Jones, U.S. Navy; Eugene L. Kern, U.S. Navy; Gordon L. Lentz, U.S. Navy; Robert W. Moore, U.S. Navy; Marshall P. Ramsey, U.S. Navy; William G. Rugh, U.S. Navy; Clarence L. Schick, U.S. Navy; Robert K. Schroth, U.S. Navy; Leslie O. Stinnett, U.S. Navy; Ralph L. Sweet, U.S. Navy; Olaf Tomlinson, U.S. Navy; Roy F. Wiese, U.S. Navy;

Anthony J. Kanclier, U.S. Marine; Leo Manus, U.S. Merchant Marine.

These 27 heroes join more than 98,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home states to Washington, DC to reflect at the memorials built in honor of our nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize and thank Gail Yakopatz for her tireless work as president of Honor Flight of Oregon.

PAY YOUR BILLS OR LOSE YOUR PAY ACT

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, right now, all across this country, American families are looking at an average of \$15,000 of credit card debt. The average student loan debt is double that. I'm sure each and every one of those families would like the option of saying, "no thanks, I'm not interested in paying those bills." But they can't.

Americans don't get to skip out on repaying their debt without drastic consequences. Why should Congress get to play by separate rules?

When we talk about the debt ceiling, we're not talking about our spending habits or curbing our expenses; we're talking about fulfilling the promises we've already made. We can't debate our budget after we've received what we bought.

The last time we played chicken with the debt ceiling, we deeply hurt our credit standing in the world. And we don't have to guess why we were downgraded: Standard and Poors directly told us that is was on account of the political circus the debate had become.

Luckily for us, America still enjoys one of the highest credit ratings in the world, but with continued turmoil and unnecessary, partisan wars over this, how long do we expect our lenders to hang on?

And why are we having this same, foolish fight? In the name of a so-called "debt crisis" that even Speaker BOEHNER and Budget Chair RYAN admitted isn't a crisis.

We're threatening vital services and sacrificing the security of our good national credit for a bogus threat, and all the while the real threat to our economy, anemic growth and persistent unemployment, still looms.

Americans are tired of phony disasters. They want real solutions. They are tired of political theatre. They want jobs. They are tired of a Congress that can't do anything but bicker and point fingers. They want their representatives to get to work.

To default on our debts would be more than irresponsible, it would send us down a path to

becoming a banana republic. We are not a nation of deadbeats and delinquents. We pay our bills or we suffer dire consequences.

If we in Congress won't do our job, we shouldn't get paid.

RECOGNIZING MS. ANTOINETTE "TONI" J. PAULINE ON THE OCCASION OF HER 75TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Antoinette "Toni" Jones Pauline on the occasion of her 75th birthday. An outstanding educator, mother, and grandmother, I am truly blessed to be able to count Toni among my dearest friends. Throughout the years, she always has been a great source of motivation and inspiration to me, and exemplifies what it means to serve the community.

Toni was born in Gainesville, Florida to Allen Quinn Jones, Jr. and Glovine. She spent her early childhood in Gainesville before moving to Fernandina Beach, where she attended Peck High School and was a majorette. Following her graduation from Peck High School in 1956, Toni went on to continue her education at my alma mater, Florida A&M University, and then Nova Southeastern University, where she graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Library Science and a Master's degree in Media Science, respectively.

With a love for education, Toni began her career in the Florida public school system as a librarian at Bradenton Elementary. She continued working at various libraries in schools throughout Broward County, including Chester A. Moore Elementary and Dillard High School. Wanting to do more to help those who are underrepresented and underserved, Toni found work with both the State of Florida and Broward County to improve migrant education. For nearly seven years, she dedicated her time to working with migrant camps in communities all across the State. Toni then returned to the Broward County Public Library System, where she spent the latter years of her career as the Head Reference Librarian at the Pompano Branch Library.

After over 43 years of public service, Toni now fills her days spending time with her granddaughter and volunteering in her community. She is also a lifelong member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Toni's 75th birthday, I would like to wish her and her entire family all the very best.

IN HONOR OF BERNARD ALGENON CATCHINGS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a great man and outstanding citizen of Camilla, Georgia, Bernard Algenon Catchings. Mr. Catchings

passed away on May 22, 2013. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Peter AME Church in Camilla, Georgia.

Born on January 19, 1915 to the late Timothy and Alice Catchings of Camilla, Georgia, Bernard Catchings was the fourteenth of sixteen children. He was educated at the Catchings Family School, a school his father built on the family's farm, and graduated from Mitchell County Training School in Pelham, Georgia. He later earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture from Fort Valley State College in 1946. In the intervening time, he proudly served his country as a Medical Technical in World War II and was honorably discharged in 1944. Mr. Catchings obtained his Master's Degree in Horticulture from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

Mr. Catchings' passion for education persisted during his professional career as a teacher in the school systems of Mitchell and Baker Counties in Georgia as well as in the Jackson County School System in Florida. He taught Math, Science, Agriculture, Shop, and Driver's Education classes. He continued to touch the lives of young people by substitute teaching at Mitchell Baker High School upon retiring after 40 years as an educator.

Other employment ventures led him to serving as a Florida Frozen Fruits and Vegetable Inspector, World Book Encyclopedia Sales Representative, Farm Bureau Co-Op, and an Angler Watcher with the Department of Natural Resources.

A favorite pastime of Mr. Catchings was hunting. He was regarded by many in Camilla, Mitchell County, and Southwest Georgia as the greatest huntsman of quail and dove ever known. He was affectionately known by many as "The Birdman."

Maya Angelou once said, "A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies." Mr. Catchings is undoubtedly great because of his service to his community, devotion to his work, and the compassion he showed for his friends and loved ones.

Mr. Catchings was preceded in death by his wife, Alexa Burton Catchings and his grandson, Walter Williams. He is survived by his children, Bernard, Jr., Gwainever, Janet, Rose, and Alexa; grandchildren, Joy, Kimberly, Walter, Tracey, Natalie, Elliot, Bernard, and Alex; and great-grandchildren, Christopher, Brandon, Alex, and Emerie.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Mr. Catchings' children and other family members during this difficult time. May they be consoled and comforted by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

REMEMBERING THE LONG-TIME CONGRESSIONAL AIDE RICK JAUERT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, last Saturday I traveled to Luverne, Minnesota to say good-bye to a dear friend and long-time congressional aide Rick Jauert. For nearly three decades Rick worked for seven different Min-

nesota Democrats in the U.S. House. He also worked for members from New York and California.

A committed, passionate man, Rick worked for the families of Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District as my press secretary during my first-term in Congress.

Rick Jauert passed away on June 2, 2013 at the age of 59 years old.

Mr. Speaker, I delivered the following eulogy for Rick at his funeral on June 8th.

EULOGY FOR A FRIEND: REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF RICK JAUERT

Today we are here to remember a brother, a cousin, an uncle, a co-worker, a mentor, a public servant, a dear friend. We are here to celebrate Rick Jauert and how his life touched us. We are here to grieve for our loss. And, we are here to say good-bye to a dear man who we cared for and loved.

In April, I drove down from the Twin Cities with Sue Vento to see Rick and visit with him for the last time. He was very sick, physically depleted, and enduring the realities of his failing health. His dear friend Ben VanderKoi had rigged up a microphone which allowed his whispers to be heard and we had a wonderful conversation. His political opinions had not been diminished. He was more up to date on the news than I was. Rick was calm.

As we were ending our visit Rick didn't ask, but sort of told me and Sue that he would be speaking at his funeral, even though he assured us that it would be a long way off. He was sure he was improving even though he very gracefully accepted the fatal nature of his condition.

A few weeks ago I received an email from Rick. He told me he saw me on MSNBC speaking on the House floor and that he was proud, that I had done a good job. I didn't know I had been on MSNBC so it made me feel like once again Rick was playing his congressional aide role, this time from his hospice bed. That was the last time I heard from Rick.

I am here today because Rick was a special person in my life. He was a special person to each of us. Rick's sisters and brother and other family members have known him from childhood. Some of you may have grown up with him here in Luverne or maybe a worked with him on a political campaign or in a congressional office. Some of you may have stayed with Rick at his famous 146 North Caroline Ave South East home.

But however we got to know Rick, here we are, together in Luverne, Minnesota on a June afternoon. We are here because a kid grew up surrounded by a loving family, a uncomplicated small town life, and then one day he packed a bag on day went out to discover the world. He took with him his love for his family, the strong values this community instilled in him, and his own curiosity and sharp intellect.

Rick went to the Philippines and lived and studied there right out of high school. That took real courage and a tremendous sense of adventure. He went to college at Morris and excelled at both activism and academics. He went to our Nation's capital and found a home for himself for more than three decades.

Rick Jauert grew up on the prairie and ended up meeting Presidents and First Ladies, working with Members of Congress and Senators, and fighting policy battles to help make Minnesota, our country and this world a better place.

Rick was dedicated. He was smart. He had a quick wit and a sharp tongue. He could be incredibly kind and incredibly cruel, which was the case anytime the words "Michele Bachmann" came out of his mouth.

He was a DFLer to the core of his being and an unapologetic liberal. If there are any Republicans here today you must have never told Rick your party affiliation or you endured a lot of political lectures.

Stop for a moment. Think back to the first time you met Rick.

I remember. I first met Rick thirteen years ago—June of 2000—at the DFL State Convention. I was running for Congress and Rick was in Rochester wearing a seersucker suit. As many of us know, it takes a special person to make a fashion statement at a DFL State Convention and Rick stood out!

At that time Rick was working for Bruce Vento, Bruce was living at Rick's house, and Bruce was dying of cancer. Rick was playing the role of friend, caretaker, and staff member. It was a heavy burden.

I got the feeling Bruce had sent Rick out to keep an eye on me and to provide advice. Rick was certainly not shy about sharing his opinions about what I needed to do on my campaign. After all these years I can't remember anything that Rick told me that day.

I just kept looking at his suit and thought to myself—is this what happens to Minnesotans who go to work in Washington?

Over the next six months Rick gave his heart and soul to help me win that congressional race. He spent the last month of the campaign in the office ever day doing any job that was helpful. He helped with strategy, entertained volunteers with stories, chastised young staffers for sport, and prepared me for my new career in Congress. He was invaluable.

But there were some hard times. Bruce's death really hit Rick. The next year we evacuated my Washington office on September 11th, 2001 and my entire staff and I camped out with Rick at his house during that day of horror and tragedy. The following year in 2002 the tragic deaths of our friends Paul and Sheila Wellstone was devastating to Rick as it was to so many of us.

I really felt these three tragedies tore into Rick's being, into his soul. He internalized the losses, the pain, the grief and it seemed like he wouldn't let it go.

For any of us, there is no denying our faults, failures and frailities. Rick had his and at times imposed them on those he care for and those who cared for him. He had his vulnerabilities and many of us endured difficult episodes with him.

There were some dark times. But this was the very human nature of Rick. He so often gave of himself without holding back. He gave so much to others and to the causes and people he believed in. And, at times, he needed help desperately.

These last two years Rick needed help—especially as his physical health declined.

So many of his family and friends gave Rick the love and support he needed.

As Rick's condition became more debilitating he put his trust in his friends and family members. And their love for him was comforting and it allowed Rick to make the final transitions in his life that brought him back home to Minnesota. Ben VanderKoi and Cini and Denny McGrann, along with so many others, gave so much to help guide Rick through difficult decisions and towards a peaceful conclusion to his life.

What I always will remember about Rick, what is embedded in my heart, is that Rick never stopped loving, he never stopped believing in people, he never stopped hoping for a better tomorrow—even when he felt dark inside.

On Wednesday night this week, I was in Washington and we finished voting in the Capitol around 8 o'clock. I went outside to walk home and there was dark smoke in the air and a strong odor of something burning.

When I got home I looked on-line and the news said that there was a four alarm fire at Frager's Hardware Store which is on Pennsylvania Avenue about 10 blocks from the Capitol and about the same distance from Rick's house.

The first thing I thought about when I read the news was Rick. Rick loved Frager's. Rick really, really loved Frager's. It seemed like Rick would walk to Frager's every Saturday as part of his weekend routine. He had a Frager's tee-shirt I remember him wearing.

Frager's was the old school hardware store where everything you could ever want is packed into tiny isles and tall shelves. There is clutter and disorder and a sense of stepping back into a grittier, more personal time.

In fact, the hardware store looked a lot like the packed shelves and poster covered walls in Rick's house. And in both places, in spite of appearances, if you asked for a special window putty or a book about Trotsky's travels in Mexico, the respective proprietors could locate them almost instantly.

For 90 years Frager's was a Capitol Hill institution. And now it is gone.

Rick Jauert was a Capitol Hill institution for more than 30 years. And now he is gone.

Rick gave his life to public service and to the U.S. House of Representatives. He gave me his friendship and put his faith in me and for that I'll be grateful forever. He gave so much to so many of us.

Let us all give thanks that our lives were touched by Rick Jauert. Let us all pray for Rick that may God bless him and keep his soul at peace. Let us all remember that for 59 years a good man walked this Earth and we had the privilege of knowing him, caring about him, and loving him.

We will miss you, Rick.

RECOGNIZING TANNER AND
DALLIN REED'S COMMITMENT
AND SERVICE TO THE OLYMPIC
PENINSULA REGION OF WASH-
INGTON STATE

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tanner Douglas Reed and Dallin Walker Reed, who recently earned the impressive rank of Eagle Scout and have a steadfast commitment to the growth and prosperity of the Olympic Peninsula region of Washington State.

It takes great effort, service, and determination to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. It is an honor to congratulate Tanner and Dallin on their awards.

Mr. Speaker, Tanner is a 17-year-old cancer survivor and Army ROTC Scholarship recipient who will be attending Brigham Young University this fall. Dallin is a 15-year-old student that attends Peninsula High School and volunteers his time and energy to helping the elderly and children. They are the 2nd and 3rd Eagle Scout recipients in their family.

Tanner and Dallin built a wooden trellis system for the Kitsap Helpline Food Bank for their community service project. The system consists of separate lengths of cable strung between three support trellises, creating a structure that allows the tomato vines to grow vertically. In the winter, the structure is able to act as a greenhouse when plastic sheets are draped over the structure. This will be used to

support the food bank's annual crop of tomatoes.

The Boy Scouts represent the finest qualities in America's youth; the Reeds' accomplishments have helped solidify a strong foundation for their future. I am hopeful that others in our community will follow the Reed's example of leadership.

As I close, I can say with confidence that our community is a better place thanks to the ongoing, selfless commitment of people like the Reeds. Their dedicated service to our community has earned them the appreciation and admiration of peers and neighbors in the Olympic Peninsula region. I am pleased to recognize their service today in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING DAVID GLOVER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and career of Bay Area community leader and tireless advocate for the underserved, Mr. David Glover. Known throughout the Greater Oakland/Bay Area region as an innovative and dedicated nonprofit leader, David Glover was also a stalwart community member. With his passing, we look to Mr. Glover's tremendous legacy and the outstanding quality of his life's work.

For over two decades, Mr. Glover served at the helm of The Oakland Citizens Committee for Urban Renewal (OCCUR). Under his tenure as Executive Director, OCCUR expanded its role as a key leader of efforts to serve and revitalize neighborhoods throughout Oakland and the Greater Bay Area. From the concept of asset mapping and the community-building Neighborhood Profiles project, to the launch of the Eastmont Technology Center as a source of multimedia learning and digital inclusion, OCCUR's commitment to increasing 21st century skills in low-income communities mirrored David's vision of advancing social equity for minority communities.

His commitment to innovation and strategic local investment also led OCCUR to initiate the Oakland Equity Policy and the program, "A Model Built on Faith." By leading development activity among community partners along key retail and commercial corridors, Mr. Glover helped OCCUR aggressively implement financial literacy and consumer education programs for low-income residents and families. Furthermore, OCCUR's successful community partnerships with faith-based institutions, as well as community-based and nonprofit organizations, has resulted in a dynamic level of civic engagement and leadership development among local communities of color.

Mr. Glover never gave up on his mission to improve the lives and conditions of low-income youth, residents, and families through the delivery of balanced goods, effective public policy, and targeted community services. Likewise, our community will never forget his countless contributions and achievements.

He received national and local recognition for his efforts, earning accolades that included Community Service awards from the Niagara Democratic Club, National Association of

Black Planners, National Council of Negro Women, and the Bay Area Black United Fund, as well as a Profile in Excellence Award from KGO TV, a Leadership Award from Black Business Listings, and an Outstanding Citizen Resolution from the City of Oakland.

Mr. Glover was also an active member of myriad organizations, serving on the boards of the Oakland Advisors, the Stewardship Council, the Oakland Partnership, the Berkeley Law Foundation, Operation Hope, and as a founding board member of the groundbreaking, Greenlining Institute. He produced public affairs programs and content for radio and television, and was an award-winning mentor and coach for various youth programs supporting sports leadership development.

On a personal note, when I met David many years ago, I immediately recognized the depth of his intellect and his indomitable spirit. I was deeply humbled when he endorsed me early in my California Legislature campaign. It was an endorsement that I knew commanded the respect and trust of voters. For that, I will be forever grateful.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors a great friend of the Bay Area and a true champion for equity, Mr. David Glover. His steadfast commitment to ensuring that all Oakland residents have access to a better quality of life will forever live on with the legacy of his vision. I offer my sincerest condolences to his many loved ones and to all of those whose lives he touched over the years. He will be deeply missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, May 17, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on four matters before the House.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 157, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 158, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 159, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 160, I would have voted "no."

RECOGNIZING THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA AND NOIRMOUTIER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the enduring spirit and gratitude of the people of the United States and France as exemplified through the mutual friendship of the sister cities of Crestview, Florida, and the French island city of Noirmoutier-en-l'Île.

The island of Noirmoutier, located off the west coast of France near Nantes and Saint-Nazaire, maintains an inextricable link with our Nation's military history. On July 4, 1943, while America was celebrating the date of its independence, an American B-17 crash-landed right on the beach of the small Noirmoutier village of la Guérinière. This Flying Fortress was returning to England after a bombing run on the Nazi-held airfield outside Saint-Nazaire during World War II. Though the crew survived, the Nazi occupation forces on Noirmoutier got to the Americans before the island's underground partisans could rescue them, and the crew was imprisoned for the duration of the war.

To this day, the people of Noirmoutier refuse to clear the wreckage of the B-17. Even for the island's youngest generation, it acts as a vivid reminder of the sacrifices made by France's American allies toward the cause of liberating France, and Europe, from the scourge of Nazi occupation, deprivation, and brutality. On Commemoration Day, Sunday, June 30, 2013, a monument will be unveiled on Noirmoutier dedicated to the courageous crew of that fateful B-17 and to all Americans who worked so selflessly to obtain France's liberation from the Nazis.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the citizens of Northwest Florida, I am privileged to recognize the friendship between the people of Northwest Florida and Noirmoutier and join them in honoring the service and sacrifice of all men and women who sacrifice their lives in the name of freedom.

PROPOSED CUTS TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak against the appalling proposed cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, in the 2013 Farm Bill. SNAP provides an indispensable safety net for families struggling to make ends meet.

Approximately 50.1 million Americans live in households that suffer from food insecurity. In Texas, 19 percent of people and 27 percent of children struggle against hunger. SNAP supports people when they need it most, responding to the dramatic increase in the number of unemployed Americans from 2007 to 2011 with a 70 percent increase in participation.

The Republican Farm Bill would cut \$20.5 billion from SNAP, kicking 2 million Americans off the program. As a result of these cuts, 210,000 children would also lose access to free school meals. These cuts are reckless and irresponsible. As our economy continues to recover, now is not the time to slash funding for this essential safety net program that helps people out of poverty.

I urge my colleagues to oppose cuts to SNAP. We must not balance the budget on the backs of children and the most vulnerable Americans.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 14

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014.

SR-222

JUNE 18

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development

To hold hearings to examine long term sustainability for reverse mortgages, focusing on the Home Equity Conversion Mortgage's (HECM) impact on the mutual mortgage insurance fund.

SD-538

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-366

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine health care costs.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on African Affairs

To hold hearings to examine prospects for democratic reform and economic recovery in Zimbabwe.

SD-419

10:30 a.m.

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2014 for education.

SD-608

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Daniel M. Tangherlini, of the District of Columbia, to be Administrator of General Services.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Thomas Edgar Wheeler, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission.

SR-253

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere and Global Narcotics Affairs

To hold hearings to examine security cooperation in Mexico, focusing on the next steps in the United States-Mexico security relationship.

SD-419

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JUNE 19

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine next steps in improving passenger and freight rail safety.

SR-253

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging

To hold hearings to examine reducing senior poverty and hunger, focusing on the role of the "Older Americans Act".

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine extreme weather events, focusing on the costs of not being prepared.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

SD-106

2 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Geoffrey R. Pyatt, of California, to be Ambassador to Ukraine, and Tulinabo Salama Mushingi, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Burkina Faso, both of the Department of State.

SD-419

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine paperless Social Security payments, focusing on protecting seniors from fraud and confusion.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security

To hold hearings to examine airline industry consolidation.

SR-253

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Todd M. Hughes, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Colin Stirling Bruce, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois, Sara Lee Ellis, and Andrea R. Wood, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and Madeline Hughes Haikala, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama.

SD-226

JUNE 20

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine water resource issues in the Klamath River Basin.

SD-366

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine sequestration, focusing on small business contractors.

SR-428A

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Daniel R. Russel, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Subcommittee on the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Federal Programs and the Federal Workforce

To hold joint hearings to examine the workforce of the United States Intelligence Community and the role of private contractors.

SD-342

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Subcommittee on the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Federal Programs and the Federal Workforce

To hold a joint hearing to examine the workforce of the United States Intelligence Community and the role of private contractors.

SD-342

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219