

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### SUZANNE BENTON TRIBUTE

#### HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Suzanne Benton, Rio Grande's County Administrator and the 2013 recipient of the Colorado County Administrator of the Year Award.

Throughout her distinguished 35-year career as the Rio Grande County Administrator, Mrs. Benton has proved to be a valuable asset and member of her community. In addition to her role as County Administrator, Mrs. Benton has served her community in many ways. She has served on the Del Norte Bank board, assisted with multiple community projects, served the local museum as an interim curator, served on the County Health Pool Board in an interim role, and spent nine years on the Colorado County Technical Services, Inc.'s County Worker Compensation Board.

In addition to her community involvement, Mrs. Benton oversees the county's budget. For many years as the county's finance director, she has managed the budget well despite the numerous challenges that come with declining revenue and increased demand. Without a doubt, her hard work has made the Rio Grande area better community, and she is greatly appreciated.

Each year, the Association of Colorado County Commissioners receives applications from the 64 Counties throughout Colorado to vote on the County Administrator who has shown leadership in their county and community. Mrs. Benton's dedication, hard work and commitment to her community has earned the respect of her peers and makes her a worthy candidate to be named Colorado County Administrator of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Suzanne Benton. She is an exceptional, hard-working County Administrator whose work has made Rio Grande County a great community, and I thank her for her continued public service.

### HONORING PASTOR CHARLES J. WHITFIELD

#### HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate Pastor Charles J. Whitfield, who has defined and dedicated his life to spreading the grace-filled love of our Lord.

Alongside with the wonderful support of his wife Judy, daughter Susan, and son Daniel, Pastor Whitfield has lead Grace Baptist Church for over 57 years. He is the longest serving pastor in the history of the City of Birmingham, Michigan. Through his leadership,

Grace Baptist has financially supported hundreds of missionaries across the world. He has shared the Gospel with over 172 countries.

Pastor Whitfield's accomplishments will be forever recorded in the U.S. House of Representatives CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Future generations must know of his invaluable service to our community and service to all mankind.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 12 and 13. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on both.

### REMEMBERING MARGARET MASSULLO

#### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Ms. Margaret Massullo who passed peacefully of natural causes last month in the presence of her loving family at the age of 90. Margaret was born August 14, 1923 in Youngstown, Ohio to her proud and caring parents, Gabor and Elizabeth Vargo. Margaret touched the lives of everyone she came into contact with, and to those who knew her well, knew her as sweet "Margie Marge." Marge enjoyed a life full of traveling, cooking, crocheting, politics, and most of all spending time with her family.

Marge lived a successful life; some of her professional accomplishments included her notable work at the Seamless Pipe Department of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube during World War II, as well as her work with the Triangle Coat Factory. Known for her wealth of knowledge and true leadership, Marge was elected officer of the Bagnolese Ladies Club and the Saint Anthony's Italian Mother's Club. She prided herself in being an active Member of the ITAM Post along with three other veteran auxiliary groups at both a local and national level.

Although the State of Ohio lost one of its matriarchs, her beautiful memory will continue to live on through the lives she deeply touched and inspired. I extend my deepest condolences to Marge's family. She is survived by her daughter Marguerite, sons Alfred and Ronald (Muzz), sisters Irene and Julie, her brother James, granddaughters Ronelle, Cara, Lauren, Genna and her five great-grandchildren. Marge was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Adolph, brothers Steve and

Gabor, sisters Elizabeth, Rose, Goldie, and Julia along with her son-in-law George.

I have a very special friendship with her son Ron, and I know that he, as well as his other siblings, carry their mother's passion for life, her sense of justice for all our citizens, and both a lighthearted and joyous approach to life. Her legacy goes on! Marge was a very special woman and will be long remembered.

### CONGRATULATING DR. MICHAEL B. MCCALL ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF THE KENTUCKY COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

#### HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, commend, and congratulate Dr. Michael B. McCall, founding president of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), on the event of his retirement. Dr. McCall has led KCTCS all of the 16 years since its creation in 1997, and during that time has overseen the coordination of Kentucky's community colleges, technical institutes, and the University of Kentucky into an education system that is now the largest provider of postsecondary education in the Commonwealth.

Dr. McCall, a strong advocate for a robust community college system even before coming to Kentucky, was recruited to KCTCS due to his knowledge, experience, and personal drive to see students succeed. As both an educator and an administrator, he has overseen the physical expansion of KCTCS and a dramatic upgrade in the system's academic quality. Dr. McCall oversaw 45 capital projects totaling approximately \$500 million, giving 95 percent of all Kentuckians access to a KCTCS institution within a thirty minute drive. This enhanced presence has helped train the skilled workforce that Kentucky needs in order to compete in the modern economy.

Under Dr. McCall's leadership, enrollment at KCTCS increased by nearly 110 percent, contributing to the education of more than 500,000 Kentuckians. Dr. McCall also established or integrated several specialized programs to provide specialized skills for emergency services and some of Kentucky's signature industries, including emergency medical services, fire and rescue science technology, automotive manufacturing technical training, coal mining, and horseracing. The high-skilled, high-paying jobs in these fields will reinforce the readiness of Kentucky communities to guarantee public safety, grow and develop our local industries, and expand Kentucky's competitive advantage.

Dr. McCall's stewardship of KCTCS has provided the Commonwealth of Kentucky with an academic tradition that will benefit generations to come. I congratulate Dr. McCall on a

• 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.

terrific career improving the lives of my fellow Kentuckians as he enters retirement and wish him all the best for whatever the future may hold.

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THE PASSING OF GODFREY FUNK

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Northeast Georgia lost a valued community member when Godfrey Funk passed away on January 8, 2014.

Godfrey spent 35 years teaching in the Hall County School System. During his tenure in the classroom, he touched thousands of young Georgians' lives—including mine.

Born and raised in Georgia, Godfrey came into the world on May 10, 1926. He graduated from Cornelia High School in 1944 and served in the United States Navy for two years immediately following graduation. He went on to study at the University of Georgia and received his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in 1950. Godfrey moved to the community of Clermont upon graduation, where he met and married his wife, Patty. They raised four sons together and enjoyed 63 years of marriage. The Funks were active members of Concord Baptist Church, where Godfrey served as a deacon for more than 60 years.

Godfrey will be remembered not only for his decades of investment in the community, but also for his well-known green thumb. Gardening was a lifelong love for Godfrey, whose beautiful yard and prolific vegetable garden were well-known and admired by family, friends and neighbors.

My prayers and thoughts are with Patty and the rest of Godfrey's family as they mourn their loss.

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TRIBUTE TO MORGAN STEWARD

**HON. PAUL C. BROUN**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of Morgan Steward, a 5-year-old from Covington, GA. Steward was born with spinal muscular atrophy, a genetic condition that affects his muscle movement and confines him to a wheelchair. However, Morgan's physical limitations in no way have hindered his career goals, specifically, his dream of becoming a police officer.

When the Covington Police Department learned of Morgan's aspirations, they sprang into action, swearing him in as the newest member of the squad. As news of the new officer spread, the people of Covington formed a social media campaign to dedicate a special day to the young officer. Soon after, on December 17, 2013, a crowd gathered on the Covington Square to honor and cheer on the young officer as it was declared Officer Morgan Day.

However, Morgan's special day did not mean a break from maintaining public order. Typical daily responsibilities of a member of

the force, like Morgan, include keeping the peace, law enforcement, protection of people and property, and the investigation of crimes. Officer Morgan Day was no exception, as December 17th proved to be a crime-filled day in Covington. Officer Morgan loyally executed the duties of the Covington Police Department, thwarting the efforts of a "bank robber" at BB&T and solving a theft of the "Jewels of Covington" at Southern Heartland Art Gallery. Morgan even teamed up with basketball star Shaquille O'Neal to rescue a cat from a tree.

It is my honor to acknowledge Morgan Steward for his brave service to his community as a Police Officer. I want to also commend this young man for setting the highest example of courageousness while facing such serious adversities. Those who know Morgan, recognize him for his constant smile and positive attitude. On behalf of the United States Congress, I commend young Officer Morgan for his service and thank him for the exceptional example he sets for all who face medical hardships.

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TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF  
CAPTAIN CLEMIA ANDERSON, JR.

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Clemia Anderson, Jr. for his retirement from the United States Navy after more than 39 years of service to his country.

Clemia Anderson, Jr. was born on October 16, 1955 to the late Clemia and Ceola Anderson and was raised in Marion Junction, Alabama.

Mr. Anderson joined Valerie D. Watson of Portsmouth, Virginia in marriage and they are the proud parents of a daughter, LaSonja Tenette and two sons, Clemia III (CJ) and Kevin Dion.

Mr. Anderson began his career in the U.S. Navy in 1974 and received training at the Naval Training Center in Orlando, Florida followed by an assignment to USS *America*, stationed at Norfolk, Virginia. Anderson reported to NAS Norfolk in 1979 where he worked with transient aircraft and served on the Civil Disturbance Team.

PO3 Anderson was transferred to USS *Lexington* stationed at NAS Pensacola, Florida in February 1981 where he performed duties as Damage Control Petty Officer, Division Career Counselor and Training Petty Officer, and while stationed on USS *Lexington*, Anderson received the designation as Enlisted Warfare Specialist due to his tremendous qualifications. In July 1984, he was meritoriously advanced to Petty Officer First Class.

ABH1 Anderson completed Instructor Training in Millington, Tennessee in October 1984 and reported to NATTC Lakehurst, New Jersey where he assumed duty as Instructor and Curriculum Technical Writer. While serving in Lakehurst, Anderson was instrumental in developing the ABH "C" School course and was nominated for NATTC Sailor of the Year in 1985. Anderson earned his Master Training Specialist pin in December 1986, and was selected for the Limited Duty Officer (LDO) Program. In September 1987, he was commissioned at NATTC Lakehurst, New Jersey.

Ensign Anderson reported to USS *Carl Vinson*, NAS Alameda, California in 1987 where he served as Assistant Flight Deck Officer, V-1 Division Officer and Night Aircraft Handler. In July 1990, Anderson transferred to NATTC Lakehurst, New Jersey as the ABH School Division Officer and Assistant School Director.

Lieutenant Anderson served as Assistant School Director at the ABH "A" and "C" Schools, ABE "A" School, ABF "A" and "C" Schools and the U.S. Marine "EAF" Schools in Millington, Tennessee until September 1991.

Lieutenant Anderson reported to USS *Wasp* in September 1992 as Fuels Officer and transferred to NATTC Detachment Lakehurst, New Jersey in September 1995 as ABE Maintenance Support Officer.

Lieutenant Anderson was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Commander in September 1996 and in November of that year, he assumed the duties of Officer in Charge at the NATTC Detachment Lakehurst, New Jersey.

Lieutenant Commander Anderson reported to USS *Constellation*, San Diego, California in September 1998 as Aircraft Handling Officer. In April 2000, following a very successful tour, Anderson returned to NATTC Detachment Lakehurst as Officer in Charge. He reported to USS *Enterprise* as Aircraft Handling Officer in February 2002 and in June 2003, was promoted to Commander and transferred to NATTC Pensacola, Florida as Officer in Charge.

Commander Anderson reported to the Program Executive Office of Aircraft Carriers in Washington, DC as the Flight Deck, Hangar Deck and Fuel Systems Manager in December 2005.

Commander Anderson was selected for promotion to Captain in April 2009 and transferred to NAS Patuxent River, Maryland as the Logistics and Industrial Operations Director in October 2009. On January 1, 2010, Commander Anderson was promoted to Captain. In April 2012, Captain Anderson returned to Program Executive Office Aircraft Carriers, PMS 312 at the Washington Navy Yard.

Captain Anderson has cultivated a tremendous reputation in his more than 39 years of service in the U.S. Navy, and he is known as one of the nation's premier experts on aircraft launch and recovery systems. Anderson is one of the first African-American Aviation Boatswains to rise to the rank of Captain in the U.S. Navy and is the recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Gold Stars.

While I know Captain Anderson will continue his service to his community and country in various ways, I sincerely hope that his retirement is spent with much deserved relaxation and time with his friends and family.

Due to Captain Anderson's remarkable contributions to our country through his service in the U.S. Navy, he deserves the gratitude of a grateful nation.

On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Captain Anderson and wishing him continued success on his endeavors as he continues his journey in retirement. We are truly grateful for this extraordinary public servant.

HONORING OLIVET MICHIGAN  
MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

**HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the outstanding young men of the Olivet Michigan Middle School Football Team.

At one of their football games this past fall, the Olivet Eagles planned what is now called "The Remarkable Play". The play involved giving the ball to a teammate with special needs so that he could score his first career touchdown.

I am honored to recognize these young men. The selflessness and caring for their teammate is we should all celebrate. The Eagles exemplify how caring for others can go a long way.

DR. MOISES A. CARREON

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dr. Moises A. Carreon for receiving the 2013 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers presented by President Barack Obama. Dr. Carreon is a researcher at the Colorado School of Mines. He received this award for his pursuit of innovative research in the frontiers of science and technology and his commitment to community service as demonstrated through scientific leadership, public education and community outreach.

The dedication demonstrated by Dr. Carreon is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. The Presidential Early Career Awards embody the high priority the Obama Administration places on producing outstanding scientists and engineers to advance the nation's goals, tackle grand challenges, and contribute to the American economy.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Carreon for receiving this prestigious award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

DEFENDING THE RIGHT TO LIFE

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 41st anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision in *Roe vs. Wade*, it is my hope that we will take this opportunity to remember the millions of unique and precious human lives ended by the unspeakable tragedy of abortion and bear in mind the devastating consequences it has had for women, children, and families.

As a matter of morality, history, science, reason, and most of all faith, I can come to no

other conclusion but that every human life begins at conception and every life is worthy of protection. As Americans, we share a sacred responsibility to protect the innocent and defend the rights of those who are unable to defend themselves. Often we hear that we ought to do something for the least of these; truly unborn life is the least of these. Let us recognize it. Let us hold it precious. Let us live up to our responsibilities from the Creator and grant those yet to be born that precious right to life.

The struggle to protect life is at its core a struggle to change hearts and minds. It requires faith, reason, debate, compassion, and action. On January 22, thousands of citizens will take action by participating in the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. Many more in Texas and across the country will stand with them at local events fighting for the rights of the unborn and celebrating the sanctity of life. I applaud those who take part, both in body and spirit, and I hope for the day when all Americans will come together and decide to protect and defend the unalienable right to life.

HONORING JOE HALLETT UPON  
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CO-  
LUMBUS DISPATCH

**HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize senior editor Joe Hallett of The Columbus Dispatch upon his retirement.

For nearly four decades, Joe has been chronicling the political happenings in Ohio. He began his career at his hometown paper in Wauseon, Ohio. He then moved on to The Toledo Blade where he spent 15 years and later joined The Cleveland Plain Dealer where he served as chief political writer and Statehouse reporter. In 1999 he came to The Columbus Dispatch as its political editor. Now as senior editor and chief political writer, he has coordinated The Dispatch's coverage of presidential elections since 2000, including both parties' political conventions. Both the Associated Press and the Society of Professional Journalists have named him Ohio's best political writer, recognizing him as a mainstay in Ohio's press corps.

Upon his retirement, long-time readers will certainly miss his straight-forward, no-nonsense style. But his strength wasn't just thoughtful analysis and skilled political reporting, whether somber or jovial, his columns made people and places come alive. His reports from Haiti detailing the desperation of mothers literally feeding their children mud pies and the despair of Port-au-Prince's slums also described the feelings of hope that ran deep in the hearts of people he met. His summer staple, a column about his annual fishing trip, let readers figuratively join him on his expeditions, catching walleye and northern pike, cooking shore lunches, playing poker and ribbing with his friends as this virtual focus group dissected Ohio politics. While he is moving on to the next phase in his life, Joe will never stop doing what he loves: asking questions and analyzing current events and their impact on Ohioans.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I would like to wish Joe the best of luck and thank him for his devotion to political reporting, and the great state of Ohio.

HONORING CITY OF KIRKLAND  
MAYOR JOAN MCBRIDE

**HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Joan McBride of Kirkland. Joan has served her community for decades in many capacities. Active in her PTA and local neighborhood council, she joined the Kirkland City Council in 1998 and served as Mayor from 2010 until her retirement last year.

Joan is a collaborative leader as evidenced throughout her tenure on council, earning her the respect of her colleagues and constituents. The City of Kirkland emerged from the recession on sound financial footing, passed stronger code of conduct and ethics rules, and set aside BNSF land for the Cross Kirkland Corridor all thanks to Joan's hard work and service.

Joan's passion and joy for serving Kirkland is infectious to those around her and has created a positive atmosphere for city government to deliver efficient results. She is a model for responsive, civil, and effective government.

I want to thank Mayor McBride for her commitment to working for the people of Kirkland and offer my congratulations on her retirement. I wish Joan the best on her next endeavors in the community and beyond.

HONORING SSG MONICA RENA'  
JONES DAVIS

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor SSG Monica Rena' Jones Davis, who is a remarkable Veteran and public servant.

SSG Monica Rena' Jones Davis is a lifelong resident of Crystal Springs, MS in Covich County. She was born on December 10, 1974 to Mrs. Irene Sandifer Jones.

SSG Jones Davis attended Crystal Springs Elementary, Middle and High School and graduated 1993. The same year of her graduation, Monica joined the United States Army Reserves. Following that, she enrolled at Hinds Community College, graduated in 1995 and later attended Jackson State University.

SSG Jones Davis was raised by her mother Irene Sandifer Jones and her grandmother Eunice Sandifer and joined Brushy Creek Missionary Baptist Church at the age of 3 years old. Some of her obligations at church are: Vice-President of Brushy Creek Sanctuary Choir; a member of Mission Ministry; Sunday School Teacher; Youth Choir Director/Advisor; and Minister of Music for the Brushy Creek/New Hope Association.

SSG Jones Davis was a member of the United States Army reserve from 1993-2004

and while she was in the reserve, her duty at the 296th Transportation Unit in Brookhaven, MS was an 88MI Truck Driver and also Commander Driver.

SSG Monica Rena' Jones Davis is married to Roderick Davis and they have three beautiful children: A'mya, Malik and Eunicesia. She works at Copiah County School and is a member of Heroines of Jericho Hopewell Court #118 in Georgetown, MS.

SSG Monica Rena' Jones Davis's love for the youths is well known by all. She shows up every Sunday with a truck load of young boys who enjoy going to church with her. She has been Vice President for the Crystal Springs Youth Sports League for the past 5 years; also she plays a major role with the Crystal Springs Pee-Wee Basketball League.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a Veteran, SSG Monica Rena' Jones Davis, for her dedication to serving her country, community and the youth.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE  
OF LIFE ON THE ANNIVERSARY  
OF ROE V. WADE

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, next week will mark forty-one years since the United States Supreme Court decided Roe v. Wade. Since that time, millions of lives have been lost to legalized abortion in the United States, and it is fitting to recognize them at this unfortunate landmark.

This is also a time to renew hope as millions of Americans continue to advocate for the respect due all human life and many state governments across our country are working to embrace the right to life. Here at the federal level, many of my colleagues and I have cosponsored legislation that would help in these efforts. To that end, I am a cosponsor of H.R. 1797, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which passed the House and would limit abortion after the age at which evidence shows that an unborn child can experience pain. I have also cosponsored H.R. 1091, the Life at Conception Act, to legally define human life as beginning at conception, and H.R. 940, the Health Care Conscience Rights Act, to protect the freedom of conscience for healthcare professionals who do not want to participate in abortions.

Mr. Speaker, in recognizing the approaching anniversary of Roe v. Wade, I urge my colleagues in both houses of Congress to advance and pass these and many other bills that defend the fundamental right to life, without which all other rights are impossible.

BRIAN VANKEURAN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brian Vankeuran for receiving the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce Young Professional of the Year Award.

Brian has been a vital contributing member and leader of the Golden Young Professionals since the organization started in January of 2012. He served two years on the Executive Committee, and he is now serving as Historian for the committee. Brian continuously demonstrates his professionalism. He is an organizer, a team player and a great leader. He served as Chair Elect in 2012 and was the Chair for 2013.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Brian Vankeuran for his well deserved recognition from the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

HONORING REV. DR. VICTOR  
DIXON

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a hardworking and self motivated man, Rev. Dr. Victor Dixon.

Rev. Dr. Victor Dixon was born in Georgetown, MS to the late Rev. E. C. Dixon and Mrs. Lena Dixon.

Pastor Dixon currently resides in Hazlehurst, Mississippi. He is married to Mrs. Lavoise Singleton Dixon. They are the proud parents of two children: Kristy and Stephen; three grandchildren: Bralon, Branson and Bria; and a son-in-law, Reginald Robinson.

Pastor Dixon is a very dedicated and active man. He is the Pastor of Egypt Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Crystal Springs, MS for over 19 years; He is the President of the Copiah County Ministerial Alliance; President, as well as a student, at Bethel Christian College, Hazlehurst Campus; Board Member for the General Mississippi Baptist State Convention; Executive Director of the Music Department of the General Mississippi Baptist State Convention;

He has served as the Director for the Copiah County Ministerial Alliance Abstinence Only and Parental Involvement Programs from 2005 thru 2010; Executive Chairperson for the Copiah County Democratic Party; a member of the Tri County Healthy Marriage Coalition; the leader singer of the Legendary Dixon's Singers; and Past Board Member of the Boys and Girls Club of Copiah County.

Pastor Dixon is the Owner and Operator of Dixon's Body and Auto Sales, Inc. and very dedicated to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dynamic and dedicated businessman, pastor and community activist, Rev. Dr. Victor Dixon.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MICHAEL PRICE

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Michael Price and to celebrate his distinguished career leading the Goodspeed Opera House.

As a fixture of the celebrated Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam, Connecticut since its opening in 1963, Michael has devoted his career to the dramatic arts. Filling the role of Executive Director at Goodspeed for the past 46 years, Michael has preserved the legacy of the Victorian theatre building which was originally built in 1876.

With an unwavering flair and talent for the theatre, Michael graduated from the Yale School of Drama and became involved in Goodspeed from its very first season. Taking up the Executive Director position at the theatre five years later, Michael has built Goodspeed to become not only a local treasure for Connecticut, but also a national icon for the arts community.

With highlights including the birth of successful musicals such as "Annie," "Shenandoah," and "Man of La Mancha," Goodspeed under Michael's leadership has made a significant contribution to the American dramatic arts, launching some of our nation's most beloved music and theater. Goodspeed Opera House is the first regional theater to receive over 12 Tony Awards and two Special Tony Awards, for outstanding Contributions to the American musical in 1980 and for outstanding achievement for regional theater in 1995. Goodspeed continues to produce three musicals a year, with nineteen Goodspeed productions moving on to Broadway. In the 50 years since they opened their doors, the Goodspeed Opera House remains committed to their original mission of restoring and revitalizing the heritage of the American musical theater through premiering new musicals and rethinking old favorites.

Balancing his devotion to the Goodspeed Opera House and its smaller counterpart the Norma Terris Theatre in neighboring Chester, Michael has also remained an active advocate for Connecticut's arts and tourism industries. Serving as Chairman of the Connecticut Commission on the Arts and Connecticut Culture and Tourism Advisory Committee, I was honored to get to know Michael during a 2010 trade mission to Israel. On that occasion, I observed firsthand the passion with which he encouraged Israelis to choose Connecticut as a vacation destination and to promote Goodspeed productions in Jerusalem.

During his long career, Michael has become an irreplaceable part of the Connecticut arts community, as well as an inspiration to American theatre. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the career of Mr. Michael Price.

HONORING SAM GLEESE

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. Sam Gleese. Mr. Gleese is a life-long resident of Jackson, Mississippi.

Mr. Gleese graduated from high school in 1966 and enrolled that fall at Jackson State College, (which is now Jackson State University) where he majored in business administration. After graduation on 1970, Mr. Gleese joined a management training program conducted by K-Mart.

In January of 1985 Mr. Gleese was assigned the worst vending in the state of Mississippi. Because of his degree in business

administration, his phenomenal record in personal rehabilitation, and his work history in the grocery business, officials decided that he needed no more training, but could learn the program in his own location. He spent two years in that facility, mastering the business and improving his techniques. Then during the next several years he moved to better locations.

In 1992 Mr. Gleese bid on an excellent facility for his business and was denied the bid, then he appealed the decision, which eventually came down, but did not give him personal redress. The incident did correct unfair practices that had plagued many vendors in Mississippi for years. In April of 1994 Mr. Gleese, with the help of his wife, Mrs. Vanessa Gleese, became the manager of one of the largest food service operations in the state-vending program.

Mr. Gleese has always been active in the Missionary Baptist Church. From 1973 to 1990 he taught the adult Sunday school class in his own church, and in 1980 he became a deacon. He was ordained to the ministry in November of 1992 and is now senior associate minister at the College Hill Baptist Church.

In 1992 Mr. Gleese was first elected to the board of directors of the National Federation of the Blind, where he continues to serve with distinction. He has dedicated his life to educating the public, blind and sighted alike, about the abilities of blind people.

In August of 2001 Mr. Gleese accepted a position as an Independent Living Specialist with LIFE (Living Independence for Everyone) of central Mississippi. This position provided opportunities to work with adolescents with special health care needs in Mississippi between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one. In January of 2002 Mr. Gleese became the statewide project director for the Healthy Futures grants. This position enhances Mr. Gleese's opportunity to serve all adolescents with special health care needs, including blind people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Sam Gleese for his dedication to serving others and giving back to the community he grew up in.

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#### CONGRATULATING CHRIS YENRICK

### HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to invite Members of this House to join me in congratulating Chris Yenrick of Winston-Salem, North Carolina on his recent election as Chairman of the National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association. Chris is a constituent of mine, and is president of Smith Phillips Building Supply, an establishment proudly serving Winston-Salem, North Carolina since 1880. Chris's service to the community goes beyond that work; he is a Den Leader with the Boy Scouts of America and a member of Knollwood Baptist Church. He has also served our country in the United States Army.

Smith Phillips has been a leading building supply center in the Triad for over 130 years. As its president, Chris Yenrick has provided strong leadership, evidenced by his receipt of the "Grassroots Dealer of the Year" award in

2011 from NLBMDA. He has been engaged actively at the federal level through leadership positions with the NLBMDA and regionally with the Southern Building Material Association, culminating in his recent election as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

As the NLBMDA's Chairman, Chris will be leading an organization founded in 1917, with over 6,000 members operating single or multiple lumber yards and component plants serving homebuilders, subcontractors, general contractors, and consumers. The association provides vital input to policymakers and effectively represents its members' interests at all levels and branches of government. Chris will be an outstanding leader of those efforts.

Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and congratulate Chris Yenrick for his service to our community and country and for his dedication to an industry that's creating jobs and opportunity.

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#### HONORING STAFF SGT TOMMIE JACKSON

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a Veteran, Staff SGT Tommie Jackson, of the United States Army.

Staff SGT Tommie Jackson was born April 3, 1942 in Copiah County to French and Besie Jackson. He is the youngest of 12.

Staff SGT Jackson is a member of Brushy Creek Missionary Church where he grew up in the small community of Brushy Creek located in Copiah County.

Staff SGT Jackson married Anna R. Jackson and they have four (4) children: James, French, David and Antoinita Jackson.

Staff SGT Jackson attended William Henry Holtzclaw School located in Crystal Springs, MS. He graduated and attended Utica Junior College, Hinds Community College and Military Police Academy.

Staff SGT Jackson joined the United States Army in 1965. He was stationed in Colorado Springs, CO. His duties there were Special Services and Drill Sgt. Some of the Courses he took while in service are: ATP 21-114, Code of conduct, COURSE-A NON JUD Punishment, and COURSE-B Mil Just, Geneva Convention. He served in Vietnam for one year, four months and twenty seven days.

Staff SGT Jackson came from Vietnam in 1968, earned the rank of SGT (P) E5 and joined the National Guard where he remained until retirement as Staff SGT making a total of over 24 years of dedicated service to his country.

Some of the medals and ribbons received while serving are: Good Conduct, Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Service Medal and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dynamic and dedicated Veteran, Staff SGT Tommie Jackson.

#### MESA MEADOWS LAND COMPANY

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mesa Meadows Land Company and Patrick Foss for receiving the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award.

This award is given to an outstanding Chamber of Commerce business member who contributed substantially to the Chamber of Commerce and the community.

Henry Foss and his wife Dorothy, moved to Golden to open up Foss Drug in 1913. Henry's wish was to keep Foss Drug running as a legacy for his son. The Foss Drug Store, also known as The Foss General Store, closed its doors in 2007.

In the summer of 2013 a celebration was held to celebrate the 100th year of the Foss Building. The totally renovated facility is now the home to 12 small businesses. The building, now known as the Mesa Meadows Land Company, is still owned by the Foss family.

"We are still here, still pitching for Golden and still doing all we can to keep the retail district strong down here," says Patrick Foss, owner of Mesa Meadows Land Company. "Our intention is to keep this going as long as we can be a vital part of Golden".

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mesa Meadows Land Company and Patrick Foss for this well deserved recognition by the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce. Thank you for your continued commitment to the Golden community.

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#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 110TH BIRTHDAY OF JAMES RICHARDSON

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to honor Mr. James Richardson on the occasion of his 110th birthday.

Mr. Richardson was born January 2, 1904, in Eufaula, Alabama. He is the oldest of 11 siblings. Mr. Richardson spent his early years behind a plow on his father's farm. As he got older, he learned to drive a tractor to plow the fields.

Mr. Richardson has two sons. He currently lives at Parkwood Health Care Facility in Phenix City, where he remains happy and healthy. He takes no medications, and he even has a daily exercise regimen. He states attitude is everything, and he tells everyone around him to treat everybody right.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Mr. James Richardson's 110th birthday. 110 years of life is something we all can aspire to, and I am so honored to have Mr. Richardson residing in Alabama's Third Congressional District.

HONORING SGT. WALTER  
FRANKLIN

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a fellow Mississippian, and pay tribute to a veteran of The United States Army, Mr. Walter Franklin.

Sgt. Franklin is a native of Washington County, MS. He is the fifth child born to Mr. L.A. and Bessie Franklin. His education was received through Weddington Elementary School and TL Weston High School in Greenville, MS.

Sgt. Franklin attended Basic Military Training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. After basic training he was transferred to the military base in Louisiana. Sgt. Franklin was a staff sergeant in the Army and served his country for sixteen years.

Throughout his military career he served his country here in America as well as overseas. In the United States he was stationed in Georgia, Seattle Washington, California, and Alabama. Overseas, he served in countries like Germany and Vietnam. Sgt. Franklin was one of two sons of L.A. and Bessie Franklin to serve in the US military. His brother, Alonzo, was a member of the United States Marines.

Sgt. Franklin was unable to finish his career, which was his aim, due to an accident which severely damaged his leg. After being honorably discharged from the Army, he started his second career in security services and law enforcement. He worked for the Washington County Sheriff Department in Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a veteran, Sgt. Walter Franklin, of The United States Army.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 160TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF ANDREW COL-  
LEGE

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Andrew College as it celebrates its 160th anniversary on January 15, 1854. Andrew College is a small, two-year college in rural Southwest Georgia dedicated to meeting the needs of students as a mission of the United Methodist Church.

Approved by the Georgia General Assembly on January 15, 1854, Andrew's charter granted women access to college degrees 66 years before they were allowed to vote, making it the second-oldest educational institution in the nation to grant degrees to women. It was originally named Andrew Female College and operated as a women's four-year college for 63 years until 1917, when it became a junior college. In 1956, the institution became co-educational.

During its 160 years, the College has met its fair share of obstacles; it acted as a Confederate hospital during the Civil War and suffered a devastating fire to the campus in 1892. However, the school was rebuilt and revived by members of the community, and today it

helps students overcome obstacles of their own. Andrew prides itself on its history of providing an education to low-income and at-risk populations of Southwest Georgia, and teaches that life's challenges are often the catalyst for life's triumphs.

Under the current leadership of President David Seyle, Andrew continues to grow as an educational and spiritual leader in the Southeast, providing an academically challenging liberal arts curriculum within a nurturing community. Dr. Seyle and his administration work tirelessly to cultivate a new generation of leaders who welcome life's challenges with empathy and justice. As a champion of affordable education, Andrew College is an outstanding example of compassionate leadership and perseverance.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Andrew College for achieving this historic milestone of 160 years, and for its commitment to higher education. I look forward to continuing to work with the administration, faculty and students to maintain Andrew's great legacy of personal, academic, and spiritual development.

HONORING SGT. E-5 ANTHONY  
MONTRELL LEWIS

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sgt. E-5 Anthony Montrell Lewis, who is a remarkable soldier and public servant.

Sgt. Anthony Montrell Lewis was born on November 3, 1989 in Jackson, MS to Joe Donnell & Carrie Ann Lewis. He is the youngest of their four children: Kina Lewis, Joey Lewis and Ronald Cleve.

Sgt. Lewis grew up in a small community called Brushy Creek where he attended Crystal Springs High School in Crystal Springs, MS and graduated in 2009.

Sgt. Lewis joined the United States Marine Corps in July 2009. His military occupation is Communications and his last duty station was 3rd Battalion 5th Marines.

Sgt. Lewis is currently in temporary duty station at the MCRD Recruiting School where his graduation date will be December 19, 2013. He wants to continue to serve his country.

Sgt. Lewis currently lives in Oceanside, CA and is happily married to Kenya Tisa Lewis.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated soldier, Sgt. E-5 Anthony Montrell Lewis, for his dedication to serving others and our country.

GOLDEN FARMERS MARKET

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Golden Farmers Market for receiving the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce Civic Award.

This award is given each year to an organization or individual who contributed greatly to the quality of life in Golden.

The Golden Farmers Market completed its 12th year in 2013 and is known as a model Farmers Market in the State of Colorado. It is a place where one can purchase fresh produce, vegetables and many other goods, and it is a place to get to know your neighbors. Sales turned in by the vendors totaled \$613,000 in 2013 and nearly \$4 million throughout its 12 year history. This generated more than \$120,000 in city tax revenue.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the Golden Farmers Market, and all the volunteers which make the Golden Farmers Market so successful, for this well deserved recognition from the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce.

H.R. 3362, THE EXCHANGE  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE ACT

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition to H.R. 3362, the Exchange Information Disclosure Act, which is yet another effort to undermine the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The Exchange Information Disclosure Act requires weekly reporting by the Department of Health and Human Services on health insurance enrollments through HealthCare.gov and any and all problems consumers experience when using the website.

While I support strong congressional oversight through sufficient reporting and transparency, the reporting required by this bill is overly burdensome, unfunded, and in excess of requirements for other public or private programs. And it includes another attack on navigators charged with enrolling uninsured and underinsured Americans in the new exchanges.

If this bill was a sincere effort to improve or build upon the landmark health care reform law, then it should have gone through the committee process. Instead, it was crafted to further bog down HHS and make the implementation of the ACA as difficult as possible.

Congress should be using our time to work on legislation to improve the historic law so that millions of Americans can take full advantage of affordable coverage and the landmark reforms and protections included in the ACA, rather than another attempt to delay and derail health care reform.

HONORING CAPTAIN IKE  
SINGLETERY II

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Captain Ike Singletary II who is currently assigned as the Assistant Professor of Military Science at Jackson State University and Mississippi Valley State University.

A native of Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Captain Singletary entered the Army as a commissioned officer in 2006. Captain Singletary

competed for and received a three-year ROTC scholarship as a freshman at Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; he would transfer to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Pembroke, North Carolina the second semester of his freshmen year.

Captain Singletary graduated in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a focus in Management. Upon graduation, Captain Singletary commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Quartermasters Corp (USAR). His first assignment was Transportation Officer and Executive Officer for the 385th Transportation Detachment (Movement Control Team) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina from May, 2006–July, 2007.

In July 2007, Captain Singletary was cross-leveled to the 221st Ordinance Company (Ammunition Modular) in Fort Wayne, Indiana and became a Platoon Leader of a Medium Lift Platoon tasked to prepare the company for the upcoming deployment to Afghanistan. While in Afghanistan from March 2008–April 2009, then Second Lieutenant Singletary was hand-selected to become the Officer-in-Charge of Bagram Airfield Ammunition Supply Point, the largest Ammunition Supply Point in Afghanistan.

From April 2009–October 2012, Captain Singletary served as the Commander of 385th Transportation Detachment (Movement Control Team) in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. During this time, he mobilized in support of the U.S. Homeland Defense Office Command and Control Consequence Response Element (C2CRE) from January 2012 to October 2012. From December 2012 to June 2013, Captain Singletary served as Supply Officer for the 207th Digital Liaison Team in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In May 2013, Captain Singletary accepted an Active/Guard Reserve (AGR) tour.

Captain Singletary is currently on a Military Leave of Absence from the Department of the Army Civilian Corps where he is employed as a Supply Technician at the 171st Infantry Brigade, Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

Captain Singletary holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Webster University and has been awarded the Demonstrated Master Logistician Citation from SOLE—The International Society of Logistics and the Army Logistic University.

Captain Singletary's military education includes: the Quartermaster Officer Basic and Advance Course; Combined Logistics Captain Career Course; Unit Mobilization Planner Course; Hazardous Materials First Responder at the Operational Level Course; Contracting Officer Representative Course; and Support Operations Course.

His awards and decorations include: the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (1OLC), Army Achievement Medal (1OLC), Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, National Defense Service Medal, Army Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M-device, NATO–ISAF Medal, and the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (1OLC).

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Captain Ike Singletary II for serving our country honorably.

## MOTHER HUGHES

### HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special woman, Mrs. Mary Sallie Clark Hughes, of Atlanta, Georgia. She turned 100 years old on December 8, 2013, and I am so grateful to call her a constituent and a friend.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 75 years, Mrs. Hughes has been a missionary for those left out and left behind. She has worked tirelessly to provide clothes to local homeless men and women, as well as victims of fires and other disasters. Her heart is so big that everyone who knows her calls her "Mother Hughes." She has dedicated her life to principle of service—service to God, service to others, and service to the Beloved Community.

At the beautiful age of 100, Mother Hughes is still going strong. She recently earned a certification in theology from the Interdenominational Theological Center. As their oldest graduate to date, Mrs. Hughes inspires others to never abandon their goals and dreams. Her compassion is remarkable, patriotic, and certainly worthy of recognition from this body.

As you can imagine, on her birthday this year, many people gathered in Atlanta to honor her tireless and caring spirit and dedication. I unfortunately was unable to attend this wonderful celebration because of the death of Nelson Mandela. I wish I could have joined so many others in my community in thanking Mother Hughes for her tireless work, lasting legacy of love, and compassion for those most in need.

## HONORING SFC E7 LONNIE JAMES ROBERSON

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a Veteran, SFC E-7 Lonnie James Roberson, of the United States Army.

SFC E-7 Lonnie James Roberson was born on November 13, 1951 in Simpson County Mississippi, to the parentage of Mr. Lonnie Lee and Zeffie Lee Roberson. His siblings are: Joseph Williams; Stella Young of Chicago, IL; Dorothy Milton of McGee, MS; Mary Jane; Kenny; Karen; Patricia; and Joann of Harrisville, MS; and Jimmy Dale of Mendenhall, MS.

SFC E-7 Roberson attended the New Hymn School from 1st grade to 12th grade where he graduated and was elected president of his class in 1970.

SFC E-7 Roberson is married to Mrs. Evelyn Robinson Roberson of Georgetown, MS. They have 2 sons: Alex Kendrick Roberson and Lonnie Dymond Roberson.

After graduation SFC E-7 Roberson worked on various jobs until he was employed full time at Universal MFG in Mendenhall, MS, later known as Magnet MFG. He retired from Magnet MFG after working 27 years.

SFC E-7 Roberson attends Brushy Creek Missionary Baptist Church located in George-

town, MS where he wears many hats. He serves as: Deacon; Sunday School Teacher; President of Usher Ministry; President of Layman ministry; and Vice-President of the Friar Branch New Hope Sunday School Institute and he has received the Copiah Deacon Ministry Award.

SFC E-7 Roberson is a member of Hopewell Lodge #507, Collins Consistory Lodge #190, 32nd degree located in Prentiss, MS.

SFC E-7 Roberson joined the Army Reserve and his duty before he retired was Instructor at Camp Shelby, MS. He was with the 365th Supply and Battalion (WQ7HAA) in Jackson, MS. He received numerous awards: The Army Achievement Medal in June, 1986 and The Army Achievement Medal in 1989. SFC E-7 Roberson served in Desert Storm in 1991 and retired November 13, 2011 after 26 years of dedicated service.

SFC E-7 Roberson is presently employed at ABB of Crystal Springs, MS, formerly known as Kuhlman Electric, where his job description is Field Service Engineer Technician.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dynamic and dedicated Veteran, SFC E-7 Lonnie James Roberson.

## HONORING DONNA JEAN KIRBY

### HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Donna Jean Kirby of Doniphan, Missouri for her outstanding service and involvement in Ripley County. In recognition of her hard work in the community, Ms. Kirby is receiving the Ripley County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award. Ms. Kirby has volunteered her time with Relay for Life in addition to chairing the Christmas decorating committee of Heritage Park and pitching in at Independence Day, Labor Day, Timberfest, and other holiday festivities. She is a sister of Beta Sigma Phi sorority and supports a variety of other interests in the community, including working with a committee of local citizens to keep a local hospital open.

If there is an event taking place in Ripley County, chances are Donna Kirby is helping out to make it happen. She has made Ripley County a better place through her hard work and dedication. Ms. Kirby is also a mother of two and grandmother of four. I am grateful that we have such enthusiastic and committed members of the community, such as Ms. Donna Jean Kirby whose hard work makes a difference in so many lives. It is my pleasure to recognize her efforts and achievements before the House of Representatives.

## MIKE HELMS

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mike Helms for receiving the Charlie O'Brien Award from the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce.

This award goes to members who are well respected within the organization and are motivated by an unselfish desire to contribute to

the community for the betterment of greater Golden.

Seven years ago Mike Helms had a dream to have a monthly event for residents of Golden who love the outdoors and who ride their bicycles. Mike, along with a few others who had this same dream, came up with Golden Bicycle Cruise. The excitement from the first cruise events quickly caught on. Through a partnership with the Golden Civic Foundation, in 2013 the Golden Bicycle Cruise had their most successful year with over 400 riders attending most cruises.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mike Helms for this well deserved recognition by the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce. Your commitment has made our community a better place for all of us to live.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE BATTLE OF HORSESHOE BEND

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Horseshoe Bend National Military Park on the bicentennial of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend.

The Battle of Horseshoe Bend took place during the War of 1812 in what is now known as Daviston, Alabama. On March 27, 1814, General Andrew Jackson led American troops into a day-long battle against a faction of the Creek Indians. Although the battle was trying, General Jackson and his troops defeated the Red Sticks.

March 27, 2014, will mark the bicentennial of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend. The area where the battle took place is now known as Horseshoe Bend National Military Park. From March 27th–29th, a celebration of the bicentennial of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend will be held. This event aims to recreate frontier life in the year 1814 and seeks to emphasize the importance of the battle in United States history. The Alabama Tourism Department named the event one of its Top Ten Events for 2014.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and the community of Daviston, Alabama, in celebrating the bicentennial of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend.

ADMINISTRATION IS SEEN AS RETREATING ON ENVIRONMENT IN TALKS ON PACIFIC TRADE

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, the Obama administration is retreating from previous demands of strong international environmental protections in order to reach agreement on a sweeping Pacific trade deal that is a pillar of President Obama's strategic shift to Asia, according to documents obtained by WikiLeaks, environmentalists and people close to the contentious trade talks.

The negotiations over the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which would be one of the world's

biggest trade agreements, have exposed deep rifts over environmental policy between the United States and 11 other Pacific Rim nations. As it stands now, the documents, viewed by The New York Times, show that the disputes could undo key global environmental protections.

The environmental chapter of the trade deal has been among the most highly disputed elements of negotiations in the pact. Participants in the talks, which have dragged on for three years, had hoped to complete the deal by the end of 2013.

Environmentalists said that the draft appears to signal that the United States will retreat on a variety of environmental protections—including legally binding pollution control requirements and logging regulations and a ban on harvesting sharks' fins—to advance a trade deal that is a top priority for Mr. Obama.

Ilana Solomon, the director of the Sierra Club's Responsible Trade Program, said the draft omits crucial language ensuring that increased trade will not lead to further environmental destruction.

"It rolls back key standards set by Congress to ensure that the environment chapters are legally enforceable, in the same way the commercial parts of free-trade agreements are," Ms. Solomon said. The Sierra Club, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the World Wildlife Fund have been following the negotiations closely and are expected to release a report on Wednesday criticizing the draft.

American officials countered that they had put forward strong environmental proposals in the pact.

"It is an uphill battle, but we're pushing hard," said Michael Froman, the United States trade representative. "We have worked closely with the environmental community from the start and have made our commitment clear." Mr. Froman said he continued to pursue a robust, enforceable environmental standard that he said would be stronger than those in previous free-trade agreements.

The draft documents are dated Nov. 24 and there has been one meeting since then.

The documents consist of the environmental chapter as well as a "Report from the Chairs," which offers an unusual behind-the-scenes look into the divisive trade negotiations, until now shrouded in secrecy. The report indicates that the United States has been pushing for tough environmental provisions, particularly legally binding language that would provide for sanctions against participating countries for environmental violations. The United States is also insisting that the nations follow existing global environmental treaties.

But many of those proposals are opposed by most or all of the other Pacific Rim nations working on the deal, including Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Mexico, Chile, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, Vietnam and Peru. Developing Asian countries, in particular, have long resisted outside efforts to enforce strong environmental controls, arguing that they could hurt their growing economies.

The report appears to indicate that the United States is losing many of those fights, and bluntly notes the rifts: "While the chair sought to accommodate all the concerns and red lines that were identified by parties regarding the issues in the text, many of the red lines for some parties were in direct opposition to the red lines expressed by other parties."

As of now, the draft environmental chapter does not require the nations to follow legally binding environmental provisions or other global environmental treaties. The text notes only, for example, that pollution controls could vary depending on a country's "domestic circumstances and capabilities."

In addition, the draft does not contain clear requirements for a ban on shark finning, which is the practice of capturing sharks and cutting off their fins—commonly used in shark-fin soup—and throwing back the sharks to die. The dish is a delicacy in many of the Asian negotiating countries. At this point the draft says that the countries "may include" bans "as appropriate" on such practices.

Earlier pacts like the North American Free Trade Agreement included only appendices, which called for cooperation on environmental issues but not legally binding terms or requirements. Environmentalists derided them as "green window dressing."

But in May 2007, President George W. Bush struck an environmental deal with Democrats in the Senate and the House as he sought to move a free-trade agreement with Peru through Congress. In what became known as the May 10 Agreement, Democrats got Mr. Bush to agree that all American free-trade deals would include a chapter with environmental provisions, phrased in the same legally binding language as chapters on labor, agriculture and intellectual property. The Democrats also insisted that the chapter require nations to recognize existing global environmental treaties.

Since then, every American free-trade deal has included that strong language, although all have been between the United States and only one other country. It appears to be much tougher to negotiate environmental provisions in a 12-nation agreement.

"Bilateral negotiations are a very different thing," said Jennifer Haverkamp, the former head of the United States trade representative's environmental office. "Here, if the U.S. is the only one pushing for this, it's a real uphill battle to get others to agree if they don't like it."

But business groups say the deal may need to ease up. "There are some governments with developing economies that will need more time and leeway," said Cal Cohen, president of the Emergency Committee for American Trade, a group of about 100 executives and trade associations that lobbies the United States trade negotiator on the deal. "When you think about the evolution of labor provisions, you realize how many centuries the development of high standards took."

Since the trade talks began, lawmakers and advocacy groups have assailed the negotiators for keeping the process secret, and WikiLeaks has been among the most critical voices. The environment chapter is the third in a series of Trans-Pacific Partnership documents released by WikiLeaks. In November, the group posted the draft chapter on intellectual property. In December, the site posted documents detailing disagreements between the negotiating parties on other issues. The site is expected to release more documents as the negotiations unfold.

HONORING SGT. MARQUITA A.  
GEORGE

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a fellow Mississippian, and pay tribute to a soldier of The United States Air Force, Sgt. Marquita A. George of Sunflower County, Mississippi.

Sgt. George is the only child born to Terri and the stepdaughter of a former Navy man, Mr. Eddie Bentley, Jr. She is a native of Moorhead, MS. Sgt. George received her early education from the East Sunflower Elementary School and Gentry High School in Indianola, MS.

Sgt. George went on to pursue higher education at Alcorn State University and Mississippi State University, but put her pursuit on hold to answer a burning desire. She had to enlist in the military. She knew she could kill two birds with one stone. Sgt. George enlisted in The United States Air Force.

August 5, 2005, Sgt. George attended Basic Military Training in San Antonio, TX. After graduating basic training, she went to Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, MS and studied at the Technical School for Information Management (TSIM) learning about computers. After graduating TSIM she was transferred to Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, AL. At Maxwell Air Force Base she was able to put her computer education to work by becoming scheduling technician, personnel liaison, and a computer technician for student officers from Majors to Lieutenant Colonels. While at Maxwell Air Force, Sgt. George also earned her Associate's Degree in Information Management from the Community College of the Air Force.

Sgt. George has been deployed three times overseas. Her tours include Kirkuk, Iraq; Baghdad, Iraq; and Al Udeid Qatar. While on deployment in Baghdad she was decorated with the Joint Commendation Medal. This medal was for a joint special secret service mission with The United States Navy, The United States Marines, and The United States Army to locate Sadaam Hussein.

Sgt. George is currently a Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) of the Official Mail Center at Little Rock Air Force Base in Jacksonville, AR. On this assignment she is improving her supervision skills by supervising a great team of Airmen to operate the mail distribution center for the base; and we all know mail is highly important to soldiers many of whom are constantly deployed and mobile. The mail must follow without hiccups. She said her goal is to be the supervisor she never had to those under her authority and prepare for her next supervision assignment.

Ultimately, Sgt. George has her eye set on becoming a Master Sergeant to obtain the duty title as a First Sergeant. I am pleased to hear from Sgt. George that her loyalty to the United States is faithful and just so much that she decided to re-enlist for another six more years, after which she will have fourteen years dedicated to serving and protecting our country. I am thankful and grateful for the service she has given us. Thank you Sgt. George.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a rising soldier of our United States Air Force, Sgt. Marquita A. George.

MEGARA PULLEN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Megara Pullen for receiving the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce Ambassador of the Year Award.

This award is given each year to an individual who is a member of the Chamber Ambassadors. This individual is active in promoting the Chamber in several ways including attending ribbon cuttings, grand openings, ground breakings, mentoring new Chamber members, attending Chamber functions, helping at the Chamber Back Yard BBQ, and the list goes on.

In addition to her job as Marketing Director for four Mahnke Auto Body locations, Megara is always available to take on the role of volunteer or leader. Her dedication to the Greater Golden Chamber makes her a real asset to the Golden community.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Megara Pullen for her well deserved recognition from the Greater Golden Chamber of Commerce. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE NAVAL AIR  
STATION, PENSACOLA HEAD-  
QUARTERS AS THE W.L. RICH-  
ARDSON BUILDING 1500

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commemorate the life of Walter Leroy "Dick" Richardson and recognize the Naval Air Station, Pensacola Headquarters as the W.L. Richardson Building 1500.

Walter Leroy Richardson was born August 21, 1889 in Princeton Depot, Massachusetts and was later married to Ethel Wilkerson. He enlisted as a Ship's Cook (4th class) in the U.S. Navy on November 1, 1911, where he served on the USS Mississippi. Having developed a passion for photography in his youth, Richardson was able to continue his hobby of photography on the USS Mississippi while it was anchored in Pensacola. During the Navy's first few weeks of aviation-related activities in Pensacola in 1914, Richardson often captured aviation activities on film, and the Navy recognized that his photographs were a valuable tool for training and documenting aircraft testing, accidents, and other activities. Before long, the Navy designated Richardson as the Navy's first official photographer. At the start of World War I, the Navy used photography for aerial reconnaissance, and Richardson was soon commissioned and charged with organizing the first Naval School of Photography.

Richardson is now known as the "Father of Naval Photography and Naval Aerial Photog-

raphers." He served as photographer aboard the USS Birmingham during the Mexican Intervention in 1914, and he also invented the first handheld oblique camera for aerial photography. Pushing the limits of what a camera in the air could do, he even survived a crash aboard the first U.S. Navy zeppelin, the USS Shenandoah in 1922. He subsequently was honorably discharged from military service on January 1, 1926. Walter Leroy Richardson passed away on June 14, 1945 and is interred at Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Washington D.C.

Walter Leroy Richardson's pioneering spirit and dedication to his craft and country make it an honor to dedicate Naval Air Station Building 1500 in Pensacola, Florida to his proud legacy. Building 1500 was built by the U.S. Army in 1939 and was later turned into a Naval School of Photography. The school was later renamed the Defense Photography School and relocated to Fort Meade, Maryland. Building 1500 was selected for renovation under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in 2010 and then designated as headquarters for Naval Air Station, Pensacola.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Nation, I stand here today to commend Walter Leroy "Dick" Richardson, his lasting impact on the United States Armed Forces, and the recognition of his legacy through the dedication of Building 1500 as the W.L. Richardson Building 1500 on board Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS  
ADDRESSES UNEMPLOYMENT  
BENEFITS

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 13, 2014*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, another week has passed while Republicans in Congress continue their blockade on the renewal of federal unemployment insurance. More than 1.5 million jobless Americans remain without unemployment insurance and another 72,000 hardworking men and women will be cut off with each additional week of inaction that passes by.

House Democrats have continued their push to hold a vote on extending emergency unemployment insurance. In fact, this is the third time that I join my colleagues in making sure that we renew our promise to the American people by demanding a simple vote on a three-month extension. Every day that we fail to act means more families will be left wondering how they will put food on the table or pay for basic goods as they seek employment.

Instead of devoting so much time in Congress trying to overturn the Affordable Care Act, House Republicans should reconsider the impact that allowing unemployment insurance to expire will have on the U.S. economy and American families. It is estimated that the lapse in unemployment coverage removed \$400 million out of state economies in just a single week, while failing to extend unemployment insurance will cost the U.S. economy 240,000 jobs this year.

Mr. Speaker, this is an issue of restoring economic security for millions of Americans and their families. I am truly disappointed to

see that the House Republican agenda for 2014 does not include renewing federal unemployment insurance. The long-term unemployed cannot wait on Congress to restore this critical support any longer, and I urge my Republican colleagues to act now.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL S. GREEN &  
2013 EUGENE ASHER DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

### HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with pride and pleasure to congratulate Dr. Michael S. Green, professor of history at the College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas, on his recent selection as the recipient of the American Historical Association's 2013 Eugene Asher Distinguished Teaching Award. The AHA, a leading professional organization dedicated to the study and teaching of history, awards this prize only once a year to recognize outstanding teaching and advocacy for history. This is the first time ever that this prestigious award has gone to a community college professor.

To quote Winston Churchill, "Study history, study history. In history lie all the secrets of statecraft." Professor Green is encouraging the young people of Southern Nevada to do just that—"study history, study history." Through his excellent teaching, he is cultivating the minds of tomorrow. Many of his former students are found today in public service and media positions throughout Nevada.

A graduate of the University of Nevada—Las Vegas and Columbia University, Dr. Green specializes in nineteenth century politics and the American West, and has published several books including, *Las Vegas: A Centennial History*, and dozens of articles in scholarly journals. He writes a regular column in several popular magazines and is often called upon to serve as a lecturer, guest speaker, and expert on Nevada history and politics. He is a researcher and consultant for the City of Las Vegas Mob Museum, and is currently writing a text book on Nevada history. A man of many talents, Dr. Green is also a specialist on President Lincoln, having authored several books focusing on Lincoln and the politics of the Civil War. He is currently editing a collection of essays focusing on Lincoln as well.

Nonetheless, while many academicians often prioritize research and publications over teaching, Michael Green's number one priority has always been his students. As one remarked, "Dr. Green loves his subject and it shows." I can think of no higher compliment, and I can imagine no one more deserving of this award. I commend Dr. Green for this distinction, and am proud to have him as a friend, a colleague, and a constituent, Only in District One.

### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

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 \$17,287,251,611,151.62. We've added \$6,660,374,562,238.54 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

### BIRTHDAY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. CONYERS. I rise today to honor the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the man who so many year ago inspired me and challenged me to pursue a life in public service. His message of love, hope, and compassion ignited a Civil Rights Movement that changed the hearts of millions of Americans. His stirring rhetoric, his devotion to non-violence even in the face of grave danger, and his example of moral courage, breathed new life into the promises of freedom, equality, and justice that have always defined American democracy.

Today I remind my colleagues that the nation and world of which he dreamed of remains unrealized. We have eliminated the most invidious forms of Jim Crow, but racism still permeates far too much of our daily lives. We have made great strides in ensuring equal opportunity regardless of race, sex, or religion, but vast inequalities still exist. We have been stalled in our efforts to ensure that every American has the opportunity to grow through education, gain dignity through honest work, and receive equal treatment before the law. These are the struggles where we have failed to live up to the example set by Dr. King; these are the battles Dr. King would be fighting if he was still around to celebrate his 85th birthday.

Remember Dr. King, be thankful for the legacy he left behind, and consider what we can do to honor his memory.

Happy Birthday Dr. King. Happy Birthday to you.

### COMMEMORATING 106TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 106th anniversary of the founding of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the first Greek-letter organization established by black college women in America.

This prestigious organization, founded at Howard University by nine visionary women in 1908, at a period when Jim Crow laws flourished in the law books, knew the rigors of their journey during the early 1900s. Those nine special women were: Anna Easter Brown, Beulah Burke, Lillie Burke, Marjorie Hill, Margaret Flagg Holmes, Ethel Hedgeman Lyle, Lavinia Norman, Lucy Slowe, and Marie Woolfolk Taylor.

The organization, which has grown to a sisterhood of more than 260,000 members in 975 chapters worldwide, includes an extraordinary collection of women, who now encompass diverse ethnicities and nationalities and are united by a bond of sisterhood and a commitment to service.

Alpha Kappa Alpha was founded to touch lives, improve the stature of women and serve humankind. Its mission is to develop leaders, expand educational and economic opportunity, and ensure that the Sorority is fully engaged in the civic life of the nation and each community in which it has a chapter.

Sojourner Truth once said, that "If women want any rights more than [they've] got, why don't they just take them and not be talking about it." This quote embodies the spirit that the determined women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Alpha Kappa Alpha is home to college presidents, deans, directors of Fortune 500 companies, judges, mayors, Members of Congress, state legislatures, city councils, and school boards. This sorority has provided the foundation for intellectuals such as Sharon Pratt Kelly, the first woman to serve as mayor of Washington, D.C.; Angie Brookes, the first woman President of the United Nations; the long revered Rosa Parks, mother of the Civil Rights Movement; Azie Taylor Morton, the only African-American to hold the position of Treasurer of the United States; and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

Alpha Kappa Alpha women have served in the United States Armed Services and devoted their lives to saving ours. I salute those women today who are active or retired military personnel. They are the heroes that should be emulated by the next generation.

AKA's have long referred to founder Ethel Hedgeman Lyle as the "guiding light," a figurative phrase that emphasizes the central importance to AKA sisters of aptitude, resilience, unwavering service, and valor.

President George W. Bush, in his address at the 55th Inauguration, stated that:

Our nation relies on men and women who look after a neighbor and surround the lost with love. Americans, at our best, value the life we see in one another, and must always remember that even the unwanted have worth.

I am honored to commemorate this historic milestone and commemorate the 106th anniversary of the coming together of an amazing sisterhood, born of the passion for humanitarian service and educational excellence of nine extraordinary young women.

As a member of the Alpha Kappa Omega Graduate Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in Houston, Texas, I take great pride in the fact that the legacy of the founders lives on in the work of the Omega Graduate Chapter under the leadership of Marianne Young Walker, Chapter President; and Jeanne Cherise Story, Chapter Treasurer.

Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter located in Houston, Texas is also the home chapter of:

The 18th International President, Dr. Mattelia B. Grays; the 21st International President, Ms. Faye B. Bryant; the 20th South Central Regional Director, Dr. Polly Sparks Turner; and the 23rd South Central Regional Director, Mrs. Gwendolyn J. Brinkley.

Inspired by a dedicated investment of human capital and a bold commitment to the principles of basic human rights, the sisters of Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter dedicates their talent and resources to the betterment of their community and live by this motto: "Global Leadership through Timeless Service."

Among the signature program initiatives of Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter are the following:

Emerging Young Leaders Program, which—impact the lives of 10,000 girls in grades six through eight by providing leadership development, civic engagement, enhanced academic preparation and character building.

Health Initiatives—encourage personal fitness and healthy life styles to reduce health disparities, save lives.

Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability an initiative to encourage energy efficiency, conservation, eco-living, reforestation, urban gardening, education and empowerment of consumers, and opportunities for women owned businesses.

Global Poverty Initiative, a program to hunger, preserve the environment and empower women by providing food production skills and training in self-reliance through gifts of seeds, livestock and training in environmentally sound agriculture.

Social Justice and Human Right Initiative, which addresses gender equality issues including human trafficking and domestic violence, services for children with incarcerated parents, youth aging out of foster care and children in homeless shelters.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the extraordinary achievements of this extraordinary organization that has been providing leadership for our nation for 106 years.

**SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**HON. DINA TITUS**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, nearly 350,000 Southern Nevada residents regularly struggle

to secure enough food to feed themselves and nurture their families.

During the recent recession, demand for nutrition assistance increased dramatically. As a result, charitable organizations across the country have been asked to do more with less. In my district, Three Square Food Bank has witnessed former donors becoming clients due to layoffs and long-term unemployment.

As the Farm Bill is finalized, I'd like to urge the members of the joint committee to protect funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and reauthorize categorical eligibility so Southern Nevadans struggling in this economy can continue to access the programs they rely on to make ends meet.

Let me tell you about Jennifer who lives in Southern Nevada. Jennifer, her two children, and her sister are considered a household under existing law. They live together, buy food together, and eat meals together as a family. Jennifer and her sister each own a car, which they rely on to get to work on time every day. These are not luxury cars; both are eight years old and in need of repair.

The problem for Jennifer and her family is that the SNAP program has strict eligibility requirements that make it very difficult for families with even moderate assets, like aging cars, to qualify for the nutrition assistance program. Categorical eligibility helps solve this problem by recognizing that many low-income families who qualify for other assistance programs also need basic food assistance. If categorical eligibility is eliminated, Jennifer and millions of other low-income families with gross incomes or assets just above the federal SNAP limit would become ineligible for SNAP benefits simply because of the value of the modest cars they own.

Categorical eligibility has been demonized in recent months, but it plays a critical role in helping families like Jennifer's access the programs they need so that their basic expenses are met each month. It also enables these families to keep assets, like an aging car, without having to make the difficult choice between food assistance and transportation. This is especially important for the nearly 40,000 unemployed Nevadans who need a reliable vehicle to search for jobs and secure employment once they've been hired.

I urge the members of the joint committee to protect the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and maintain categorical eligibility so working families like Jennifer's can continue to receive this vital food assistance.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, January 16, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 28

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1600, to facilitate the reestablishment of domestic, critical mineral designation, assessment, production, manufacturing, recycling, analysis, forecasting, workforce, education, research, and international capabilities in the United States.

SD-366

FEBRUARY 4

10:15 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine privacy in the digital age, focusing on preventing data breaches and combating cybercrime.

SD-226