

nonprofit organizations, and events that helped improve neighborhoods throughout our region. She was guided in every way by her faith. Her energy and passion to make change will be missed.

With her passing, it is my hope that Sheila Leigh Stewart has found the peace earned from such a wonderful life. Ms. Stewart made a difference in our community with everything she did, and I am grateful for her life and service to Prince George's County, Maryland, and our country.

On behalf of this House, I extend our condolences to her entire family, especially her precious young son, Jonathan Henry Russell; her mother, Dorothy Stewart; her four sisters; her three brothers; and Radio One, and the thanks of a grateful nation. I will miss her tremendously.

HONORING TELLIS B. ELLIS III

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Dr. Tellis B. Ellis III, who was born in Jackson, Mississippi one of four children born to Tellis B. Ellis, Jr. and his wife Lucinda. Dr. Ellis.

Dr. Ellis attended Jim Hill High School where he excelled at both football and basketball. He completed his undergraduate studies in 1965 at Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi with a B.S. Degree in Science. While attending Jackson State Dr. Ellis was honored as a member of Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities. He was an outstanding football player for Jackson State and was recruited by the NFL to play professional football for the Green Bay Packers in Green Bay Wisconsin. After sustaining a knee injury, which ended his hopes for a career as a professional athlete, he made the decision to pursue a career in Medicine.

Dr. Ellis was accepted into medical school at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee and received his Medical Doctorate in 1970. He completed both his Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine at Meharry Medical College in 1974. Dr. Ellis then returned to Jackson, Mississippi where he completed his Cardiology Fellowship at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in 1977. Dr. Ellis is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Cardiology.

Dr. Ellis is active at the local and national levels in the following professional societies and organizations: American Medical Association, Mississippi Medical Association, Jackson Medical Society, National Monitoring Board Member Jackson Heart Study, American College of Cardiology, National Medical Association, Association of Black Cardiologists, Jackson Medical Association, and Mississippi Medical and Surgical Association where he served as President. Dr. Ellis is an active member of the Jackson State University Alumni Association and was honored in 1975 with the First and Only Black Board Certified Internist in Mississippi Award.

Dr. Ellis is a founding partner of Jackson Cardiology Associates in Jackson, Mississippi where he practices with four other Cardiol-

ogists. He is Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Mississippi Medical Center and an active staff physician at St. Dominic-Jackson Memorial Hospital, River Oaks Hospital and Central Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Dr. Ellis is widowed and has one son; Tellis B. Ellis IV. He is the proud grandfather of Brian Ellis.

Dr. Ellis is a member of Pearl Street AME Church in Jackson, Mississippi. His medical special interest is Congestive Heart Failure and in his leisure time he enjoys fly fishing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Tellis B. Ellis III for his dedication to serving others.

IN HONOR OF MARGARET "PEGGY" McMAHON

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 2013

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret "Peggy" McMahon for her years as a nurse and as an advocate for those with whom she worked.

For over forty-six years, Ms. McMahon has dedicated her life to nursing. In 1965, she joined the Army Student Nurse program while attending the Philadelphia General Hospital School of Nursing. Three years later, Ms. McMahon was dispatched to Vietnam as an emergency and trauma nurse in the 85th Evacuation Unit in Qui Nhon and the 95th Evacuation Hospital in DeNang. While in Vietnam, Ms. McMahon was a fearless first-responder, providing emergency care to injured soldiers before they could see a doctor.

After her tour in Vietnam, Ms. McMahon returned to Williamstown, NJ to further her education. She received a bachelor's degree and master's degree, a Family Nurse Practitioner's certificate, and she also served as president of the Emergency Nurses Association. Since then, she has worked adamantly to make sure her fellow emergency nurses are recognized for their service and sacrifice. Ms. McMahon became an influential voice in the efforts to create the Vietnam Women's Memorial in Washington, DC. This past Veterans Day, Ms. McMahon and other wartime nurses were honored at the Memorial.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. McMahon's selflessness should be an example to all. I join all of South Jersey in thanking Ms. McMahon for her years of service to her country and community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 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 \$17,223,254,862,815.39. We've added \$6,596,377,813,902.31 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE COALITION TO SALUTE AMERICA'S HEROES

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 5, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, a Virginia-based 501(c)(3), non-profit, non-partisan organization, established in 2004 to provide severely wounded veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and their families, with emergency financial assistance and other support services to help them recover from their injuries and rebuild their lives. CSAH is headquartered in Leesburg, which in my Congressional district in Loudoun County, and serves military veterans and their families living in the Commonwealth as well as nationally. All funds needed to develop and manage programs that advance its mission come from contributions to CSAH by individual citizens, corporate donors and foundations.

The mission of the Coalition is to ensure that our war-weary nation should not lose sight of its obligations to those who are protecting our freedoms. These true American heroes often receive little or no support from the nation for which they sacrificed so much. Because of a shortage of funding and an interminable bureaucratic backlog at the Veterans Administration, they wait for roughly a year, on average, to receive disability pay and benefits. Thousands do not get proper care for PTSD because it is largely misunderstood.

Under the leadership of David Walker, who serves as President and CEO, the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes helps severely wounded veterans and families of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom living in the Commonwealth of Virginia and across the country recover from their injuries and illnesses by providing emergency financial aid and other support services, in hopes that the veterans are able to transition successfully into civilian life. Additionally, the Coalition's emergency aid services responds to trends associated with suicide among veterans (24 per day), a sky-rocking divorce rate (60 percent among actives), and growing domestic abuse.

Last year as one of his first acts, Walker restructured The Coalition's budget so that it could give more directly to veterans and organizations that support them, with programs that include: emergency financial aid to help through crisis situations (evictions, car repossessions, etc.); training seminars; a call center program to provide veterans and spouses the opportunity to work on a part-time basis (some of the program's participants have moved on to part-time or full-time employment in the private sector); equine-therapy programs and more.

In 2013 alone, the Coalition will have donated nearly \$1 million in direct aid to veterans, in addition to managing the many other CSAH programs that are available to wounded veterans (conferences, holiday gift checks, education and training, etc.).

The Coalition has made eight grants totaling over \$80,000 to organizations based in Virginia and Washington, D.C., including: Horses Helping Heroes Project, which provides no-cost, equine-assisted activities and therapies