

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING MAYER LUMBER ON THEIR SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF BUSINESS

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayer Lumber for reaching their seventy-fifth year of business in the city of Mayer, Minnesota under the ownership of the Maetzold family.

John Maetzold was the first family member to own the company back in 1938. John's son, Austin, acquired it just two years later in 1940 when John passed away. Austin temporarily closed the lumberyard from 1942–1945 while he served in World War II in the U.S. Navy. Despite difficulties following the war, the lumber company reopened, and has continued to serve the people of Mayer and the surrounding areas since then.

Current owners, Rod and Lois Maetzold, are the third generation of Maetzolds to own Mayer Lumber. Their son, Andy Maetzold, is employed there as well, and intends to continue the family business into its fourth generation.

It is small companies like Mayer Lumber, which provides both jobs and a service for their local community, that are essential to our nation's economy and our quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in sending congratulations out to the entire Maetzold family and their staff for reaching this milestone along with a heart-felt wish for their future success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding my absence from the House for votes on the evening of September 25, 2013. I would like to submit how I would have voted had I been in attendance for the following vote:

Rollcall No. 485, providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 527, Responsible Helium Administration and Stewardship Act, with an amendment, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING THE SOURCE AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Ms. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is sometimes true that behind every great man is a

great woman. It is almost always true that behind every great song, great band, great sound, there's a great woman. I rise today to honor several great women of Nashville's renowned music community.

Given yearly, the Source Awards pay respect to the women who add their character, strength, talents, and dreams to the foundation of Music City. Bebe Evans, Bonnie Garner, Debi Fleischer-Robin, Donna Hilley, Gerrie McDowell, Paula Szeigis, and Sarah Trahern are leaders in their industry and are rightfully chosen as this year's 2013 Honorees.

From award-winning bands to award-winning productions to every note that falls in between, Nashville is home to its own unique sound. I thank all those involved with the Source Awards for offering their time, talents, and treasures to honor the women who make Music City so grand. I ask my colleagues to join with me in celebrating the women whose contributions and life's work strengthen and celebrate that incredible sound.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE X UKRAINIAN WORLD CONGRESS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the X Ukrainian World Congress on its meeting which was held on August 20–22, 2013 in Lviv, Ukraine, with the participation of 208 delegates representing 27 countries. The delegation was joined by 350 guests who traveled from around the world, including all regions of Ukraine, to participate in the proceedings and learn about the work of the UWC. The X Ukrainian world congress provided an opportunity for participants to share accomplishments, exchange ideas and develop plans for the further consolidation of the 20 million strong Ukrainian Diaspora. Among the guests were also representatives of Ukrainians' governing authorities and leaders of the opposition. The X Ukrainian world Congress, which was dedicated to the memory of the victims of Holodomor of 1932–33 on the 80th anniversary of this genocide, began on 20 August with a procession and memorial service at the Taras Shevchenko monument in the city's main square. The opening ceremony that same evening was held before a packed audience at the solomiya Krushelnytska Lvin National Academic Theatre of Opera Ballet during which Ukrainian World Congress President Eugene Czolii gave the keynote address. Three themes relevant to the global Ukrainian community were the focus of round table discussion. They included Euro-integration securing Ukrainians' independence and furthering its democratization, a global Ukrainian community promoting common interest and Holodomor 1932–33 the truth prevails.

Delegates elected the following members of the Ukrainian World Congress Executive Com-

mittee: Eugene Czolii President—Canada, Jaroslava Hartyanyi 1st Vice President—Hungary, Orysia Shushaku 2ND Vice President—France, Stefran Romania Secretary General—Australia, Bohdan Watral Financial Officer—USA, and Wnon Potochny Treasurer—Canada.

On behalf of the Ukrainian diaspora, the Ukrainian World Congress expressed gratitude to the citizens of Lviv for their hospitality, the Ukrainian World Congress expressed a special thank you to the chair of Lviv regional administration Victor Shemchuk, the rector of the National University Lviv Polytechnic, Yuri Bodale and Director of the International Institute for Education, Culture and Diaspora Relations, Lviv, Polytechnic, Iryana Kluchovaska.

I commend the Ukrainian World Congress for its continuous development of unity and cohesiveness of Ukrainians throughout the Diaspora. I am also pleased to know and congratulate a member of the community that I represent in Congress, Mr. Bohdan Watral on his election as Financial Officer for the X Ukrainian World Congress.

TRIBUTE TO JIM FINDLAY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable American who has proudly served our nation as an Air Force veteran and our Toledo community as a successful entrepreneur, extraordinary philanthropist and a true friend to so many—Mr. Jim Findlay.

Jim Findlay is the epitome of a true gentleman. His influence and compassion have impacted the lives of thousands of people. Jim has been a coach to our youth; a mentor to our young adults. He is always there for those who seek a champion for their cause. His support of local initiatives is deep and legendary as he shares his leadership, connections and incredible financial support earning him innumerable awards including the area's Outstanding Philanthropist Award, The University of Toledo's Blue T and Gold T awards and the highly coveted Jefferson Award. He is a 70-year member of Glenwood Lutheran Church, a board member of the House of Emmanuel and he has served as chairman of many fundraising campaigns for ProMedica, Sylvania Athletics and The University of Toledo and others.

Jim attended Scott High School, then The University of Toledo where he began his lifelong love affair with the UT Rockets—as well as the 1947 Homecoming Queen Celia Koontz Findlay. He and Celia were married for more than 50 years until her passing in 2004. Jim is a dedicated family man to his children Jim Jr, Sarah, Jon, their spouses Cindy, Jack and Linda, a beloved grandfather to Ally and Jonathon Findlay—and wonderful companion to PJ Schaefer.

Jim has proudly been affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America, Toledo Rotary Club, Big

• 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.

Brothers—Big Sisters of NW Ohio, Lutheran Social Services and the Sylvania Athletic Foundation.

At The University of Toledo, he has been involved with The Tower Club, President's Club, Downtown Coaches, UT Alumni Association, College of Business & Family Business Center, Sales Executive of the Day, Honorary Doctorate of Management, Pacemaker of the Year, Catherine Eberly Center for Women, UT Foundation Board and The Findlay Building—the athletic complex at Scott Park—is named in his honor. He established The Celia Koontz Findlay Scholarship, The James R. Findlay Scholarship, and the Jim & Celia Findlay Family Business Award. He chaired The University of Toledo's Council for Academic Excellence to raise funds for scholarships. He also received the UT Athletic Department's 12th Man Award and is an honorary member of the Varsity T Club.

He has also been involved with ProMedica's Wine Event, Autism Fundraising Council, The Goerlich Center Campaign, Flower Hospital's Women's Auxiliary Flower Hospital Cancer and a member of the Stevens Warren Flower Society.

In 2001 he published "In the Company of Friends", a book of his life experiences.

Jim has also been awarded an Honorary Degree from Lourdes College, the Newman Award, Servant Leadership Award, Toledo Community Award, "Grow our Economy—Develop our People" Award and Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Award.

Jim is the founder of Impact Products and, upon his retirement, in typical Jim Findlay fashion, he gave the company to his employees. The company's name—IMPACT—is a testament to the impact that one person can selflessly make on the lives of so many. We, the family of Toledo and NW Ohio blessed and honored, know and pay tribute to our dear friend, Jim Findlay, who in good time and times of great struggle, teaches us by way of his courageous example.

RECOGNIZING SIMEON TORONTO'S
COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Simeon Toronto of Andover, Minnesota on his election as the 67th president of the American Legion Boys Nation.

At only 17 years old, he has an impressive record. Not only is he the first Minnesotan in more than two decades to be elected president of the American Legion Boys Nation, but he is also captain of his high school's boy's cross country and track teams, president of the student council and an Eagle Scout.

With a giving heart and a focus on serving those around him, Simeon is a shining example of a true Minnesota spirit. Our country would benefit from more young men as dedicated and accomplished as Simeon.

I know I speak for my constituents when I say we are so proud of this young man and look forward to seeing what's to come in his bright future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this Body recognize Simeon's tremendous accomplishments and

congratulate him as he begins this new journey.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 484, I was unable to be present for the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes".

HONORING CAPTAIN STEVEN
CHRIS KOCKOS FOR HIS SERVICE
AS A EULESS POLICE OFFICER

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Captain Steven Chris Kockos for his 30 years of service as a police officer for the City of Euless, Texas.

Captain Kockos began his career with the Euless Police Department on June 26, 1983, when he was hired as a patrol officer. By 1985 he was a detective and, in that year, he earned his Intermediate Certification from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education (TCLEOSE), completed the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) course, and was assigned to the Criminal Investigative Division.

Kockos received his Advanced Certification in 1989 and, in 1990, was promoted to the rank of sergeant and assigned to the Patrol Division. In that time, he also trained in the use of the intoxilyzer and completed the Police School of Supervision at the Southwest Law Enforcement Institute. At the end of 1992, he was assigned to Internal Affairs, a position in which he coordinated training and investigated any violations of policies or procedures by police personnel. Kockos earned his Police Instructor Certification in that same year. In January of 1993, Kockos was promoted to lieutenant and assigned to Police Administration.

Over the years, Kockos continued to advance his honorable career. He was made commander of the multi-agency Tarrant County Narcotics Intelligence and Coordination Unit in January of 1995. In 1997, he received the Master Police Officer Certification from TCLEOSE and, a few months later, was reassigned to the Patrol Division after successfully serving the narcotics unit. Starting in 2001, Kockos led the Criminal Investigation Division for nearly three years before returning to the Patrol Division. On February 3, 2011, Kockos was promoted to the rank of captain and was assigned to command the Communications, Property, Records, and Detention Divisions.

Years of steadfast service saw many honors and memories for Captain Kockos. He received twenty commendations, a certificate of achievement for his work in the D.A.R.E. program in 1997, and won Supervisor of the Year in 2007—an award he was nominated for nine times, demonstrating the relationships and respect that he had on the force. One memorable commendation was for an occasion on

which Kockos used his certified scuba diving expertise to recover a murder weapon from a lake.

Before entering the Euless Police Department, Kockos had a history of selfless service to others. His father was an Assistant Chief in the Dallas Police Department. Kockos himself was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force who served four years, two as a military policeman, and was honorably discharged in 1979. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from University of Texas at Arlington in 1983. He is an avid golfer and has two adult children, Chris and Matt, with his wife Judy of 32 years.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in thanking Steven Kockos for his 30 years of public service as an officer of the Euless Police Department.

TRIBUTE TO DR. WINSTON L.
YANG

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an article by Dr. Winston L. Yang, Professor Emeritus of Asian Studies at Seton Hall University in New Jersey published in the Asian Pacific Business Journal, a Colorado-based news outlet, in its June 2011 issue. It is my privilege and honor to share this article with the American people and enshrine it in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CHENG MING, A POWERFUL VOICE FOR
DEMOCRACY IN CHINA

(By Winston L. Yang, Ph.D.)

Since the establishment of the Communist Government in China in 1949, the Chinese people have been suffering under the Communist one-party tyranny. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has denied such universal values as democracy, freedom, human rights and the rule of law.

Even though the People's Republic of China (PRC) has recently replaced Japan as the world's second largest economy, the Chinese people have been living under the widespread official corruption and the Communist suppressions. All pro-democracy movements have been crushed by the CPP. Hundreds and thousands of political prisoners who advocate democratization are still in the PRC's jails. One of the best examples is Mr. Liu Xiao Po, who advocated peaceful political reforms and stressed the need for political liberalization in China. He was put on trial and sentenced to an 11-year jail term. Nevertheless, Mr. Liu was honored with the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize. He has been hailed all over the world as a "democratic hero." Yet his wife, Liu Ciao, has been under house arrest ever since.

Back in May, 1989, well over half a million Chinese college students gathered in Beijing's Tiananmen Square to demand freedom and democracy. The students protested against the suppressive policy of the Chinese Communist Government. Such legitimate, peaceful protests and demands, however, were suppressed by the Communist armed forces. When the smoke cleared, hundred of students lay dead.

In the view of the violent Communist suppression of freedom and democracy, Mr. Wen Hui, a well-known writer and journalist, founded Cheng Ming, a monthly political

commentary, in Hong Kong in 1977 to advocate democracy, freedom, human rights and the rule of law for the Chinese people. Since its founding, Cheng Ming has become one of the most powerful, if not the most powerful, voices for political change and liberalization in China.

In 2007, Cheng Ming, the most popular political journal published in Hong Kong, celebrated the 30th anniversary of its founding. Mr. Wen, its publisher, received hundreds of congratulatory messages from leaders in various circles all around the world. One of the best examples is U.S. Congressman Mark Udall, now a U.S. Senator, who in a letter to Mr. Wen dated October 2, 2007, pointed out that “with a worldwide readership, Cheng Ming has extended far-reaching influences beyond Hong Kong.”

Mr. Libby Davies, a member of the Canadian Parliament, in a letter dated October 17, 2007, congratulated Mr. Wen on Cheng Ming’s achievements and contributions. Mr. Wen also received many, many other congratulatory messages.

Despite Cheng Ming’s great influences, achievements and contributions, Mr. Wen continues to condemn, in his writings, China’s one-party dictatorship and advocates an end to political suppression in the PRC. A strong critic of China, Mr. Wen voices his criticisms and advocacy in his monthly column published in Cheng Ming. Mr. Wen will not end his critical writings until and unless China renounces its totalitarian system and becomes a free, democratic country.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF FRANK FULBROOK

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Frank Fulbrook. Mr. Fulbrook was a committed city advocate and a valuable member of our community. Mr. Fulbrook leaves behind a loving family, caring friends, and even more admirers.

Mr. Fulbrook always spoke his mind. He was a steadfast defender of his principles, and a tireless crusader against laws and proposals he opposed. Although Mr. Fulbrook didn’t receive a law degree, his passion for the law and extensive legal knowledge allowed him to write many legal briefs and file several lawsuits.

Mr. Fulbrook left an indelible mark on Camden, primarily through local government. He believed everyone had a right to have their opinion heard, but was a fearsome debater and powerful advocate for his causes. There was nothing he cared more about than his fellow Camdenites.

Mr. Fulbrook also served on the Camden zoning board, the city’s library board, and was a gracious landlord who rented to students looking to live in the city.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Fulbrook was a role model for all of the people in the first Congressional District of New Jersey. His dedication to our city inspired many, including me, to strive to be better public servants. I rise with the rest of South Jersey to honor Frank Fulbrook for his outstanding commitment to our community. I wish Frank’s family the best; he will surely be missed.

RECOGNIZING BORGERT PRODUCTS, INC ON THEIR NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY OF BUSINESS

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the ninetieth anniversary of Borgert Products, Inc., in Saint Joseph, Minnesota. Borgert Product’s main mission is to produce premium interlocking concrete pavements and related products, and to provide better service and choices for their customers.

This family owned and operated company was established in 1923 by Lawrence Borgert in East Saint Cloud, Minnesota. In 1953 Kenneth J. Borgert took over the business and moved the operation to its current location in Saint Joseph, Minnesota. After Kenneth retired in 1989, three of his children—Susan, Kevin, and Nadine—acquired the company. In 1999, the Borgert siblings expanded the operation by adding a second state-of-the-art plant. In 2006 Susan became the sole owner. She considers the employees of Borgert Products as her ‘work family’, attesting to the value she places on each one of the staff.

Borgert Products proudly produces superior concrete paving products that exceed industry standards. Part of their success is due to classes they offer with hands-on lessons for the installation of their interlocking concrete pavers and permeable interlocking concrete pavers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this Body congratulate and recognize Susan Borgert and the entire Borgert Products, Inc. family for their long standing dedication to quality products, to customer satisfaction, to the environment, and to their community.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE MICHAEL A. SHEEHAN

HON. MAC THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express appreciation and pay tribute to Michael A. Sheehan upon his retirement as Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict. Since his confirmation on December 17, 2011, Mr. Sheehan has distinguished himself as a tireless leader and advocate for special operations forces, counterterrorism policy, and operations. With more than 30 years of experience in combating terrorism, Assistant Secretary Sheehan has provided indispensable advice to the defense committees and directly contributed to U.S. government counterterrorism strategy and policy. He has personally shaped many key counterterrorism initiatives, including the prudent use of operational authorities that fully enabled U.S. Special Operations Forces and our foreign partners around the world. Under his leadership and guidance, the Department of Defense worked to degrade al-Qa’ida’s reach across the Middle East and Northwest Africa, and to diminish significantly its influence in Yemen, Somalia, Mali, and Afghanistan. By continually pressing for the ef-

fective and strategic employment of special operations forces to train, equip and advise our foreign partner forces, Assistant Secretary Sheehan has helped implement a U.S. national counterterrorism strategy to meet the challenges of a diversifying terrorist threat.

During this tenure, Assistant Secretary Sheehan has elevated the importance and effectiveness of numerous Department of Defense efforts to build partner capacity and enhance partnered operations. He personally oversaw counterterrorism operational authorities under Section 1208, capacity building efforts under Section 1206, numerous projects under the Global Security Contingency Fund, the Defense Institutional Reform Initiative, and the Ministry of Defense Advisory program that have resulted in the significant improvement of the efficiency and effectiveness of these critical components within U.S. defense strategy.

Assistant Secretary Sheehan also provided oversight of multiple Department of Defense humanitarian assistance and disaster relief programs and operations, including assistance to the Philippines after Typhoon Bopha in December 2012, support for non-combatant evacuation in the Central African Republic in December 2012, and the humanitarian assistance efforts in Jordan to address refugees from Syria. Additionally, he has represented the Department on the interagency Atrocities Prevention Board (APB) and has overseen U.S. Special Operations Forces contributions to the African Union initiative launched against Joseph Kony and the Lord’s Resistance Army.

With an encyclopedic knowledge of terrorist organizations, keen strategic awareness, and extensive operational experience, Assistant Secretary Sheehan has continually provided the congressional defense committees of the United States Congress with honest, effective, and timely advice and testimony. Assistant Secretary Sheehan’s visionary leadership and guidance has greatly enhanced our national security and further aligned the Department of Defense to meet the 21st century challenges facing our nation and the warfighter. At every turn, in his more than three decades of government service, he has made our country safer. For that, we shall remain forever grateful.

HONORING MICHAEL DAVID NEELEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael David Neeley. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Michael has earned the rank of Runner in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and became a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, all

while leading his troop as Senior Patrol Leader. Michael has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Michael renovated the landscaping around the lower level entrance of Gashland Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, Missouri, by installing stone pavers and a bench and by planting an evergreen tree along with a yellow rose bush.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael David Neeley for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1961, 484—"nay"; 354, 485—"yes."

CONGRATULATING ACTORS THEATRE OF LOUISVILLE ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, today I have the distinct privilege of recognizing and celebrating Actors Theatre of Louisville on its 50th anniversary season. As the state theater of Kentucky and a force of tremendous influence on the national stage, Actors Theatre has long been a source of pride and distinction for the people of our community and the Commonwealth.

Since its formation in 1963, Actors Theatre has transformed from a scrappy collective headquartered in a tiny downtown loft to one of the nation's premier artistic institutions and a staple of the city's downtown revitalization. Its world-class collection of theatre artists and administrators have introduced more than 400 new, original plays into the American theater canon, and they continue to defy even the highest expectations.

Actors Theatre also hosts one of the most exciting, innovative, and inspiring festivals in America. The Humana Festival of New American Plays is one of the precious few institutions in American arts where new work can meet its full expression, and where creativity is rewarded with the appreciation of our great city.

Whether it is debuting Pulitzer Prize-winning plays or 10-minute shorts, Actors Theatre remains a preeminent player in American drama and an unparalleled cultural asset for our community.

On behalf of the Third Congressional District, I wish Actors Theatre continued success and look forward to another 50 years of inspiring performances.

CONGRATULATING UNITED FINANCE COMPANY ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY AND RICHARD PARKER III ON HIS 40 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE COMPANY

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the backbone of American communities are small, successful, family-owned enterprises. In Portland this month we are honoring the 90th anniversary of Parker family's United Finance Company and the 40th anniversary of Richard H. Parker's involvement with the family business.

The Parker family and their business have been an anchor in Portland's eastside for almost a century. It has been my pleasure to work with Rick Parker, Jr., for virtually his entire time with the company, which coincides with my time serving in public office.

His family and employees have been part of the revitalization of Portland's central-eastside district. He was one of the key members of the central-eastside industrial council which helped form a private-public partnership with the city to protect and enhance this vital sector of our local economy.

Most recently, it was my honor to work with him as a leader with Portland's streetcar renaissance and the successful project that brought it to the eastside of the Willamette River. Whether it's dealing with issues of public policy, public investment, or civic and charitable promotion, he and his family have played a vital role in Portland's vibrancy and the renaissance of Portland's near eastside.

I extend my congratulations to him, the family business United Finance Company, and am secure in the knowledge that his son, Richard Parker III, is continuing the tradition of family stewardship and community involvement.

Congratulations and we all look forward to celebrating the centennial in October 2023.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF A HUSBAND, A FATHER, A SAILOR, AND A FRIEND: MARTY BODROG

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, the hearts of every American felt pain when we heard that a deranged man killed twelve innocent Americans at the Washington Navy Yard on September 16, 2013. My family and I were crushed when we learned that we knew one of the victims of this senseless crime, Marty Bodrog.

We lived in the same neighborhood as the Bodrog family in Annandale, Virginia. It was a neighborhood where the neighbors truly cared about each other. During weekdays, the kids would go to school while the parents went to work. The weekends were unique as there was always an event or gathering of neighbors. My family would see Marty regularly, whether he was walking his dog or hanging out with his family at the pool on a summer day. He was part of the fabric that made our neighborhood such a special place. We miss him.

Marty Bodrog's life was a life focused on others and service. A 1981 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Marty spent twenty-two years on active duty, rising to the rank of Commander. He was a surface warfare officer, known as a "ship driver" in the Navy. After retiring from active duty, Marty spent the rest of his professional career making sure that American Naval vessels were the best our world has ever seen.

Marty also served the family he loved. He was married to the love of his life, Melanie, for twenty-five years. They were blessed with three incredible daughters: Isabel, Sophie, and Rita. No father as ever been more devoted to his family than Marty was.

But, Marty's most important service was his service to the Lord. He created a regular Bible study in our neighborhood and was a religious education teacher in his church, Immanuel Bible Church in Springfield.

A wise man once told me that the greatest gift one human being can give another is the gift of a smile, or a laugh, or an extra heartbeat of excitement. Marty spent a lifetime giving others those gifts.

In closing, I'd like to say to my fellow Sailor and friend, "Bravo Zulu on a life lived well. May you enjoy fair winds and following seas in your new, eternal life. We'll see you again, soon."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I missed rollcall votes 484 and 485. Had I been present, I would have cast the following votes: rollcall No. 484—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1961—"yes." rollcall No. 485—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree H.Res. 354—"yes."

TRIBUTE TO SISTER MARIA LUISA VERA

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments, service, and contributions of Sister Maria Luisa Vera, as a community leader of Laredo, Texas.

Sister Maria Luisa Vera was born on October 7, 1941 in Brownsville, Texas and is a third generation Mexican-American. For over 20 years she resided in Laredo, Texas and has contributed to the community through ministry in health care.

Although she was educated in a public school system, she received religious instruction from her mother and the parish catechist. After graduating from Brownsville High School in 1960 she decided to continue her education by enrolling in Canales School of Vocational Nursing in Brownsville, Texas and became a Licensed Vocational Nurse in 1961. Within the next two years she joined the Sisters of Mercy and applied for membership in 1963.

By 1970, Sister Maria Luisa Vera received her bachelor's in registered nursing and

served as a clinical supervisor at Mercy Hospital in Brownsville, Texas until 1973. She then went on to serve as a staff nurse for another year until she went off to Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, Texas to receive a second degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing. It was in that same year that she became the Director of In-service Education at Mercy Hospital in Laredo, Texas. In 1978 Sister Maria Luisa Vera was made Emergency Department Supervisor and served in that position for three years. She later became certified in Ministry Training Services, focusing on leadership programs in Denver, Colorado in 1981. Thereafter, she would spend the next four years serving as Pastoral Assistant at the San Martin de Porres Parish in Laredo, Texas. It was there that she had the opportunity to understand church from the "people in the pews". During these years she was also able to serve as a member in other ministry centers such as the St. Louis Province Advisory Board and St. John's Regional Health Center.

For the next two decades, Sister Maria Luisa Vera would come to serve, and actively continues to serve, on many different boards of trustees, committees, commissions and networks alike. Included, are the presidencies of Sisters of Mercy of St. Louis Regional Community and most recently, the Republic of the Rio Grande, trustee of the Mexican American Cultural Center, among many others.

Although "many of [her] transitions have been challenging and most enriching" she continues to serve the community passionately through ministry. Her contributions to Laredo, Texas have demonstrated dedication and devotion to the community. Moreover, as the current President of Mercy Ministries of Laredo, she is committed to help the religious community grow and continue making a difference.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the dedication and contributions of Sister Maria Luisa Vera, and I thank you for this time.

HONORING SENATOR JOHN
BROOKS HENDERSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the late Senator John Brooks Henderson, a native of the Sixth Congressional District town of Louisiana and co-author of the Thirteenth Amendment, on this 100th anniversary of his death.

Sen. Henderson was a quintessential pioneer man. Having moved with his family from Virginia to Missouri, he studied law while working as a farm hand and gained admittance to the Missouri Bar at the age of 18. He served two terms in the Missouri State House, and was commissioned as a brigadier general of the Missouri State Militia at the onset of the Civil War before being appointed a United States Senator in 1862. There, as a slave-state senator, he co-authored the Thirteenth Amendment, abolishing slavery throughout the United States. Sen. Henderson subsequently made an impact by joining seven other Republican Senators in voting against the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson, supporting women's suffrage, and by prosecuting tax cheats in the Whiskey Ring in St. Louis in 1875.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Senator John Brooks Henderson for his many contributions to the State of Missouri and the United States that ultimately changed the course of history for this nation.

BILL GRAY TRIBUTE—DOWN MEMORY LANE WITH BILL AND ANDREA GRAY FROM BILL AND CAROL CLAY

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, Bill Gray was very special to many people. Andrea, you were gracious enough to share Bill's special talents with Carol, me, and indeed many others around the world.

I am sure that thousands had the privilege enjoyed by Carol and me of really getting to know this unique individual and benefited by the association. We have met hundreds of persons whom we are certain they too can relate the kinds of stories that still linger with us about the good times experienced with him. He was not only a remarkable, affable individual but had a gift for touching many lives in a very special way.

We in the Congressional Black Caucus knew or suspected that he was going to be something exceptional by the "attention" he generated before we ever met him. He won the Democratic Primary by an overwhelming margin and had just coasted to victory in the general election when CBC members requested an urgent meeting with Norman Lear, producer of "All In The Family."

However, our meeting was not to commend him for highlighting the kind of insidious, racist views exposed in his portrayal of the Archie Bunkers of America but to prevent him from maligning black members of congress in making fun of one of us. The session was painful because Lear had been a supporter of the CBC from its inception and was a personal friend of several members.

The meeting was to discuss his publicly announced plan of another television weekly. It would caricature an African American as a buffoon who was just elected to congress from Philadelphia. Although each CBC member believed in the right of free expression and free speech, the contentious encounter was necessary because the collateral damage done to the image of the few black members in Congress, would have been devastating.

Lear presented his side and contended that working on the concept started long before Bill Gray's election. But he was not persuasive. It was obvious to us in the Caucus what the negative impact of the show would be when viewed nationally. He shared with us some of the scenes scheduled for showing. They were horrible and certain to be interpreted by a substantially naive white public as factually representative of black elected officials.

After more than an hour of back and forth, it was obvious to Parren Mitchell that nothing was being resolved. He rose and announced in departing that his intention was to organize a nationwide boycott of Mr. Lear's production. The issue was resolved quickly as Norman Lear stated, "I intend to announce upon leaving this session that the show has been cancelled."

Norman Lear continued to be a supporter of the Caucus and the organization's agenda.

Immediately after Bill was sworn into office, he began displaying the natural leadership abilities that eventually led him to become the first African American elected to leadership positions in the U.S. House of Representatives.

You and Bill became good friends with Carol and me. You guys were the ones that introduced us to the great seafood dining provided by the famous Bookbinder's Restaurant in Philadelphia. It was a great evening and a real learning lesson from you and the master storyteller.

Hey! What about those great parties at your house! You reigned as Queen and little Billy as the Crown Prince-in-Charge of all Operations. Everybody knew who ran that shop and it wasn't some ole big city professional politician.

How about the televised show that Bill and I did with Charlie Rose, to discuss my recently published book "Just Permanent Interests" It documented the history of black members of Congress from 1870 until 1992.

But the after show was the best. Bill and I went to get a drink to celebrate a great T.V. appearance. I ordered a befeater martini with two olives. Bill told the waiter to cancel my order and bring two bombay sapphire martinis with lemon peels and very dry.

He guaranteed that I would like it. If not, he said that he would let me pay the tab. Bombay sapphire martini became my drink of choice from then on.

Martha's Vineyard in August capped many summers for us. The whole gang from the east coast all the way down to Florida usually showed up. Do you remember that great tennis match between Bill and James (Jim) Brannon? It was a close, hard fought contest that went on and on.

As an aside, Bill Giles was in the stands cheering his favorite player on to victory. At one point it was him shouting, "come on Bill". The next, it was "Jim, my man, you can do it". Giles was determined to be on the winning side, no matter whom that might be.

You knew Bill Giles always with a winner.

Speaking of Bill Giles—he was a great guy with hundreds of friends and a heart as big as a 747 airbus. He donated heavily to charitable organizations, and raised more in fundraising events. One of his favorite fundraising events was The Evening of Elegance dinner that through the years raised more than a million dollars for the United Negro College Fund.

Once Bill Gray was invited as featured speaker at the "Evening's" gala affair held at a prestigious ballroom in Manhattan. Somehow there was a mix up in communication and Gray was not informed that it was a formal affair.

Giles was a stickler for procedure and had never permitted anyone, regardless of his check size to enter without tuxedo and black tie. His stern rule presented a chaotic situation of some embarrassing proportion. However, I happened to have brought an extra formal shirt and black tie. Bill was the same size as I. He wore the shirt and tie under his usual dark blue suit and nobody knew the difference.

Bill Gray gave a fantastic speech. Bill Giles was impressed and showed it as he presented him with a check for \$120,000 for the United Negro College Fund.

Carol and I are still talking about the congressional trip that Bill organized and invited members of the CBC to travel with his CODEL. You and Bill were wonderful, gracious host and hostess. We saw the Mideast in style with that old gang of ours in the Congressional Black Caucus.

The Pyramids in Egypt and the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem had special meaning to us. Who could ask for more history in one region? But there was more—sitting with President Hosni Mubarak at his home in Alexandria and meeting with Prime Minister Menachem Begin in Tel Aviv.

Sailing down the Nile. Shopping in the ancient markets. Meeting with the Knesset. Seeing the Dome of Rock, the 3rd holiest of spot of the Muslim world where Mohammad allegedly ascended into heaven.

The Israelis and Egyptians watching the CODEL led by Bill and you were left in a wonderland. The warring factions paused while going to the Torah and Koran to answer, "What kind of threat is this band of desperadoes raiding our land?" The invading "posse" included such noted rabble-rousers as Charlie and Alma, George and Modean, Bill and Carol, Ed and Gwen. Jehovah and Allah, Abraham and Ishmael were in awe at the sight of such celebrities.

An eerie silence fell over the land. All hostilities ceased as the delegation rushed into the restaurants, markets and shops splurging U.S. Aid on receptive merchants. There was a great calm even though none laid down their arms. But it was obvious that Bill and Andrea had brought a temporary peace to the Mideast.

How can Carol and I forget my 50th birthday celebration sailing down the Potomac on a very large yacht? There was Bill donned in a naval officer's dress jacket, including a captain's garrison hat. It was almost an official outfit except his chest was only filled with imaginary combat medals.

As usual, he was the life of the party, giving orders and telling old salt's tales about the adventures at sea.

THREE DEGREES OF SEPARATION

I introduced Bill to Perry Jones, the first black captain with Pan Am. He later became a captain with Delta Airline when Pan Am went out of business. Jones was a co-founder of the Organization of Black Airline Pilots (OBAP).

Perry and Bill became close friends. Perry invited Bill to speak at an annual convention jointly sponsored by OBAP and the Tuskegee Airmen.

Talk is usually about 5 degrees of separation but the more I meet people the more I believe it is now only 3 degrees. I find that people have more in common than thought and if the conversation lasts long enough a personal relationship is established that neither knew existed.

In this one case, I had a conversation with Bill years later. It might have one of the last ones we shared. I happened to mention being in the first church he pastored after finishing theology school. I told of meeting the minister in Montclair, New Jersey, at the Union Baptist Church.

Of course he asked under what circumstances and I responded at the funeral of a friend's mother. He remembered her and inquired who was my friend. When I said Perry Jones, he was stunned, replying, "I have

known him all these years and he never mentioned his mother was a member of my old church."

In closing this short journey, Carol and I would like to reference a poem by Bob Schieffer that surely was written with Bill in mind. He wrote,

Yes, the Pearly Gates had two lines—first class to the left, everybody else on the right . . .

I didn't see a bold face name . . .
But the gate keeper knew all their faces . . .
He was on first name basis
With those he waved through heaven's door

The second line was mighty long,
Cheaters, schemers, lying lovers,
A creep, a con, an operator.
This line has not moved in years.

It must be of great comfort for you to know that Bill Gray didn't have to show ID. He had a special place in line right up front. The gates automatically opened upon his arrival. He was escorted into the Promised Land by a delegation of distinguished freedom fighters. The entourage led by Martin and Rosa included Tip, Barbara and Shirley. There stood Frederick, Harriet, and Eleanor. Abe, Harry, and Lyndon were nearby. Of course who would omit Garrison, and Sumner?

A host of others who fought the good fight for equal rights and human dignity made up the multitude of well-wishers.

Bill traveled the gold paved streets as cheering crowds chanted, "Well done. Well done my son."

Yes, there were a few big named celebrities, but the vast majority in the chorus singing Hallelujah—Glory Be To God were custodians, secretaries, school teachers, Pell Grant students, welfare recipients, Nobel Peace Prize winners, truck drivers, minimum wage workers, and the list goes on and on with the hardworking poor, underfed children from numerous third world countries, and neglected ghetto residents constituting a major part of the welcoming party.

Bill Gray was so honored because he was a minister who believed that God's grace was meant to exist on both sides of the River of Jordan. He was a leader who followed the recommendations of the greatest prophet of all time as outlined in His Sermon on the Mount.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE STUDENTS AND FACULTY AT STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw attention to the accomplishments of the students and faculty at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey and congratulate them on being part of such a prestigious research institution.

Since its founding in 1870, Stevens has created a legacy of innovation and its research projects have garnered federal recognition and funding. It is home to three national research centers as well as joint research programs in a variety of critical fields. These projects help to advance current scientific knowledge and capabilities and provide more understanding to

confront the challenges faced everyday on both a domestic and global scale.

Stevens Institute of Technology has, and continues to, receive grants from numerous federal agencies such as the Department of Defense, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Science Foundation. The projects that have received grants recently are focused on creating useful and impactful solutions to current issues. One such project, ADVANCE Stevens, aims to increase the representation and advancement of women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematic (STEM) careers by providing the environment and resources necessary to foster relationships between underrepresented groups of faculty and students. Projects such as this impact not only students at Stevens, but the nation as a whole by creating a greater understanding about the challenging problems facing our nation and working towards the solution.

Once again, congratulations to Stevens Institute of Technology for their accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, on September 25th I missed two recorded votes. I would like the RECORD to indicate how I would have voted had I been present. On rollcall No. 484, H.R. 1961, I would have voted "no." On rollcall No. 485, H. Res. 354, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING LOGAN MCINTOSH LEE JAMES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Logan McIntosh Lee James. Logan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Logan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Logan has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Logan has earned the rank of Brave in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and has become a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow. Logan has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Logan made significant landscaping improvements to the Edgerton Christian Church in Edgerton, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Logan McIntosh Lee James for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

THE RETIREMENT OF REV. DR.
HELEN D. JACKSON LEADER,
MENTOR AND FRIEND

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the constituents of the Fifth Congressional District of Florida, it gives me great pleasure to stand with the multitude of well-wishers and admirers of this great leader, humanitarian and my friend, Dr. Helen Jackson. We gather to acknowledge the breadth and depth of her leadership and guidance on the occasion of her retirement after 39 years of faithful service within the Florida Department of Health, Detroit Department of Health and many other healthcare related fields. Since 1990, Helen served as Director of Nutrition and Chronic Disease Prevention Services for the Duval County Health Department and held many positions of leadership within the healthcare community that includes the State of Florida.

Dr. Jackson has served the people of Jacksonville, Northeast Florida, the Duval County Health Department and a host of other endeavors with pride, determination and personal professionalism. She has been that familiar and friendly face and voice, many have come to depend upon during her enduring career. She has been a friend, mentor, surrogate, gentle motivator, and the very fabric that has kept many on course. She is the embodiment of service and dedication to a set of ideals that supports the common goal of service to and for others, a consummate professional dedicated to doing the right thing, every day, in service to the citizens of this community.

Thank you, Dr. Jackson for all your love and support and for the work you have done and continue to do for so many. Retiring, yes, but we know you will remain forever with our reach and in our hearts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 485, I was unable to be present for the vote on H. Res. 354. I strongly support enactment of H.R. 527. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, due to a mechanical problem with my flight to Washington yesterday, I was unavoidably detained and missed the following votes. On rollcall vote No. 484, passage of H.R. 1961, to amend title 46, United States Code, to extend the exemption from the fire-retardant materials construc-

tion requirement for vessels operating within the Boundary Line, I would have voted "yes." On rollcall vote No. 485, passage of H. Res. 354, Providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 527, with an amendment, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 485, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING NATHAN FOSTER
BROWN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nathan Foster Brown. Nathan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 271, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Nathan has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nathan has earned the position of Tom-Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Nathan has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Nathan completed a much needed landscaping project at the North Cross United Methodist Church in Kansas City, Missouri, replacing a deteriorating retaining wall outside the preschool entrance.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nathan Foster Brown for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JAMES
MANDELL'S SERVICE AS CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF BOSTON'S
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. James Mandell's achievements as the Chief Executive Officer of Boston Children's Hospital. Dr. Mandell has served as the CEO of Boston Children's Hospital since 2000. I often talk about how proud I am to have Boston Children's in my district: the institution is unmatched in terms of reputation for clinical care, research, teaching and dedication to the Boston community. Today, I want you all to know how proud I am to call Jim Mandell a

friend, and to represent him and his remarkable hospital in Congress.

Throughout his long and distinguished career as a pediatric urologist, a surgeon, a professor of medicine, and hospital executive, Dr. Mandell has advocated tirelessly for children. He has a unique ability to both understand and explain the impact of public policies on the day to day work of the hospital, its staff and the many families who rely upon them for care. For the past thirteen years, I have relied on him as a partner in ensuring that the best interests of children are represented in the legislative process.

In the past thirteen years, Boston Children's Hospital has survived some challenging economic times and adapted to a changing environment for health care. Under Dr. Mandell's leadership, the institution has provided the highest quality care for children and he leaves it prepared to continue its scientific and clinical excellence well into the future. It is also important to note that his advocacy efforts have gone beyond the walls of the hospital and indeed, beyond the city of Boston, particularly through his leadership as a past Board Chair of the Children's Hospital Association.

Children's hospitals across the nation face many shared challenges, in areas which range from research to workforce stability, and Dr. Mandell has been at the forefront of bringing those challenges to the attention of lawmakers and working collaboratively on solutions. Early in my tenure as a Member of Congress and Dr. Mandell's tenure as CEO, we worked together to establish the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education program. This is an important program that continues to make it possible for children's hospitals to train the next generation of pediatricians and pediatric specialists.

The children of Boston, Massachusetts and the nation have benefited tremendously from Dr. Mandell's service. Those of us who worked alongside him have also benefited from his passion, his commitment and his thoughtful leadership.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the all of those who had the honor of knowing and working with Dr. Mandell during his remarkable tenure at Boston Children's Hospital, I want to thank him for his tireless service and dedication to the healthy well-being of our children. We will undoubtedly miss him and wish Dr. Mandell the very best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO SUNY PLATTSBURGH
STUDENT ASSOCIATION'S 50TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the State University of New York at Plattsburgh Student Association.

Since its modern founding in 1963 under then-President Martin Mannix, the SUNY Plattsburgh Student Association has enhanced student life by developing quality services, engaging programming, and enjoyable activities on campus. In doing so, the Association has succeeded in its vision to be an active and visible

resource for students and the greater college community. Today, the Student Association gives voice to the concerns and interests of students through its support of more than 80 campus clubs and organizations.

SUNY Plattsburgh prepares students from across New York to compete in a rapidly-changing global economy. By fostering the values of scholarship, diversity, and inclusion on campus and in the greater community, the Student Association has contributed immeasurably to the university's mission.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all current and former members of the SUNY Plattsburgh Student Association for reaching this milestone, thanking them for all their contributions to the Plattsburgh community, and wishing them all the best in years ahead.

CONGRATULATING THE SLOVAK CLUB OF MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate the Slovak Club of Merrillville, Indiana, as the organization celebrates its 100th anniversary. In honor of this momentous occasion, the Slovak Club is hosting a celebratory event on Saturday, September 28, 2013, at the club hall in Merrillville, Indiana.

The Slovak Club of Merrillville was first established in 1913 when a group of Slovak men joined together with the goal of preserving Slovak heritage and tradition at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Gary. The group initially called themselves the Slovak Political and Educational Club. After World War II, members of the club wanted a permanent home and purchased property at 11th Avenue and Harrison Boulevard in Gary. The Ladies Auxiliary was established in 1950, and once the new building was complete, the auxiliary began hosting dinners featuring shrimp, fish, and traditional Slovak fare, which were tremendously successful. The organization continued to grow over the next twenty years with membership exceeding more than 450 members. By 1979, the organization's Board of Directors sold the Slovak Club building in Gary, and members began meeting at the Slovak American Legion Post #367. The current home for the Slovak Club in Merrillville, at 69th Avenue and Broadway, was completed in 1986. For the past 100 years, Slovak Club members have dedicated their time and efforts to many charitable organizations throughout the community, and for this they are to be commended.

I would like to take this time to recognize the Slovak Club officers and Board of Directors. The officers are President Ronald Mayersky, Vice President Randall Mayersky, Treasurer John Dienes, Financial Secretary Kenneth Dienes, and Recording Secretary John Brezik. The Board of Directors include Robert Deliget, Peter Guip, George Murray, Donald Engel, Paul Rogers, Joseph Koveck, John Stofko, William Mindas, and Ed Mayersky.

I would also note with pride that my 97-year-old father, former Gary Mayor John Vis-

losky, continues his membership in this noteworthy fraternal organization, as do I.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Slovak Club of Merrillville, Indiana. The Slovak community has played an important role in enriching the quality of life and culture of Northwest Indiana. For their commitment to civic endeavors and to preserving Slovak traditions, the Slovak Club's leaders and membership are worthy of our highest praise.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE (NAACP)

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 100th anniversary of the Saint Paul Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and acknowledge their tremendous efforts to defend the ideals of justice and equality for all people. The origins of the Saint Paul NAACP are closely tied to those of the national organization, which is the oldest, largest and most recognized civil rights group in the country.

The NAACP was founded when civil rights leaders of the Niagara Movement were joined by others calling for justice following the Springfield, Illinois Race Riot of 1908. The Niagara Movement was founded by prominent black leaders including W.E.B. Du Bois and Minnesota's own Frederick L. McGhee. Mr. McGhee was a Mississippi native who moved to Minnesota after law school, where he became the first African-American in Minnesota in history admitted to practice law. Involvement in law and politics propelled Mr. McGhee to the forefront of the civil rights movement as a champion of social equality, leading national efforts against racial discrimination and violence. Of the Niagara Movement, W.E.B. Du Bois said the honor of founding the organization belonged to Mr. McGhee, who first suggested it. After just the second meeting of the Niagara Movement, Mr. McGhee returned home to Minnesota and helped organize a civil rights protection and advocacy group in the Twin Cities. By 1913, Saint Paul members of this group called to order the first meeting of what became the capitol city's own NAACP branch. Thus, the Saint Paul NAACP was born.

During the 100 years since it was founded, the Saint Paul NAACP has produced nationally influential leaders like Roy Wilkins, who served as the National Executive Director from 1955–1977. Under Wilkins' direction during the turbulent Civil Rights era, the NAACP boldly investigated brutality, murder, segregation, discrimination and fought to end the suppression of minority voters at the ballot box. True to its origins, the Saint Paul NAACP continues to focus on economic disparities, health care, education, voter empowerment and the criminal justice system as it advocates for social justice and the inclusion of all citizens in the democratic process, regardless of racial, ethnic or religious lines.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in rising to honor the courageous and honorable work of the Saint Paul NAACP as staff and the many volunteers who make it a success celebrate its 100th anniversary.

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY'S UPSTATE NEW YORK/VERMONT CHAPTER

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the generous staff, volunteers, and supporters of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Upstate New York/Vermont Chapter. On Saturday, September 28, in recognition of Blood Cancer Awareness Month, 1,000 walkers will gather at Siena College in Loudonville, NY for the chapter's Light the Night Walk. Participants have raised more than \$200,000 to fund treatments that are saving the lives of blood cancer patients.

I am delighted to formally recognize the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for its hard work, community spirit, and dedication to fighting cancer. By bringing people together at Siena and similar events around the country this month, the society is making great strides in its mission to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma and improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

Blood cancer is the number three cancer killer in our country. Nearly 149,000 Americans are expected to be diagnosed in 2013. The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society has invested almost \$1 billion in research, contributing to the development of life-saving drugs. Since 1963, myeloma survival rates have more than tripled. Lymphoma survival rates have more than doubled. Leukemia survival rates have more than quadrupled.

This movement is made possible by the friends, families, and co-workers of cancer patients who form fundraising teams around the Nation. These efforts culminate in inspirational evening walks in over 200 U.S. communities, including the Siena campus and the city of Burlington, VT. Last year the Upstate New York/Vermont Chapter raised \$1.1 million, hosted 19 educational seminars, welcomed 300 attendees to monthly support groups, and disbursed more than \$300,000 in patient financial support.

I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to this organization for bringing the light of hope and caring to the dark world of cancer. May God bless and protect these good citizens and their loved ones.

ACKNOWLEDGING AND PREVENTING SUICIDE AMONG VETERANS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on the lives of the nearly 30,000 Americans who die each year by their own hands, it is important that we recognize the emotional and mental trauma that

our nation's veterans specifically face while serving abroad and at home. As we recognize September as Suicide Prevention Month, I believe that there are important steps that we can all take to acknowledge and prevent suicides among our veteran population.

Each day, an estimated 22 veterans commit suicide, or one veteran every 65 minutes. Veterans commit suicide at more than double the rate of the civilian population, which has totaled to more than 49,000 deaths between 2005 and 2011. Veterans make up nearly one in every five suicides nationwide. This is simply unacceptable.

Our veterans face unspeakable challenges in the defense of our nation. Every day, they must endure mental and emotional trauma while spending months, if not years, in foreign countries away from their family and friends. The unique circumstances of their work often have a lasting impact on their physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

As our veterans return home, it is critical that we provide them the sufficient resources and support needed to minimize or reduce any trauma. The Department of Veterans' Affairs, working in conjunction with Members of Congress, has the power to provide this support. Now more than ever, as the number of suicides continues to grow, it is absolutely imperative that we act swiftly and decisively to end this before any more lives are needlessly lost.

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to our veterans to address this tragedy now. It is clear that as long as the number of suicides among our veterans continues to increase, there is plenty more that we can do as lawmakers and leaders to minimize the number of tragedies.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 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 \$16,738,444,833,205.56. We've added \$6,111,567,784,292.48 to our debt in 5 years. This is \$6.1 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month and its 2013 theme, Hispanics: Serving and Leading Our Nation with Pride and Honor. From September 15, 2013, through October 15, 2013, the people of the United States will once again celebrate the history, culture, and tradition of our Hispanic American brothers and sisters.

Hispanic Heritage Month begins each year on September 15th, the anniversary of the

independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16th and September 18th, respectively. Since its inception as National Hispanic Heritage Week in 1968, which later became National Hispanic Heritage Month in 1988, Americans have taken this time to not only honor the rich culture and tradition of Hispanic Americans, but also to reflect on the countless contributions they have made to their communities and to America.

Throughout America's history, people of Hispanic descent have played a major role in the development and progress of our nation. National Hispanic Heritage Month also celebrates the many Hispanic leaders and members of our communities who have added to the prosperity of the United States in every facet of society, including medicine, business, arts and entertainment, sports, education, politics, and the military.

America's success is dependent upon the rich heritage and cultural diversity of our people. I rise today to pay tribute to the countless Hispanic Americans who have made America a better place to live. For their contributions, they are worthy of our highest praise.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing National Hispanic Heritage Month. The Hispanic community has played an important role in enriching the quality of life and culture of Northwest Indiana and the United States. Let us commend our Hispanic brothers and sisters who have contributed so much to the improvement of our communities and who have helped shape our great nation.

MISSOURIAN AWARD

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Bob Beine, Cheryl Burnett, Leon Combs, Charles Edwards, Dwayne Holden, Norm Ridder, Dr. Bharat Shah, Erick Taylor, Mike Williamson, Rudy Farber, C.J. Huff, and Glenna Wallace as this year's recipients of the Missourian Award.

The Missourian Award recognizes Missourians who have positively impacted their communities, state, or nation through contributions in civics, arts, business, or politics.

The late Charles Edwards was awarded for his many years of service at CoxHealth and Cox Medical Plaza. Bob Beine is the president of Beine Automotive Group and has served on the Ford Motor Co. National Dealer Council, the Ozarks Technical Community College Foundation board of directors, and the Springfield First Community Bank board of directors. Cheryl Burnett is director of development for Missouri State University, and served as coach of the Missouri State women's basketball team and is a member of two halls of fame. Leon Combs is the chair of the Skaggs Foundation and owner of the Beaver Creek Elk and Cattle Ranch.

Dwayne Holden leads Custom Metalcraft Inc., a small business he started in 1977 that focuses on customized metal work. Norm Ridder has served as an advocate for chil-

dren's issues, serving for eight years as Springfield Public Schools' superintendent. Dr. Bharat Shah has promoted health care innovation through his invention of four different medical devices. Erick Taylor is the president and CEO of Pyramid Foods, which operates 48 stores in Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas and frequently holds charity events. Mike Williamson led Empire Bank for 26 years and has held a number of leadership roles in the community.

Glenna Wallace has been the chief of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe since 2006. Rudy Farber has served as CEO and president of Community Bank and Trust and former chairman of the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission. C.J. Huff was honored for his service as the superintendent of the Joplin R-VIII school district.

Each of these recipients has served the community and nation in a unique way and made a positive impact for Southwest Missouri. The hard work and dedication to their respective fields and to the community displayed by these leaders is exceptional.

I am proud of these honorees for each receiving the 2013 Missourian Award and even prouder to call them my neighbors; they make such an incredible positive impact on the Southwest Missouri community. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring their achievements.

COMMENDING DR. ARTHUR N.
MARTINEZ

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Dr. Arthur N. Martinez for his leadership of 20 years to El Rio Community Health Center, in Tucson, Arizona, one of the biggest community health centers in the Nation. Dr. Martinez's personal outreach and accomplishments have been instrumental to Arizona. Dr. Martinez has worked diligently to improve the quality of health care to the underserved in the community.

Dr. Martinez obtained his BS and MD from the University of Arizona in Tucson. He completed his occupational medicine residency at the University of AZ after a general surgery internship and urology residency at the University of TX. Dr. Martinez began as a staff physician at El Rio in 1986. After obtaining his MS in Health Administration from the University of CO, he became the Medical Director of a Medicaid HMO in CA. He has been the Medical Director at El Rio since 1993.

Through his leadership, he has developed systems for El Rio Community Health Center that have rightfully gained national attention. Some of his early accomplishments include a 360 degree provider evaluation system and a physician productivity incentive system. Early in his tenure, he was a quality accreditation expert who assisted other health centers to successfully implement measures to improve quality of care for millions of Americans.

Among his numerous other contributions Dr. Martinez has: created a nationally recognized Clinical Pharmacy Program, developed a residency program from a teaching health center collaboration, integrated oral and behavioral

health into El Rio's model, developed a Patient Care Committee and assisted the formation of the health center pain program, integrated the only community birthing center into El Rio's programs, chaired the first HRSA National Clinical Pharmacy Collaborative and served as chairman of the board for AZ Connected Care (Tucson's first Accountable Care Organization).

His contributions to the well-being of the community have been recognized through his many service and civic awards including: the LULAC Presidential Citation, the FBI Community Service award, the NAACP Community Service Award, the Rosa Parks Community Service Award.

Today I honor Dr. Arthur Martinez for his dedicated and faithful service of 20 years to El Rio CHC, Tucson and the Pima County, Arizona, community. May his example provide a path for others to follow.

SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

HON. CORRINE BROWN
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 26, 2013

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Congresswoman SINEMA for organizing this special order today. For far too long, we have treated mental illness as a by-product of physical injuries, and that those who suffer from mental illness just need to get over it.

September is Suicide Prevention Month, and mental health is a big part of the causes of these fatalities.

The VA is on the forefront of treating mental health. The soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who served in Iraq and Afghanistan survived at a rate that far outstripped that of any other war that America was involved in. That is due to the cutting edge protections and armor that we outfitted our military with. A side effect of this protection was that they were coming back injured, and many of those injuries were not physically evident. Traumatic Brain Injury, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) can occur after one has experienced a traumatic event. A traumatic event can involve the threat of injury or death. Traumatic events that can lead to PTSD include but are not limited to: combat exposure, physical abuse, sexual or physical assault (including Military Sexual Trauma), and serious accidents, like a car wreck.

PTSD symptoms usually start soon after the traumatic event, but may not appear until months or years later. They also may come and go over many years. There are four types of symptoms of PTSD: Reliving the event, avoiding situations that remind you of the event, negative changes in feelings towards yourself and others, feeling too alert (hyperarousal).

PTSD develops differently from person to person.

The VA has developed the Veterans Crisis Line, where free, confidential support is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, to Veterans, their families and friends.

As part of this service, online chat and text-messaging services are also offered for free.

Veterans, or anyone concerned about a Veteran, can call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat or text 838255 to receive support—even if they are not registered with VA or enrolled in VA health care. All Veterans Crisis Line resources are optimized for mobile devices.

Since 2007, the Veterans Crisis Line has answered more than 890,000 calls and made more than 30,000 lifesaving rescues. In 2009, the Veterans Crisis Line added the anonymous chat service, which has had more than 108,000 chats.

I want to thank the Congresswoman from Tuscon for organizing this Special Order today, and commend her leadership on this issue, which is so important for so many people.

PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN
OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I recently met with a passionate constituent from Rhode Island who told me of her mother's struggles with pancreatic cancer. Katie Boucher recounted the story of her mother, Marie Boucher, who was diagnosed in 2008 and passed away just four months later at the age of 59. Her story resonated with me, not only because my own grandfather battled pancreatic cancer, but because an estimated 45,000 people were diagnosed with this illness in 2013 alone.

Despite great advancements in medical science, we are still woefully behind the mark when it comes to pancreatic cancer. To make matters worse, the budgetary impacts of sequestration are forcing cut-backs at the National Institutes of Health, which is responsible for funding much of the biomedical research across the country.

Mr. Speaker, we can achieve deficit reduction without sacrificing the vital research that not only drives better health outcomes, but also drives our local economies. I ask my colleagues to join me in urging stronger funding for NIH and a stronger focus on biomedical research, not just for Marie Boucher and her daughter, but for the thousands of people who are fighting for their lives in every single district across the country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY
OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on September 25, 2013, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall votes 484 and 485.

Had I been present for rollcall vote 484, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1961, to amend title 46, United States Code, to extend the exemption from the fire-retardant materials construction requirement for vessels operating within the Boundary Line, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall vote 485, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 354, providing for the concurrence by

the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 527, with an amendment, I would have voted "yes."

NATIONAL FARM SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK

HON. TED S. YOHO
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor all of the farmers, ranchers, farm hands, veterinarians and families who work tirelessly and have dedicated their lives to our nation's agriculture.

As the 2013 National Farm Safety and Health week comes to a close, I am reminded of the tireless dedication to the safe and best practices that our farmers and ranchers employ while providing not just our nation's breakfast, lunch and dinner but the world's as well.

As a large animal veterinarian, I have had the privilege of working alongside some of the best and hardest working Americans in the country who are typically referred to as salt of the earth type folks. I recognize that it is no easy task to feed the United States let alone the world as well, which is why it is so important to keep our farmers and ranchers safe.

The Department of Labor identifies the agricultural sector as the most dangerous industry in America. As technology improves and we are able to better share best practices, I encourage everyone to do their part to promote the importance of safety in the agricultural industry.

America is known as the bread basket of the world thanks to all our hardworking ranchers and farmers. Thank you all for continuing to build and promote a better, safer and more productive industry.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 484, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

KAREN MCKAY OF FLORISSANT, MISSOURI RECEIVES TOP VOLUNTEER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CANCER-FIGHTING ADVOCACY WORK ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

HON. WM. LACY CLAY
OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 26, 2013

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, Karen McKay of Florissant, Missouri was awarded ACT! Lead of the Year by the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) for her dedicated volunteer and advocacy work to help make cancer a national priority.

This annual award is given to a lead congressional district volunteer who has demonstrated unfailing leadership advocating for

ACS CAN's areas of cancer-related public policy.

"Karen has been a tireless volunteer and dedicated cancer advocate of ACS CAN's legislative priorities," said Christopher W. Hansen, president of ACS CAN. "We are grateful for Karen's outstanding efforts to organize local volunteers and advocate for strong and effective cancer-fighting public policy in her community."

Karen leads the Ambassador Constituent Team (ACT!) in Congressional District 1 for ACS CAN, the advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society. ACS CAN is the nation's largest cancer advocacy organization and supports evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. As the ACT! Lead, Karen serves as the primary volunteer contact with District 1 lawmakers and recruits and manages other local volunteers to lead district advocacy and fundraising efforts.

Karen has been a volunteer with the American Cancer Society for many years as a leader for her local Relay For Life event and has volunteered with the ACS CAN since it began over 10 years ago.

On behalf of all families touched by cancer, ACS CAN applauds Karen's passion and determination to advocate for meaningful legislation that helps eliminate the burden of cancer and end suffering and death from this disease.

ACS CAN, the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, supports evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. ACS CAN works to encourage elected officials and candidates to make cancer a top national priority. ACS CAN gives ordinary people extraordinary power to fight cancer with the training and tools they need to make their voices heard.

HIGHLIGHTS OF KAREN MCKAY'S ACS CAN AND ACS INVOLVEMENT

City Council Member in Florissant, MO from 2000–12 so understands local campaigns.

Attended every MO Lobby Day event from 2002–13; visits personally with over 20 legislators.

Attended every Federal Lobby Day event from 2007–2013; her Member has supported our issues each year, including co-sponsor of Quality of Life bills in 2012 and 2013.

Raised over \$2,000 for Lights of Hope in 2012 and over \$3,000 in 2013.

Had 29 State and Federal Legislators sign the "Cancer Promise" during that campaign.

Her business was a corporate sponsor of the Wall of Hope banner displayed on National Mall.

Every year prior to Federal Lobby Day, tapes 30 minute show on News 20 that airs

several times daily for several weeks, and is seen by over 1 million viewers.

Receives "Pillars of Success" recognition from High Plains each year for work as ACT Lead.

Co-chair of local RFL event in 1998 that raised \$52,000; 3 years later, as Chair, raised \$130,000.

Worked with and helped establish the "Look Good, Feel Better" program in her area for cancer patients.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

To be nominated for an ACS CAN award, an individual/team should have excelled in activities related to building or sustaining their state's volunteer structure and/or elevating the profile of advocacy, ACS CAN, and its public policy agenda. Specifically, a nominee should have accomplished one or more of the following:

ADVANCING THE VOLUNTEER STRUCTURE

Demonstrated exceptional recruitment/retention/recognition abilities.

Demonstrated a successful team approach to advancing our efforts.

ADVANCING ADVOCACY & ACS CAN

Excelled at ACS CAN fundraising efforts.

Effectively communicated the ACS CAN public policy agenda to the media and elsewhere.

Participated in and/or led local/state/federal coalitions in support of ACS CAN's public policy agenda.

Promoted advocacy at Relay and/or other ACS events.

Promoted advocacy and/or ACS CAN within other ACS departments.

2013 NOMINATION OF KAREN MCKAY FOR ACS CAN AWARD FOR ACT LEAD OF THE YEAR, FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, MISSOURI (Mr. Tim Freeman, Missouri Grassroots Director for the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)).

I started in my position as Missouri Grassroots Director in January of 2009. The previous staff person who had my position left me a very detailed packet of information regarding the job. One of the things that stood out to me was her suggestion that one of the first phone calls I should make was to the ACT Lead for the 1st congressional district, Karen McKay. I did so within the first few days of employment, and it's been one of the smartest things I've ever done in this job.

Karen "gets it" when it comes to advocacy. She is a former elected official, so she has firsthand experience and a personal understanding of what it takes to influence elected officials. Karen doesn't pull any punches. She educates herself on the issues she is advocating for, and she presents them in a succinct and powerful way. She is able

to answer questions that lawmakers or staff may have, and makes sure to follow up after her meetings and conversations.

Karen has worked hard to support efforts at all levels of government. As a former City Council member, she understands the role a council can play in passing important pieces of legislation, including local smoke-free ordinances.

At the state level, she has cultivated some tremendous personal relationships with a large number of State Reps, Senators, and staff members. During our MO Lobby Day event each year, she personally meets with dozens of lawmakers and staff members, securing important support for our key legislative efforts. Karen also attends several community functions throughout the year where she has the opportunity to see elected officials from all levels. She never fails to use these opportunities to talk about ACS CAN issues and encourage elected officials to support our efforts.

Karen also worked extremely hard to help promote our recent tobacco tax campaign here in Missouri. Although it fell just short of victory, Karen was a key contributor in getting us as close as we came.

At the federal level, Karen has a tremendous relationship with her Congressman, Rep. Lacy Clay, and his staff. She knows several members of his staff personally, and is always greeted in his DC office with a big smile, hugs, and pictures being taken. The same is true for her meetings with Congressman Clay. Just recently, Karen got Congressman Clay to once again agree to co-sponsor ACS CAN's Quality of Life legislation. Needless to say, Rep. Clay has been a supporter of ACS CAN priority issues for many years, in great part because of the efforts of Karen McKay.

Karen is also a tremendous fundraiser for ACS CAN. Her fundraising efforts began with her involvement with RFL, and have translated over to ACS CAN. Last year, she was one of the top 5 fundraisers for Lights of Hope, with over \$2,500 raised, and this year she has surpassed that goal and will raise over \$3,000 before the event in September. Her overall fundraising for both ACS and ACS CAN are astounding.

Karen has also done a great job of recruiting others to be part of her ACT Team through the years, having filled all positions at some point during her time as ACT Lead.

Karen is an ACT Lead that other members of our Missouri team look to for ideas, leadership, and support. I can tell you that as the staff partner for Missouri, I do the same.

Karen is a big reason for the success we've had here in MO, and it is a pleasure for me to nominate her for ACT Lead of the Year. It's an award that she could have won many times over, and I sincerely hope she will receive full consideration this year.