

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO HON. WILLIAM ENGLE III

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of eastern Kentucky's toughest leaders, both in and out of the courtroom, Chief Circuit Judge for Kentucky's Thirty-Third Judicial Circuit, the Honorable William Engle III, upon his upcoming retirement.

Judge Engle made a profound impression on Kentucky's Perry County when he first won a special election in 2004 to take the bench. He was determined to restore dignity and honor to the court that was mired by countless drug-related cases. One year earlier, our region was dubbed the nation's "Painkiller Capital," and Judge Engle was determined to implement changes that could save the lives of people who entered his courtroom, and curb the tide of prescription drug abuse in Eastern Kentucky.

Fulfilling his pledge, Judge Engle established a Drug Court in Perry County in 2005, volunteering his own time to oversee the program. Drug Courts are designed to reduce the relapse rate of drug abusers and drug-related crime through substance abuse education, treatment, drug-testing, and counseling. With strict oversight, four participants made it to the first graduation ceremony in 2006. Since then, some 60 people have successfully graduated from this impressive treatment-alternative program in Perry County. Additionally, Judge Engle had the foresight to partner with a local workforce center to help Drug Court participants re-enter the workforce and build a career. His work has helped restore thousands of dollars in child support payments, as well as restitution and fines owed by the individuals. Most importantly, dozens of families have been transformed through the program and at least eleven drug-free babies have been born, giving them all a wonderful new beginning.

As he passes the gavel, Judge Engle leaves behind a legacy of fortitude in the law, yet humility in his service. His wisdom and passion will undoubtedly be sought after as the people of Perry County choose his successor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a champion for drug-free communities, the Honorable William Engle III. I wish him all the best in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE WISSAHICKON SKATING CLUB AND THE MERRITTON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the skaters and families, current and past, of the Wissahickon Skating Club in Chestnut Hill, Pennsylvania and the Merritton Athletic Association in St. Catharines, Ontario. This third weekend in February marks the 50th anniversary of the Wissahickon Skating Club—Merritton Athletic Association Hockey Exchange. For five decades without interruption, the organizations have taken turns hosting players and even entire families in their homes for a long weekend of festivities. The exchange culminates in a youth hockey tournament for which trophies are awarded to the victorious teams. It is understood to be the longest uninterrupted exchange of its type in international competition.

This tournament would not be possible without the vision of former Wissahickon hockey coach Walter Jewell and Merritton Athletic Association President, Walter Baum. Walter Jewell had been taking hockey teams to Canada since 1962. Looking to start his own tournament with a team from Canada, the Merritton Athletic Association was recommended to him. In November of 1964, the Merritton Athletic Association and Walter Baum received a letter written by Walter Jewell from the Wissahickon Skating Club seeking to arrange an exchange trip between the two organizations.

In March 1965 two teams from the Wissahickon Skating Club arrived as guests of the Merritton Athletic Association. The first games were a Pee Wee-Bantam double-header, taking place at the Thorold Arena in St. Catharines, Ontario, the home of the Merritton Athletic Association. The tournament trophies for this exchange were donated by the Wissahickon Skating Club for the Bantam level and the Kaupp Electric Trophy for the pee wee level. Each organization was victorious that weekend with the Merritton Pee Wees accepting the Kaupp Electric Trophy and the Wissahickon Bantams taking home the Bantam Trophy. No one had any idea at the time that 49 exchanges were to occur without ever missing a single year.

Mr. Speaker, this tournament brings back special memories for me. As an 11-year-old I can recall the adventurous bus ride, for the first of numerous visits to Canada, and the warm hospitality of the Greenough and Isherwood families who welcomed my older brother Mike and me into their homes. We visited Niagara Falls, learned how a cargo ship navigates a river lock and walked the floor of a paper mill, all the while growing closer to the same boys we would be skating against that evening. Lifetime bonds were formed. It was

then and still remains so much more than a hockey game. It represents the warm and genuine affection Americans and Canadians have for each other and it is expressed through the rich tradition of friendly competition and the great game of ice hockey. The friendship endures through generations as fathers are reunited watching their sons skate on the same ice they remember playing on as children.

The 50th anniversary of this very special engagement of camaraderie and sportsmanship will be celebrated the weekend of February 13–15, 2014 in Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia. The two "Walters" would be proud of their legacy. I hope that this wonderful tradition can continue for the children of the children who will compete on this special 50th anniversary.

SPORTSMEN'S HERITAGE AND RECREATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3590) to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes:

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 3590, the SHARE Act of 2013. This bill contains a harmful provision that chips away at the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) by retroactively allowing the import of sport-hunted polar bear trophies as Title IV of the bill. I submitted an amendment to the bill which would have struck Title IV, however the Rules Committee denied the members of this body an opportunity to vote on this issue. I am disappointed this legislation was not brought to the floor under an open rule which would have allowed consideration of my amendment so members could debate this precedent-setting provision.

Polar bears are protected from sport hunting in the United States, including the polar bear population in Alaska. In 2008 the Bush Administration listed the polar bear as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act and the 1972 MMPA protects polar bears and other marine mammals. To allow American hunters to kill them for trophies in other countries is irresponsible and inconsistent with the bipartisan commitment to conserving the polar bear population.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the polar bear is a "vulnerable" species based on a projected population reduction of more than 30 percent within three generations (45 years) due to a decrease in distribution and habitat quality. It is estimated there are fewer than 20,000 to 25,000 polar bears remaining in the wild.

• 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.

Title IV of this bill exempts 41 trophy hunters who had proper notice of the impending prohibition on import of polar bear trophies. These 41 individuals hunted these bears after the Bush Administration proposed the species for listing as threatened under ESA, and all but one continued to hunt polar bears more than a year after the listing was proposed. Despite repeated warnings from hunting organizations and government agencies that they were hunting at their own risk because trophy imports were unlikely to be allowed as of the listing date, these individuals sport hunted polar bears anyway.

An example of warnings regarding the prospects of importing polar bear trophies comes from hunting rights organization Conservation Force. The group wrote to hunters in December 2007: "American hunters are asking us whether they should even look at polar bear hunts in light of the current effort by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to list this species as threatened . . . The bottom line is, no American hunter should be putting hard, non-returnable money down on a polar bear hunt at this point." The group also noted in January 2008: "We feel compelled to tell you that American trophy hunters are likely to be barred from importing bears they take this season. Moreover, there is a chance that bears taken previous to this season may be barred as well. American clients with polar bear trophies still in Canada or Nunavut need to get those bears home."

Conservation Force again reminded hunters that the ESA listing "will stop all imports . . . immediately" in April 2008. Later that same month, Safari Club International informed hunters: "If some or all of the polar bear populations are listed, the FWS has indicated that imports of trophies from any listed populations would be barred as of that date, regardless of where in the process the application is."

Congress should not change a law just because a few people did not heed clear and ample warnings. It is an affront to the millions of hunters and sportsmen who followed the law and observed the warning of government agencies and hunting organizations. The hunters that chose to travel to the Arctic to sport hunt polar bears should not receive special treatment. Doing so creates a moral hazard and establishes a dangerous precedent that could encourage rushes to sport hunt imperiled species prior to their formal listing as an endangered species. Those who wish to sport hunt imperiled species should understand they do so at their own risk and cannot rely on allies in Congress to bail them out with a retroactive waiver of critical conservation law.

Congress first carved out a loophole in the MMPA and allowed for more than 900 sport-hunted polar bear trophies to be imported into the United States from Canada in 1994. In 1997, Congress amended the MMPA to allow imports of polar bear trophies taken in sport hunts in Canada before April 1994, regardless of what population the bear was taken from, and despite the strict prohibition on trophy imports in place prior to 1994. In 2003, Congress amended the MMPA to allow imports of polar bear trophies taken in sport hunts in Canada before February 1997. This allowed imports regardless of what population the bear is taken from, and as long as the hunter proves that the bear is "legally harvested in Canada."

Today with H.R. 3590, we have yet another effort to allow polar bear imports. This time we are asked to approve an additional 41 trophies

on top of the more than 1,000 already Congress previously sanctioned for import. How many times are we going to provide these "one-time" import allowances? Doing this repeatedly undermines the restrictions on killing rare species.

At a time when Congress should be working in a bipartisan basis to address many of the critical issues facing American families, more special treatment for wealthy sport hunters should not be a priority. I am disappointed that my amendment to strike Title IV was not made in order and that the House did not have an opportunity to further debate this matter.

RECOGNIZING THE 12TH ANNUAL
BLACK HISTORY MONTH BRUNCH
HOSTED BY THE GENESEE DISTRICT
LIBRARY

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Genesee District Library as they celebrate their 12th Annual Black History Month Brunch on Saturday, February 8th in Flint, Michigan.

Formed in 2002, this Black History Month Brunch has become a staple in our community, and is regarded as one of Genesee County's signature events. A portion of the proceeds raised will go to support the Genesee District Library's Summer Reading Program.

During this special Black History Month Brunch, the Genesee District Library will honor Carolyn Nash, Retired Executive Director, Genesee District Library; Louis Hawkins, Community Relation Administrator, HealthPlus of Michigan; Lawrence E. Moon, Owner, Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home; and Bruce Bradley, CEO/Founder, Tapology, all for their unwavering commitment and significant contribution to our community. The event will also feature a performance from four-time Grammy Award and Academy Award winning vocalist, Regina Belle.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the Genesee District Library for providing this opportunity for the community to join hands, recognize, and celebrate the contribution of local African Americans. This event captures the essence of Black History Month, and inspires residents to celebrate all year long.

HONORING 2013 FELLOWS OF THE
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 143 inventors who will soon be recognized at the United States Patent and Trademark Office and inducted as the 2013 Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors by the United States Deputy Commissioner of Patent Operations, Andrew Faile. In order to be named as a Fellow, these men and women were nominated by their peers and have un-

dergone the scrutiny of the NAI Selection Committee, having had their innovations deemed as making significant impact on quality of life, economic development and welfare of society. Collectively, this elite group holds more than 5,600 patents.

The individuals making up this year's class of Fellows include individuals from 94 research universities and non-profit research institutes spanning not just the United States but also the world. This group of inductees touts 26 presidents and senior leadership of research universities and non-profit research institutes, 69 members of the National Academies, five inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, six recipients of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, two recipients of the National Medal of Science, nine Nobel Laureates, and 23 AAAS Fellows, among other major awards and distinctions.

The contributions made to society through innovation are immeasurable. I commend these individuals, and the organizations that support them, for the work that they do to revolutionize the world we live in. As the following inventors are inducted, may it encourage future innovators to strive to meet this high honor and continue the spirit of innovation.

The 2013 NAI Fellows include:

Patrick Aebischer, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne; Rakesh Agrawal, Purdue University; Dimitris Anastassiou, Columbia University; David E. Aspnes, North Carolina State University; Michael Bass, University of Central Florida; David J. Bayless, Ohio University; Kurt H. Becker, New York University; Carolyn R. Bertozzi, University of California, Berkeley; Rathindra N. Bose, University of Houston; David E. Briles, The University of Alabama at Birmingham; Richard D. Bucholz, Saint Louis University; Mark A. Burns, University of Michigan; Anne K. Camper, Montana State University; Lisa A. Cannon-Albright, The University of Utah; Charles R. Cantor, Boston University; Dennis A. Carson, University of California, San Diego; Carolyn L. Cason, The University of Texas at Arlington; David M. Center, Boston University; Vinton G. Cerf, National Science Foundation; Stephen Y. Chou, Princeton University.

Christos Christodoulatos, Stevens Institute of Technology; Benjamin Chu, Stony Brook University; Aaron J. Ciechanover, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology; Graeme M. Clark, The University of Melbourne; Leon N. Cooper, Brown University; Carlo M. Croce, The Ohio State University; William W. Cruikshank, Boston University; Brian T. Cunningham, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Jerome J. Cuomo, North Carolina State University; Narendra Dahotre, University of North Texas; William S. Dalton, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center; Rathindra DasGupta, National Science Foundation; Paul L. DeAngelis, The University of Oklahoma; William F. DeGrado, University of California, San Francisco; Peter J. Delfyett, University of Central Florida; Lawrence J. DeLucas, The University of Alabama at Birmingham; Steven P. DenBaars, University of California, Santa Barbara; Joseph M. DeSimone, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Spiros S. Dimolitsas, Georgetown University; Michael P. Doyle, The University of Georgia.

James A. Dumesic, University of Wisconsin-Madison; David A. Edwards, Harvard University; T. Taylor Eighmy, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville; John G. Elias, University of

Delaware; Ronald L. Elsenbaumer, The University of Texas at Arlington; Todd S. Emrick, University of Massachusetts Amherst; Liang-Shih Fan, The Ohio State University; Nariman Farvardin, Stevens Institute of Technology; Henry C. Foley, University of Missouri System; Ophir Frieder, Georgetown University; Fred H. Gage, Salk Institute for Biological Studies; Tillman U. Gerngross, Dartmouth College; George W. Gokel, University of Missouri-St. Louis; Clifford M. Gross, University of South Florida; Robert H. Grubbs, California Institute of Technology; Theodor W. Hänsch, Max-Planck-Institut für Quantenoptik Germany; Jeffrey H. Harwell, The University of Oklahoma; Jason C. Heikenfeld, University of Cincinnati; Benjamin S. Hsiao, Stony Brook University; Stephen D. H. Hsu, Michigan State University.

Lonnie O. Ingram, University of Florida; Tatsuo Itoh, University of California, Los Angeles; S. Sitharama Iyengar, Florida International University; Richard Jove, Vaccine and Gene Therapy Institute of Florida; Biing-Hwang Juang, Georgia Institute of Technology; Vistasp M. Karbhari, The University of Texas at Arlington; Joachim B. Kohn, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; George P. Korfiatis, Stevens Institute of Technology; Michael R. Ladisch, Purdue University; David C. Larbalestier, Florida State University; Cato T. Laurencin, University of Connecticut; Kam W. Leong, Duke University; Frank L. Lewis, The University of Texas at Arlington; Ping Liang, University of California, Riverside; Charles M. Lieber, Harvard University; Stephen B. Liggett, University of South Florida; Dennis C. Liotta, Emory University; Dmitri Litvinov, University of Houston; Michael R. Lovell, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Richard J. Mammone, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

Michael A. Marletta, The Scripps Research Institute; Edith Mathiowitz, Brown University; Krzysztof Matyjaszewski, Carnegie Mellon University; Constantinos Mavroidis, Northeastern University; Robert M. Metcalfe, The University of Texas at Austin; Gary K. Michelson, Twenty Million Minds Foundation; Robert H. Miller, Case Western Reserve University; Chad A. Mirkin, Northwestern University; Samir Mitragotri, University of California, Santa Barbara; Shanta M. Modak, Columbia University; Marsha A. Moses, Harvard University; Ferid Murad, The George Washington University; Hameed Naseem, University of Arkansas; Laura E. Niklason, Yale University; Santa J. Ono, University of Cincinnati; Sethuraman Panchanathan, Arizona State University; P. Hunter Peckham, Case Western Reserve University; Gholam A. Peyman, Tulane University; Glenn D. Prestwich, The University of Utah; Stephen R. Quake, Stanford University.

Dabbala R. Reddy, Carnegie Mellon University; Zhifeng Ren, University of Houston; Darrell H. Reneker, The University of Akron; John A. Rogers, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Bernard Roizman, The University of Chicago; Arye Rosen, Drexel University; Joseph C. Salamone, University of Massachusetts Lowell; W. Mark Saltzman, Yale University; Yoshiaki Sato, Kaatsu International University; Martin Schadt, Nanjing University; Vern L. Schramm, Yeshiva University; Sudipta Seal, University of Central Florida; Venkat Selvamnickam, University of Houston; Wei-Heng Shih, Drexel University; Mary Shire, University of Limerick, Ireland; Henry I. Smith, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; George F. Smoot III, University of California,

Berkeley; Thomas C. Südhof, Stanford University; Subra Suresh, Carnegie Mellon University; Theodore F. Taraschi, Thomas Jefferson University.

Arthur J. Tipton, Southern Research Institute; Satish S. Udpa, Michigan State University; Kathryn E. Uhrich, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; Akos Vertes, The George Washington University; Vitaly J. Vodyanoy, Auburn University; John N. Vournakis, Medical University of South Carolina; Jay S. Walker, Cornell University; David R. Walt, Tufts University; Donald P. Weeks, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Sherman M. Weissman, Yale University; James E. West, The Johns Hopkins University; Wayne C. Westerman, University of Delaware; George M. Whitesides, Harvard University; H. Kumar Wickramasinghe, University of California, Irvine; David J. Wineland, National Institute of Standards and Technology; Carl T. Wittwer, The University of Utah; Jerry M. Woodall, University of California, Davis; Mark S. Wrighton, Washington University in St. Louis; James J. Wynne, University of South Florida; Ralph T. Yang, University of Michigan; Frederic Zenhausern, The University of Arizona; Shuguang Zhang, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Harald zur Hausen, German Cancer Research Center.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 55–56. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall votes 55 and 56.

HONORING ADA LUCILLE WILLIAMS UPON THE OCCASION OF HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the accomplishments of a virtuous woman, a professional homemaker, positive role model, counselor, proud mother, grandmother of nineteen grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren, and three great-great grandchildren, Ada Lucille Williams on the occasion of her 90th Birthday.

Ada Lucille Williams was born on February 29, 1924, in Vicksburg, Mississippi to her proud parents, Robert and Flora (Bass) Williams. Raised by her maternal grandmother, Hettie Bass, Ada grew up in the segregated South. She often recounts the life and struggles of African Americans during this time, noting that she and other black children walked to school, while white children rode past them on the school buses. Black children were responsible for purchasing their own books, while white children were provided with school books by their district. It was then she learned the valuable lessons about team work. She shared her textbooks with other children who were not fortunate enough to have them.

This was an early lesson in creatively making ends meet.

Ada married the late James Louis Williams on September 2, 1942. They had nine children. Lucille and James migrated from Vicksburg to Niagara Falls, New York. Lucille joined the New Hope Baptist Church where she participated in the Missionary Society. Besides raising her children and grandchildren, Lucille participated in the March of Dimes, Muscular Dystrophy campaigns, and the Center Avenue Parent Teachers Association.

Affectionately called, “Ma Williams,” she is a founding member of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, where she serves as Church Mother, Kitchen Committee Chairperson, Missionary Society President, Youth Choir Advisor, willing worker and provider of religious instruction.

Ada’s favorite Scripture is Proverbs 22:6, “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Her devotion to serving others is inspired by her deep spirituality.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor this special lady, an incredible citizen who commits her life to the betterment of others. I am thankful for Ada’s many years of service to the community and I wish her many more good and prosperous years.

COMMEMORATING NORMAN AND NORMA BURMAH’S 83 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

HON. VANCE M. McALLISTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. McALLISTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride and pleasure to commemorate Norman and Norma Burmah on the occasion of their 83rd wedding anniversary.

Norman and Norma were introduced at the “Roof Garden Dance Hall” in New Orleans during a performance by the legendary Louis Armstrong, and were married on January 26, 1931.

Inspired by their Creole heritage, Norman and Norma created a livelihood by starting a successful catering business. They were blessed with two children, six grandchildren, and thirteen great grandchildren. They have stood steadfast in their faith over the years, still beginning each day in prayer. Norma’s love for parties and traveling is what she claims have kept her young at heart. They enjoy the simple things in life: old movies, game shows, watching the New Orleans Saints and entertaining guests at their home. Until 2005, the Burmahs lived in New Orleans, where they met, until they sadly lost their home in Hurricane Katrina. The Burmahs now reside in Marksville, LA, and continue to exemplify a strong character of dedication, compassion and devotion to one another.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Norman and Norma Burmah, the longest married couple in Louisiana, as they celebrate 83 years of dedication to one another which serves as an inspiration to all.

[From the Louisiana Family Forum]

Introduced by a close friend, Norman and Norma Burmah met at the “Roof Garden Dance Hall” in New Orleans during a live

performance by Louis Armstrong playing their theme song "What a Wonderful World." They were married shortly thereafter on January 26, 1931, and the two have remained inseparable. "Maw" and "Paw," as their family fondly calls them, begin each day in prayer. Norma claims that she's a "young 98" and continues to prove this through her love for parties and her independent trip to France only years ago. Norma has never driven a day in her life! However, Norman is not shy of his achievements adding that he drove until he was 97 and rode his first jet-ski at 92! While he's a student of politics, football and game shows, she a fan of "Lawrence Welk" and enjoys old movies. They created a livelihood together, operating a thriving catering business inspired by their Creole heritage.

They lived in New Orleans until 2005, and, to this day, they both remain deeply devoted New Orleans Saints fans! After tragically losing their home during Hurricane Katrina, the Burmahs moved to Marksville, La. At 97 years of age, Norman proudly purchased their new home where they independently live along with their prize Rooster, "Jindal."

They have been blessed with a healthy family consisting of two children, six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

OHIO'S WILLIAM McCULLOCH LED
THE 1964 CIVIL RIGHTS ACT 50
YEARS AGO

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late William Moore McCulloch, a Republican Member of Congress from Ohio, for his extraordinary work on the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Fifty years ago on February 10, 1964, the House of Representatives passed what would become the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by a vote of 290 to 130.

This landmark piece of legislation outlawed discrimination against race, ethnicity, gender, and religious minorities. I believe this was the most important piece of American domestic legislation in 20th Century America, as it protected fundamental civil rights and ensured equal opportunities for all Americans.

McCulloch was born in 1901, in Holmes County, Ohio. Despite being raised working on his family's farm and attending local rural schools, he studied at the College of Wooster before earning a law degree from Ohio State University College in 1925.

Following graduation, McCulloch moved to Florida to practice constitutional law for a year. This period of his life was crucial in developing his passion for overhauling civil rights legislation, as he saw the effect of the oppressive Jim Crow "separate but equal" racial segregation laws firsthand. This experience fueled his passion for civil rights, and his belief that the Constitution guaranteed equal rights for all Americans. In 1932, McCulloch was elected to the State House of Representatives. From here, his determination to outlaw discrimination began to manifest itself.

For example, he supported the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in its drive to end segregated seating in restaurants in Piqua. I am inspired by his work here, as this was a

risky political move in such a rural, white, middle class, and conservative region of Ohio. Nevertheless, his desire to dismantle institutionalized discrimination outweighed everything else, and African Americans and all Americans are better off for it.

In 1947, he was elected to Congress from Ohio's fourth Congressional district. It is important to note that McCulloch only had a small number of African American constituents—roughly 2.7 percent. His determination to protect American civil rights regardless of race, ethnicity, gender or religion was due to his intrinsic desire to achieve equality, and not his own political agenda. He focused purely on doing what was right for the people of the United States. I find encouragement in this, and believe more of us in Congress can learn from McCulloch's example.

However, McCulloch's work in civil rights didn't stop in Piqua, Ohio. He was the ranking Republican member of the House Judiciary Committee in the early 1960s, and used this to ensure civil rights legislation was introduced to the House. In 1963, President Kennedy called for legislation that removed discrimination, and increased protection for the right to vote. McCulloch personally met with the Kennedy Administration, and the two parties confirmed their joint commitment to a bipartisan civil rights bill. Despite his position as a Republican minority Member, he was determined to ensure the Civil Rights Act's passage through the House. He worked tirelessly with the Kennedy Administration and House Democrats for the bill. McCulloch's work was instrumental, and led to President Kennedy's declaration of "Without him, it can't be done".

The legislation passed the House on February 10, fifty years ago. Later after a 54-day filibuster, the bill passed in the Senate. The Civil Rights Act became law with President Johnson's signature. Like Kennedy, Johnson recognized McCulloch's significant involvement in the Civil Rights Act, and stated he was "the most important and powerful political force" in passing the legislation.

Despite his position as a minority Republican member in the House Judiciary Committee, McCulloch worked across party lines to pass legislation that guaranteed equal rights for all. I am inspired by this, and believe we can all learn something from McCulloch's efforts. He was willing to cooperate with the Democratic majority, including the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations, in a time when there was a desperate need for anti-discrimination legislation and positive social change. I hope we can all follow in William McCulloch's example, and commit to finding bipartisan solutions to the issues facing our country. He was a proud son of Ohio.

CONGRATULATING RICHARD ROBB
ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Richard Robb on his 90th birthday, which he celebrated on January 19th, and to thank him for his tireless service to our nation.

During World War II, Mr. Robb served in the U.S. Navy at Iwo Jima, Okinawa, and the Mar-

shall Islands. He was a crew member on the USS *Stockton*, a destroyer that sunk the Japanese I-8 submarine which was responsible for numerous war crimes and atrocities.

Following his military service, Mr. Robb continued to devote himself to defending the lives of others. He served 22 years as a sergeant and later a detective in the Sarasota Police Department in Sarasota, Florida.

Since moving to Western North Carolina, Mr. Robb and his wife, Cate, have been active participants in the Macon County Republican Party. They still attend every event and have served crucial roles in Election Day operations to serve the voters of the 11th District. In 2012, they received the "Golden Elephant" award for their exemplary lives of service.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire 11th District of North Carolina, I congratulate Mr. Robb on his milestone 90th birthday and thank him for his service to Western North Carolina and our nation.

SPORTSMEN'S HERITAGE AND
RECREATIONAL ENHANCEMENT
ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3590) to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes:

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the amendment offered by Chairman HASTINGS. This important amendment includes a provision protecting the hunting, fishing and related treaty rights of all federally recognized tribes with respect to the provisions of H.R. 3590.

Treaties are at the foundation of the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Indian tribes. Throughout the history of this country, tribal governments signed hundreds of treaties with the United States, often ceding significant portions of their homelands. Many of these treaties included provisions in which the United States made solemn promises to secure and protect the important hunting and fishing rights as well as other rights to sustain Indian people. As we pass laws that affect federal lands, it is important that we ensure the continued treaty rights of all federally recognized Indian tribes.

Rights emanating from treaties between Indian tribes and the United States apply to all federally recognized tribes, whether they were recognized by treaty, an act of Congress, administratively or through a court settlement. This amendment to H.R. 3590 would make it clear in the legislation that the treaty rights, including treaty hunting and fishing rights, and other rights of all federally recognized tribes are preserved and not affected by the other provisions of this legislation. I urge your support for this amendment.

RECOGNIZING GRADUATING SENIOR BUFFALO STATE BENGALS BASKETBALL PLAYERS, CHRIS CASTREN AND JUSTIN MITCHELL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two members of the senior class at Buffalo State College, Chris Castren and Justin Mitchell. Both students are members of the men's varsity basketball team at Buffalo State and will graduate this spring. I commend Chris and Justin for their dedication to academics and athletics and congratulate them at the culmination of their college careers.

Chris Castren hails from Voorheesville, New York, where he attended the regional public high school. Upon graduation, Chris will have earned a degree in Elementary Education. On the basketball team, he excelled playing guard.

Justin Mitchell is a native of Buffalo, and graduated from Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School in South Buffalo, New York. At Buffalo State, he pursued a degree in Sociology and held the position of forward on the team.

Participating in collegiate athletics while enrolled as a full time student is notoriously demanding. In spite of the unique challenges faced by student athletes, Chris and Justin have excelled during their time at Buffalo State. They have shown extreme discipline in balancing both commitments and are leaders to their peers and teammates. As an alumnus of Buffalo State, I will be proud to call them fellow alumni.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing my colleagues to join me in recognizing these exceptional Buffalo State Bengals and in congratulating them as they obtain their undergraduate degrees. Their work ethic, determination, and spirit will ensure their success, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

PUBLIC ACCESS AND LANDS IMPROVEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2954) to authorize Escambia County, Florida, to convey certain property that was formerly part of Santa Rosa Island National Monument and that was conveyed to Escambia County subject to restrictions on use and reconveyance:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2954, the so-called "Public Access and Lands Improvement Act." While there are some provisions in this bill that I think many of us could support, most of its titles include unacceptable waivers of environmental law and giveaways to private interests.

The bill bypasses carefully balanced processes for transferring federal lands while protecting access and value for taxpayers, reverses a scientifically-based land management

decision, and waives environmental protections and local consultation for certain land for timber harvests and grazing.

As with many of the bills we've seen on the Floor this week, H.R. 2954 makes sweeping and unnecessary changes to existing law that disrupt the balance necessary to manage our public lands in the best interest of American taxpayers. By waiving scientific review and local consultation, this cobbled-together omnibus makes ill-considered decisions about the future of public resources. I urge a no vote.

A TRIBUTE TO HANNAH BLYTH AND THE UNI-CAPITOL WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, for decades the United States has worked closely with Australia on issues of great importance to our two nations. Australia has stood stalwartly as a friend of the United States and remains one of our closest allies today. Last year I worked with the Department of Commerce to organize a trade mission of Connecticut companies to Australia. As part of the trip planning, I was pleased to work closely with Australia's Ambassador to the United States, Kim Beazley, who joined me on a visit to Connecticut last spring. As Australia and the United States increase export and defense collaboration in the coming years, we must continue to strengthen our bilateral relationship with Australia.

Fifteen years ago, a program launched to place Australian students in offices in our Nation's Capital. Since that time, the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program has delivered to the United States some of Australia's best and brightest to serve as interns in a variety of federal agencies, congressional offices, and committees.

During my first term in Congress, I was privileged to welcome Anthony Bremmer to my office, and since then my office has hosted Jehane Sharah and Niall O'Shea. When the opportunity arose again to participate in the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program, I immediately agreed to welcome another Australian "ambassador." Once again, my office and I have been pleased with the positive contributions of Hannah Blyth, who was placed in our office. She has attended meetings and briefings, assisted my staff with various research initiatives, and helped serve my constituents of the Second District of Connecticut. Prior to coming to the United States, Hannah worked for the Parliament of New South Wales as a Policy and Project Officer. With an avid interest in American politics and international relations, Hannah hopes to grow her experience and knowledge of the American political landscape during her time in my office. Hannah is truly an exceptional ambassador for the people of Australia.

Hannah's participation in this program has provided her with new opportunities and experiences that only the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program could provide. While in the program Hannah has attended events at the Australian Embassy, met with State Department and USAID officials, and toured the United Nations headquarters in New York with

the Australian Mission to the U.N. A well-rounded graduate student, Hannah will be receiving a Master's degree in U.S. Studies from the University of Sydney's United States Studies Centre when she graduates later this year.

Many of my colleagues have also been privileged to welcome students like Hannah to their offices. This year, 14 students from 10 Australian universities all across Australia are serving in offices in Washington, helping foster a new generation of understanding and shared experiences between our two nations. Launched by former Congressional staffer Eric Federling, the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship program has now delivered 156 Australian student interns over the past 15 years.

Mr. Speaker, I would encourage all of my colleagues to open their doors to students from around the world so that they can share in our great democracy. Similarly, I would encourage American university students to seek established and creative ways to connect with their counterparts around the globe. I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the contributions of the Uni-Capitol Internship Program and to once more thank Hannah Blyth for her dedication and hard work.

H.R. 3590, H.R. 2954 AND H.R. 3964

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, last week, I voted against three bills designed to weaken important environmental laws and roll back protections for our wilderness areas, parks, and wildlife.

Many of my constituents love Oregon's public lands and use them for hiking, hunting and fishing. They value efforts to conserve and responsibly manage these lands. H.R. 3590, the "Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement Act," will not, however, ensure responsible management and access. Rather, it contained measures to roll back important environmental laws, to curb public engagement in management decisions and limit the Environmental Protection Agency's ability to appropriately regulate toxic lead in ammunition.

I joined a number of my colleagues in offering an amendment to H.R. 3590 to ensure the Secretary of the Interior maintains the authority to consider climate change when making decisions regarding conservation and recreational activities on public lands. I was disappointed that this amendment failed, and I will continue to use every opportunity to elevate the importance of climate change.

H.R. 2954, the misleadingly named "Public Access and Lands Improvement Act," also weakens protections for wildlife conservation at treasured places like Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Tetons and Cape Hatteras.

Finally, H.R. 3964, the "Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Emergency Water Delivery Act," will do nothing to help with serious drought conditions in California and overrides state and federal protections for wildlife and water quality. The bill sets a dangerous precedent by favoring certain water interests over others, disrupting the State's ongoing efforts to bring people together to find long-term, science-based solutions to manage this severe water crisis.

Our precious natural resources and public lands face serious challenges when it comes to climate change, recreation management, and fish and wildlife conservation. Unfortunately, these bills did nothing to alleviate those problems.

RECOGNIZING SUPER BOWL XLVIII CHAMPIONS, THE SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the extraordinary talent, teamwork, and success of the Super Bowl XLVIII champions the Seattle Seahawks today, February 11, 2014.

The Seattle Seahawks finished the 2013 season with a remarkable 43–8 win over the Denver Broncos at Super Bowl XLVIII. This is the franchise's first championship team since their introduction into the National Football League in 1976. They ended their season with a 13–3 record and the number one defense in the league.

The Seahawks defense showed they were a dominant force all season and especially during the Super Bowl. All season the offense performed admirably battling through injuries and powerful opposing defensive lines. Their indomitable spirit was shown at its finest when it counted the most, February 2nd in the Super Bowl.

Seattle demonstrated exactly the teamwork and proactive spirit that we Pacific Northwesters take such pride in. The "12th Man" has shown the ultimate teamwork setting world noise records in the process of supporting their Seattle Seahawks. The team's preparation, determination, and true partnership with the fans led them to dominate the Denver Broncos, ending the game with a final score of 43–8.

Coach Pete Carroll has been an inspirational leader rebuilding the Seahawks and strengthening team unity. He has also been instrumental working with youth in our communities through A Better Seattle, a partnership to help create a culture of safety and inclusion, while reducing violence in our communities.

I am pleased that, in addition to Coach Carroll, there are so many players from my hometown sports team that have Charitable Foundations. Their passion for giving back to their community exemplifies the spirit of the Pacific Northwest.

Mr. Speaker, I again offer my appreciation for the community spirit of Seattle Seahawks and congratulations for an outstanding and entertaining 2013 season and look forward to their 2014 season. Go Hawks.

RECOGNIZING GRADUATING SENIOR BUFFALO STATE BENGALS BASKETBALL PLAYERS, MARY CAIN, KALA CRAWFORD, KELLY KELL, STACI McELROY, AND BIANCA SMILEY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize five outstanding members of the senior class at Buffalo State College, Mary Cain, Kala Crawford, Kelly Kell, Staci McElroy and Bianca Smiley. As members of the Buffalo State women's basketball team, these students are known as leaders among their peers and teammates. I commend these young women for their dedication to academics and athletics and congratulate them on the completion of their college careers.

Hailing from Niagara Falls, New York, Mary Cain attended Niagara Catholic High School and majored in Health & Wellness. During her years on the basketball team, Mary played the position of guard.

Kala Crawford enrolled at Buffalo State coming from her hometown of Middle Springs, New York and as a graduate of Saratoga Springs High School. Kala played guard for the Buffalo State Bengals and will be earning a degree in Business.

During her time at Buffalo State, Kelly Kell played guard and studied Public Communication. Her hometown is Port Ewen, New York, and she attended Kingston High School.

Staci McElroy traveled to Buffalo State from Saratoga Springs, New York, and graduated from Saratoga Springs High School. On the team, she played guard, and off the court, studied Psychology.

A graduate of Sweet Home High School and native of Amherst, New York, Bianca Smiley played forward at Buffalo State. She will be earning her degree in Criminal Justice this year.

Balancing the responsibilities demanded of student athletes is a true challenge, and each of these students handled the test with dignity and grace. As an alumnus of Buffalo State, I will be proud to call them fellow alumni.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing my colleagues to join me in recognizing these extraordinary Buffalo State Bengals and in congratulating them as they obtain their undergraduate degrees. Their dedication and drive will propel them to success, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING MR. GARREN MIMS, SR.

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a special man, Mr. Garren Thomas Mims, Sr., a native of my hometown of New Orleans, Louisiana. I especially wish to congratulate him on becoming the 99th King of the Zulu Social Aid & Pleasure Club. It is my distinct privilege to recognize him here today for this accomplishment.

Mr. Mims has been an active and loyal member of the Zulu Social Aid & Pleasure

Club since 1995. During his time in Zulu Mr. Mims has held and served in a variety of leadership offices. He has also been an active member of several committees and takes special pride in Zulu's community activities committee, in particular the Toys For Tots program. However, his service is not limited to his activity in Zulu. He also enjoys volunteering in his community and serves as a parishioner at his family church, Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. The church's annual fundraiser for the St. Jude Center holds a special place in Mr. Mims' heart. His community service serves as an inspiration and we are grateful to him for his continued commitment.

In addition to his activity in Zulu, Mr. Mims is a dedicated family man. As a lifelong resident of New Orleans, Mr. Mims is deeply rooted within his community. He is a proud graduate of McDonogh #35 Senior High School and Southern University. For the past 19 years, he has been married to Mrs. Georgette Anita Mims. Mr. and Mrs. Mims are the proud parents of three children: Garren Mims, Jr., Gabrielle Mims, and Gabriel Mims. This year, he will get a chance to share the honor and joy of being Zulu royalty with his wife, as Mrs. Mims will reign alongside him as the 78th Queen of Zulu. This will be a special time for the family, and we are very proud of him. The commitment that Mr. Mims shows to his family and his community is an example to all of us. The hard work and dedication of Mr. and Mrs. Mims to improving the community and raising a strong family gives us hope and promise for the future of our city.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Mr. Garren Mims, Sr., on his coronation as the 99th King of Zulu and wish him a successful reign as King Zulu, 2014.

HONORING ALEXANDER M. MOYER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alexander M. Moyer. Alex is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 444, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alex has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Alex planted prairie grasses and placed gravel in a water runoff guide at Park Hill High School in Kansas City, Missouri.

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

REINTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO ADDRESS THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA AND GREECE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to reintroduce legislation to address the long-standing name dispute between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) and Greece. This House Resolution urges the FYROM to work within the framework of the United Nations process with Greece to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy goals of resolving the name dispute and encourages the United States to work with its NATO allies to uphold previous NATO Summits decisions, with regard to the enlargement issue.

As founder and co-Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, this is of tremendous importance to me. I believe the United States must send a strong message, supporting a solution to the name issue and to encourage the FYROM and Greece to reach a mutually acceptable solution as soon as possible.

Historical and archaeological evidence shows that the ancient Macedonians were Greek. Macedonia is a Greek name that has designated the northern area of Greece for 2,500 years. In 1944, the name of the Skopje region was changed to Macedonia as part of Tito's imperialist campaign to gain control of the Greek province of Macedonia.

Both NATO and the White House have repeatedly emphasized their support for the unanimous decision made at the NATO Bucharest Summit in 2008 (and reiterated at NATO Summits in Strasbourg/Kehl in 2009 and Lisbon in 2010) that an invitation would be extended once a mutually acceptable solution to the name dispute has been reached. As the United States and its NATO allies consider the future of NATO and possible changes in membership, the United States must abide by this decision. Otherwise, any move by the United States that shows support for extending NATO membership to the FYROM, before a resolution is reached in the name dispute, might be misinterpreted by the government in Skopje as a sign for further intransigence. This would eventually derail the ongoing negotiations, thus undermining U.S. interests in the Western Balkan region.

This resolution urges the FYROM to work within the framework of the United Nations process and in good faith with Greece to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy goals of resolving the name dispute. The resolution also encourages the United States to work with its NATO allies to uphold previous NATO Summits decisions, with regard to the enlargement issue and extend an invitation to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as soon as a mutually acceptable solution to the name issue has been reached.

IN MEMORIAM OF MICHAEL DALE GARRETT

HON. DAVID B. MCKINLEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Michael Dale Garrett, a Firefighter and EMT-I with the Nutter Fort Volunteer Firefighter Department, who lost his life serving in the line of duty on February 1, 2014.

Michael, or "Mikey" as he is known by his family, attended South Harrison High School, Alderson-Broaddus College and was scheduled to graduate from Fairmont State University in May with an associate's degree in emergency services. Michael's life was serving others as a first responder. He started when he was only a teenager and had experience and knowledge beyond his 28 years. He trained other firefighters and EMT personnel and was proud of his work.

Michael's passion in life was helping others. Every call he took meant the potential for danger but he did his job as a professional up until his last call. His sense of humor and smile will be remembered by his family and friends. The Nutter Fort Fire Department want to stress that he died a hero, doing what he loved and lived for.

I offer my condolences to his family, friends, colleagues and all those who knew Michael Garrett. We honor his memory and his dedicated service to others.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the birthday of Frederick Douglass, I introduce a bill that would establish a Bicentennial Commission to study ways that the Federal Government might honor and celebrate the life of Douglass during the bicentennial anniversary of his birth in 2018.

Frederick Douglass was born into slavery in 1818 on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He learned basic reading skills from his mistress and continued to teach himself and other slaves to read and write despite the risks he faced, including death. After two attempts, Douglass successfully escaped from slavery to New York and became an anti-slavery lecturer and abolitionist. He went on to serve in several administrations, including as a close advisor to President Abraham Lincoln, U.S. Marshal of the District of Columbia under President Rutherford B. Hayes and District of Columbia Recorder of Deeds under President James Garfield. In 1889, President Benjamin Harrison appointed Frederick Douglass to be the U.S. minister to Haiti. He was later appointed by President Ulysses S. Grant to serve as secretary of the commission of Santo Domingo.

Douglass dedicated his life to achieving justice for all Americans. He lived in the District of Columbia for 23 of his 57 years as a free

man and was deeply committed to obtaining equal congressional voting and self-government rights for District of Columbia residents. His home, Cedar Hill, was established as a National Historic Site, in Anacostia in Southeast Washington, DC and his statue in the U.S. Capitol is a gift from the almost 650,000 American citizens of the District of Columbia.

My bill would simply establish a commission to examine ways the Federal Government can honor Douglass during the bicentennial anniversary of his birth, including the issuance of a Frederick Douglass bicentennial postage stamp, the convening of a joint meeting or joint session of Congress for ceremonies and activities relating to Frederick Douglass, a rededication of the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, and the acquisition and preservation of artifacts associated with Frederick Douglass. The Commission would report its findings and recommendations to Congress.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF REV. DR. KENNETH L. SAUNDERS, SR.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Saunders, Sr. on his 25th Pastoral Anniversary. As the pastor of North Stelton A.M.E. Church, Rev. Saunders continues to provide outstanding spiritual leadership to the Piscataway community.

Rev. Saunders was ordained Itinerant Elder of the A.M.E. Church in 1977 and became pastor of Bright's Temple A.M.E. Church in Warwick, Bermuda. Immediately prior to his service as pastor of North Stelton A.M.E. Church, Rev. Saunders served at Bethel A.M.E. Church in Madison, New Jersey. During the 11 years at Bethel A.M.E., Rev. Saunders oversaw the growth of the church from 7 congregants to 375.

In addition to his service to North Stelton A.M.E. Church, Rev. Saunders is an active member of his community. He has served as a member of the New Jersey State Parole Board, a Councilman-at-Large and Police Chaplain in Piscataway and has been recognized for his many contributions to the community.

Rev. Saunders was born in Jersey City, New Jersey and worshipped at Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church as a child. He was honorably discharged from the United States Army, which he joined after high school. He also worked for the United States Postal Service and enrolled in the Newark College of Engineering before entering the ministry. Rev. Saunders has been married to Sis. Shirley Harris for over 35 years and together they have a son, Kenneth, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating the 25th Pastoral Anniversary of Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Saunders, Sr. His leadership, service and dedication to the church and community are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

HONORING WILLIAM A. RYAN IV

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William A. Ryan IV. Will is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 444, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Will has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Will has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Will has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Will organized and completely renovated the Girl Scouts storage facility at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Additionally, I am proud to say Will has been accepted into the United States Military Academy Class of 2018. I am sure he will serve his country with the same dedication as fellow north Missourians and West Point graduates, Generals John J. Pershing and Omar Bradley.

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

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP OF DR. WANDA COOK-ROBINSON AS SUPERINTENDENT OF SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a local education leader in Metropolitan Detroit, Dr. Wanda Cook-Robinson, the superintendent of Southfield Public Schools for the last seven years. In recognition of the profound impact of her leadership on the quality of public education in Southfield, Dr. Cook-Robinson was honored in 2013 as the Michigan Superintendent of the Year by the Michigan Association of School Administrators.

Dr. Cook-Robinson became the superintendent of Southfield Public Schools in 2006—directly serving the community she has called home for the last 30 years. She brought with her a wealth of knowledge and experience in the realm of public education as an instructor for both graduate and undergraduate education classes at Grand Valley State University, Marygrove College, and Wayne State University, as well as a tenure of service as Assistant Superintendent for Student Performance and Human Resources for the Oakland County Intermediate School District.

The constant theme of Dr. Cook-Robinson's term has been promoting collaboration with staff and community stakeholders across all sectors of Southfield to fully leverage the maximum educational experience for her students. Among the fifty-two active partnerships South-

field Public Schools' has engaged in on Dr. Cook-Robinson's watch, is the Revolution Read program which has brought together local elected officials, the higher education sector, and small businesses with the goal of having every Southfield Public Schools' student reading at grade level by the end of their fifth grade year. It is a program that has already seen success as reading scores on state assessments improved in the program's second year. Dr. Cook-Robinson has also overseen the Southfield Public Schools' accreditation in the AdvancED program of the North Central Association Commission, which requires high academic standards to obtain—a distinction that had been achieved by only five other school districts in Michigan at that time. Additionally, Dr. Cook-Robinson has been directly involved with the creation of high school preparatory academies for Southfield students, providing a uniquely tailored small-class-size environment for students as they transition from middle school to high school in the eighth and ninth grades.

For her outstanding record at the forefront of leadership in the public education sector, Dr. Cook-Robinson has been recognized by many organizations. She has been honored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.'s Southfield Alumnae Chapter as its Educator of the Year, and has been named a Distinguished Educator by the Wayne State University College of Education Alumnae Chapter. Dr. Cook-Robinson remains an active leader across a number of local organizations including the Southfield Community Foundation, Wayne State University Board of Visitors, the Oakland University Department of Educational Leadership and the Southfield Area Chamber of Commerce, where she continues to build partnerships that are providing Southfield Public School students the tools they need to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, as we continue to move into a future where knowledge is an increasingly critical component to our nation's enduring prosperity, providing a world class education that prepares our youth to meet this demand is crucial. The work of educators, like Southfield Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Wanda Cook-Robinson, is key part of the continuing success of the Greater Detroit region, the State of Michigan and our Nation. I congratulate Dr. Wanda Cook-Robinson on her achievements and know that as she transitions to new responsibilities at the Oakland Intermediate School District, that she will continue to play a vital role in preparing our youth to meet the challenges and demands of our changing world.

HONORING ELAINE POMEROY
McKELLAR

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exceptional life of Ms. Elaine Pomeroy McKellar, devoted wife, mother, sister, friend and colleague. With her passing on January 8, 2014, we look to the outstanding quality of her life's work to improve the social welfare of individuals and families as well as the countless lives she touched over the course of her career in social work and advocacy.

Born on August 3, 1944 in Thomasville, Georgia, she and her family moved to Valley City, North Dakota following World War II, where she grew up with her three younger siblings Linda, Earl, and Glenn. Mrs. McKellar received her Bachelor of Science in Social Work from the University of North Dakota, and obtained her Masters in Social Work (MSW) at the Washington University in St. Louis.

After completing her studies, Mrs. McKellar headed to the San Francisco Bay Area determined to work in the progressive political climate and change-oriented environment. While she walked on the front lines advocating for fair wages and walking a picket line for the United Farm Workers, she met her husband Larry McKellar. They had one son, Dominic McKellar.

She started her career off in the 1970s at Catholic Social Services in San Francisco. She primarily worked on foster care services and with youth transitioning out of the foster care system. She later went to the Children's Home Society as the Coordinator of Emergency Foster Care Family and recruitment, a non-profit agency serving children and families through critical child welfare services.

In the late 1980s, Mrs. McKellar's career took her to Bay View Hunters Point Foundation, where she helped to implement elementary school mental health programs with her experience and expertise in social welfare. Following her experience at the Bay View Hunters Point Foundation, Mrs. McKellar worked at the UCSF Medical Center at Mount Zion through a Robert Wood Johnson grant and provided critical mental health services to children victimized by domestic violence.

In April 2005, Mrs. McKellar came to work in my Oakland District Office. While initially starting as a part-time caseworker, she quickly rose to become the Senior Caseworker managing the casework services. She had spent the past 8 years providing outstanding constituent services to the residents of the 13th Congressional District. Mrs. McKellar's experience as a social worker was an asset to my office, as her institutional knowledge and expertise in social welfare easily allowed her to work closely with federal agencies and handle sensitive situations with the upmost professionalism and ease. She was committed to ensuring that my constituents received timely responses from agencies, often going above and beyond what was required.

Mrs. McKellar worked closely with veterans and constituents with issues relating to Social Security and Medicare. Her many contributions to the office have not gone unnoticed. For 5 years, she was responsible for organizing An Artistic Discovery, an annual Congressional high school art competition aimed at encouraging students to express themselves through the arts. Mrs. McKellar worked tirelessly to build relationships with high school art teachers and community stakeholders, which helped to successfully grow the event. In 2012 and 2013, Mrs. McKellar worked closely with staff from Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER's office to host the Veterans' Fix-It Event, an event to address the backlog in veterans' claims and cases with the Oakland VA Regional Office.

On a personal note, Elaine was an exemplary example of a public servant. She demonstrated the highest ethical standards and truly embodied the social work code of ethics in all aspects of her life. She will be deeply missed.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors an outstanding individual and dedicated public servant, Mrs. Elaine Pomeroy McKellar. Her invaluable service to improving the lives of the underrepresented and underserved will live on in the endless legacy of her life's work. I offer my sincerest condolences to her many loved ones, friends and colleagues she touched over the course of her incredible life. May her soul rest in peace.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF GENERAL ROBERT SHOEMAKER

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th birthday of General Robert Shoemaker, U.S. Army, Retired. Through a lifetime dedicated to service, General Shoemaker continues to make extraordinary contributions to both the security of his nation as well as to improving the quality of life in Central Texas.

He was born February 18, 1924 and grew up in eastern Michigan. Following graduation from West Point in 1946, General Shoemaker was commissioned in the Infantry. His brave service of nearly 40 years in both the 1st and 2nd Infantry Divisions as well as the 82nd Airborne Division saw numerous tours of duty in Vietnam, various commands, as well as achieving the elite status of Army Aviator. General Shoemaker rose to the highest levels of the military and was promoted to four star general and led the U.S. Army Forces Command. Known as FORSCOM, this command consists of more than 750,000 soldiers, nearly 90 percent of the Army's combat power, and provides expeditionary, campaign-capable land forces to combatant commanders. Under his steady leadership, FORSCOM held fast and true to its motto as "Freedom's Guardian."

Bringing to life Patton's maxim "the soldier is also a citizen," General Shoemaker settled in the Fort Hood, TX area following his 1982 retirement and began the next chapter of his life of extraordinary service. Knowing firsthand of the importance of education to military communities, he worked tirelessly to establish Texas A&M University—Central Texas near Fort Hood. He served eight years as an elected Bell County, TX Commissioner. Important civic organizations sought his tremendous leadership skills and General Shoemaker served as President and advisor to numerous entities, including the 1st Cavalry Division Association, the Heart of Texas Council of the Boy Scouts, and the Fort Hood Chapter of the United Way. The same commitment to excellence General Shoemaker brought to the Army he also brought to his beloved community.

Some people live an entire lifetime and wonder if they have made a difference in the world. General Robert Shoemaker doesn't have that problem. His patriotism, citizenship, and commitment to service reflect the very best values of Central Texas. Let February 18 continue to be a celebration of one of our nation's heroes who devoted his life to keeping us free and making America a beacon of hope

in the world. Along with his friends, family, and loved ones, I wish him both a happy 90th birthday and all the best in the years ahead.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 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 \$17,258,824,690,537.53. We've added \$6,631,947,641,624.45 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.

CONGRATULATING ASCAP ON 100 YEARS OF PROTECTING SONGWRITERS AND COMPOSERS

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize ASCAP, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, on its milestone 100th birthday.

In February of 1914, a group of prominent American music creators and publishers met at the Hotel Claridge in New York to discuss a noble idea: a society that would champion and protect the rights of music writers and publishers by licensing the public performance of their music. The result was ASCAP, officially formed 100 years ago as of this Thursday, February 13th.

ASCAP's earliest members included John Philip Sousa, Irving Berlin and James Weldon Johnson—enormously important songwriters and composers of the early 20th century, and still beloved by Americans today. Since then, ASCAP's membership has grown exponentially. It currently has nearly 500,000 creators and publishers of music of all genres, and licenses the public performance of more than nine million musical works.

The society's membership includes countless musical luminaries past and present, from Duke Ellington to Katy Perry, George Gershwin to Jay Z, Leonard Bernstein to Beyoncé, Marc Anthony to Brad Paisley, Henry Mancini to Hans Zimmer. Equally important, ASCAP also represents many thousands of writers whose names we might not recognize, but whose music we love.

As a long-time member of the House Judiciary Committee, I can attest to ASCAP's commitment to protecting the creative and economic rights of its members, and to working with lawmakers to build a viable future for professional songwriters and composers. ASCAP is always willing to come to Washington with guitars in hand, to remind us that every music creator is a small business owner who helps drive the US economy as they provide the soundtrack to our lives.

I can also attest to the important cultural and economic contributions made by the

3,500 ASCAP members in my congressional district. ASCAP members write the music for Broadway musicals; compose the theme songs and scores for the many movies and TV shows filmed in Manhattan and Brooklyn; and write the musical compositions performed by many New York recording artists. They are an integral part of the cultural and economic fabric of my district.

ASCAP's centennial comes at a critical juncture for music and copyright. The modes of music consumption are changing rapidly, and the future for songwriters has never been less clear. While ASCAP is uniquely positioned to help its members navigate this uncertain future, it is also hampered by a regulatory structure that has not evolved along with the music landscape. That antiquated regulatory structure prevents ASCAP from licensing new services in ways that balances the needs of music creators, licensees and consumers. Those rules need to be updated so that, in its second century, ASCAP can continue to enable songwriters to enrich our culture and uplift our souls while feeding their families and paying the rent.

For 100 years now ASCAP has been at the forefront of the global music industry, nurturing new music talent and licensing every new music distribution platform, all in the name of protecting the songwriters, composers and publishers that call ASCAP home. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing its contributions and wishing ASCAP a second century as remarkable as its first.

HONORING JOSHUA D. McPHERSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joshua D. McPherson. Josh is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 444, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Josh has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Josh has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Josh has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Josh installed a bench and placed landscaping rock at Park Hill Christian Church in Kansas City, Missouri.

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

HONORING KEVIN McCORMICK

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kevin McCormick.

Kevin recently retired from his position as District Manager of the North Broward Social Security Administration office, where he has worked tirelessly for 40 years.

Throughout his career, his hard work and dedication have been recognized through awards such as the Regional Commissioner's Citation and an individual Commissioner's Citation. Kevin also took the time to both mentor others and serve as an instructor and a recruiter.

In honor of his tireless work to help our seniors, I am pleased to recognize Kevin McCormick and to thank him for his service to our country. I wish him good health and a peaceful retirement.

DAIMLER ENVIRONMENTAL
STEWARDSHIP

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Daimler Trucks North America for being named an Environmental Steward by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

This award, which goes to "an organization that has demonstrated environmental leadership through its commitment to exemplary environmental performance beyond what is required by regulations," was given for its environmental performance at its Cleveland, N.C. plant, which builds Freightliner trucks. Only 16 facilities in North Carolina have achieved this recognition.

Daimler Trucks was recognized for eliminating hazardous wastewater sludge and reducing energy usage by 43 percent since 2008. The board also cited the facility's elite status as one of the nation's few manufacturing plants to send "zero waste" to landfills and noted Daimler's "commitment to continual improvement."

Mr. Speaker, we are proud to have this great facility in North Carolina's fifth district and I thank Daimler Trucks North America for its exceptional environmental stewardship.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, February 10, 2014, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" on rollcall vote No. 55 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2431, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 56 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 447, as amended); and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 57 (on approving the journal).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I attended the funeral of a slain deputy sheriff in Utah on Feb. 2, 2013 and missed rollcall votes on H.R. 3590, The Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) Act of 2013, as well as votes on amendments to that bill.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on all of the amendments. I also would have voted "no" on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions.

Most importantly, I would have voted "yes" on final passage of the bill.

RECOGNIZING THE GATEWAY
FOUNDATION

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Gateway Foundation on its renewed accreditation by The Joint Commission. Since 1968, the Gateway Foundation's Alcohol & Drug Treatment Centers have helped thousands of individuals and their families formulate comprehensive and cost-effective treatment plans to battle addiction. Gateway's unique treatment approach, which focuses on both the mind and body, has allowed them to help individuals struggling with addiction lead full and healthy lives.

The Joint Commission is the leading accrediting organization for hospitals and behavioral healthcare organizations. To achieve accreditation, healthcare organizations like the Gateway Foundation have to be thoroughly assessed by health care professionals. The evaluation is based on a series of areas including how the organization educates its clients on treatment risks and options, whether or not the organization provides a safe treatment environment and how well the organization monitors a client's condition before, during, and after treatment. The Gateway Foundation excelled in these fields, receiving the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval.

The Joint Commission evaluation included 11 Gateway locations throughout Illinois, including several in Chicago, one in Aurora, and one in Springfield. It also ensured that thirty of Gateway's alcohol and drug treatment programs targeting men, women, and teens, will be available for the next three years to those in need.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of the Gateway Foundation, and to congratulate them on receiving accreditation from The Joint Commission for their commitment to providing high-quality care and treatment.

HONORING ALEXANDER M.
FORBES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alexander M. Forbes. Alex is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 444, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alex has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Alex repainted parking lines at Christ Temple North Church in Kansas City, Missouri.

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

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA MULROY
ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Patricia Mulroy on her retirement after twenty-five years of tireless work for Nevada and the Colorado River as General Manager of the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA).

For over a quarter century, Pat Mulroy has been a dedicated partner in protecting and preserving the Colorado River Basin for varying interests. She is a determined advocate for the water needs of what once was a sleepy railroad town called Las Vegas. This was no easy task; she represented the driest state in the Nation with the smallest allocation from the River. Yet Clark County, where Las Vegas is located, grew from 900,000 in the early 1990's to 2.7 million during her tenure at SNWA. Under Mulroy's leadership, this community embraces water conservation as their primary means of finding "new" water.

It has been said that the ultimate measure of a man or woman is not where he or she stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he or she stands at times of challenge and controversy. Despite the challenges, she has been involved in almost every major water policy development on the Colorado River since the 1980's, including the historic 2007 Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages. But perhaps, her closing act may be the most important of them all. In December 2013, Pat helped negotiate Minute 319 to the 1944 Treaty with Mexico—a momentous binational agreement to guide future management of the Colorado River through 2017.

The Colorado River Basin is better today thanks to the work of Pat Mulroy. As she

leaves SNWA to take on new challenges, I want to express my deep appreciation for her contributions to the Colorado River Basin, for her dedication to her community, and for inspiring a new generation of women leaders in water.

My best wishes to Pat, and continued success on behalf of the people in the Colorado River Basin. I ask that all of my colleagues join me to honor Pat for her years of public service.

HONORING NATIONAL VOICES FOR
EQUALITY, EDUCATION AND EN-
LIGHTENMENT

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor National Voices for Equality, Education and Enlightenment (NVEEE), an organization from my district, on receiving a \$25,000 grant from the first-ever Be a STAR (Show Tolerance and Respect) Initiative.

The Be a STAR program, cofounded by the WWE and the Creative Coalition, recognizes projects that help encourage respect and tolerance among our nation's schoolchildren, and NVEEE has certainly earned this distinction.

NVEE is a non-profit organization located in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, whose mission is to prevent bullying, violence, and suicide. This grant will be used to fund the Peace Ambassadors program and train young leaders in South Florida to serve as advocates to prevent bullying in their schools and communities.

Once again, I am proud to congratulate NVEEE on their efforts to empower our children and create a climate of acceptance, and I look forward to their continued success.

COMMENDING SAINT LEO UNIVER-
SITY ON ITS 125TH ANNIVER-
SARY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. BILIRAKIS. I rise to congratulate Saint Leo University in Pasco County on their 125th anniversary. Back in 1889, Saint Leo was first founded as a college by the Benedictine Monks and was the first Catholic college in Florida. The Florida legislature granted their charter on June 4, 1889.

Saint Leo opened their doors in 1890 and started with a first class of 32 students. They focused on establishing a liberal arts education curriculum.

From its humble beginnings, Saint Leo College grew and in 1999 Saint Leo College became Saint Leo University. Today, Saint Leo University serves over 16,000 students with students from all 50 States, the District of Columbia and more than 60 countries.

Saint Leo University has been a longtime supporter of our Nation's active duty soldiers. In 1973, Saint Leo began offering degree programs on military bases. Saint Leo today is one of the largest providers of higher education to active duty military with an extensive

online program. GI Jobs & Military Advanced Education magazine recognized Saint Leo University as one of the Nation's most military-friendly institutions.

I want to congratulate Saint Leo University for its service to our community during the past 125 years and look forward to it being around for another 125 years. I yield back the balance of my time.

IN HONOR OF THE VOLUNTEERS
WHO SERVED THANKSGIVING
DINNER TO VETERANS ON THE
USS NEW JERSEY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the volunteers who served Thanksgiving dinner to homeless veterans on the USS *New Jersey* this past November.

These patriotic South Jersey citizens expressed their appreciation and gratitude those who have selflessly served in our armed services by taking time on Thanksgiving Day to give back to serve dinner to homeless veterans.

For that reason Mister Speaker, it is my honor to submit the names of the volunteers for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Dominick M. Carella, Bob Catando, Amber Louise Clark, Chenay Baxter Clark, Cadet Sophie-Leigh Clark, Malik Cobb Jr., Robert Day, Victoria Day, Jacqueline Dorosky, John Dorosky, Alexis Dowgin, Kyle Dowgin, Min Elders, Chris Fuller, Christopher Jonathan Gruberg, Gerard Harkins, Joseph Hawes, Matthew Hawes, the Hegarty family, Justin Henderson, James Dallas Hoefle, Deborah Johnson, Kelly Johnson, Ginelle Joseph, Jordan Kelley, Austin Kelley, Julie Keys, Bernadette N. Kirkland, Elijah Kirkland, Jan Maurice Kirkland, Keith Kirkland, Nzinga Kirkland, Justin Casey Lamanna, Chloe Madison, Carole Magowan, Steven Magowan, Chase Miller, Joanne Mooney, Martin Mooney, Kayla Phillips, Madison Phillips, Angelo D. Pizzullo Jr., Pamela Pratt, Alyssa Rivers, Alison Rivers, Luis Daniel Marchena Del Rosario, Joseph Rubino, Amanda Saini, Elizabeth Saini, Kenneth Aaron Smith, Sam Snyder, Susan Stefencavage, Donna Stein, Robert Stein, Beth T. Suckiel, Tatiana Swain, Kair Takasu, Ty Takasu, Carson Wallace, Charles Wallace III, Kay Walcott-Henderson, and Johanne Wells.

Mr. Speaker, these volunteers exemplify the patriotic character of the citizens of South Jersey. As elected officials it is our duty to match their patriotism—by enacting laws that provide mental health support and other benefits to veterans, so that those who risk their lives on our behalf never become homeless.

MARCY KAPTUR'S UKRAINIAN
ROOTS

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to an article that recently ap-

peared in the Toledo Blade that describes the family heritage of our colleague and friend, the Honorable MARCY KAPTUR. Ms. KAPTUR represents Ohio's 9th Congressional District, is the dean of the Ohio delegation, and is the senior-most woman in the House.

As this extraordinary article points out, Congresswoman KAPTUR's interest in the current situation in Ukraine is influenced by her grandparents who were born in Ukraine and immigrated to America in the early 1900's.

Last night, the House passed a resolution supporting "the Ukrainian people's struggle to build an independent, democratic, and strong Ukraine that is free from foreign meddling."

Ohioans are very proud of our family heritage as I am a son of Irish and Italian immigrants. MARCY KAPTUR is proud of her Ukrainian heritage and I am honored to serve with her in the House.

I submit an article from the Toledo Blade by Tom Troy.

KAPTUR'S UKRAINIAN ROOTS RUN DEEP
BEHIND THE SCENES, CONGRESSMAN
ENCOURAGES DEMOCRACY

U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D., Toledo) looks over family pictures on her desk. Miss Kaptur's grandparents were both born in Ukraine, and she worries about that nation's future. She plans to bring some Ukrainian farmers here on a trade mission this month.

During her 30 years as the representative of Ohio's 9th Congressional District, U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur has carried on a love affair.

The object of her affections is Ukraine, the former Soviet socialist republic that was the land of her grandmother and grandfather's birth.

"It has been a lifelong interest because, as our mother used to say, our children know the history of our family," Miss Kaptur, 67, said last week of herself and her brother Stephen, 61, who lives with her in West Toledo. As Ukraine—a giant eastern European nation famed for its fertile farmland—roils in political unrest, Miss Kaptur has been working behind the scenes to encourage democracy to flourish.

The Toledo Democrat said she has made at least a dozen trips to Ukraine over the last four decades, and she is cochairman of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

In recent months the country has exploded into demonstrations, triggered by outrage at Ukraine President Viktor Yanukovich's decision to end negotiations to join the European Union and turn to Russia to help it pay off a crippling debt. Some see the revolutionary movement as a step toward true independence that started when Ukraine broke off from the Soviet Union in 1990.

Miss Kaptur was the co-sponsor of a resolution that passed Wednesday in a House committee calling the Ukraine leadership to a higher standard, and to support rights of assembly. Whether it will come up for a vote in the full House is not known.

"As the co-chair of the Ukraine caucus I have met with literally hundreds of Ukrainian leaders, existing leaders, emerging leaders, presidents, ambassadors, farmers. The Ukrainian embassy knows about our caucus," Miss Kaptur said.

As the Ukrainian military begins making sounds about intervening in the unrest, Miss Kaptur said she hopes that if it does, it exercises restraint.

"The point is there has been a lot of interaction [with the United States], training at the highest level," she said. "The kind of bloodshed that is historic in that region hasn't happened and I hope it won't."

Miss Kaptur as an infant sits in her Grandmother Teofila Swiecicki Rogowski's lap

while her mother, Anastasia Rogowski, stands. During college, the representative 'worshipped' her hard-working grandparents, who emigrated from Ukraine in the early 1900s.

The realignment of Miss Kaptur's 9th Congressional District in 2012 to snake along Lake Erie all the way from Toledo to Cleveland has been widely decried as gerrymandering designed to achieve Republican goals of squeezing as many Democrats into as few districts as possible.

But one upshot has been the linkage of one of Congress's most Eastern European-focused lawmakers with communities that have a lot of Eastern European immigrants and their descendants.

The district now contains the Cuyahoga County city of Parma, which has a large Ukrainian-American population. Miss Kaptur is also a founder and co-chairman of the Polish and Hungarian congressional caucuses.

Her mother's family was Polish living in modern-day Ukraine.

Miss Kaptur's grandmother Teofila Swiecicki Rogowski and Grandfather John Rogowski emigrated from Ukraine early in the 1900s.

"Then it was czarist Russia. They were not allowed to graze their one cow on the open field and could not feed themselves," Miss Kaptur said.

Over the years, as their homeland was devastated by political and military rivalries, including a famine brought on by Soviet leader Joseph Stalin and invasion by the Nazis, they lost all contact with family members in Ukraine. Her grandmother took in wash, and worked in the Commodore Perry and Willard hotels to earn money, while her grandfather, a carpenter, struggled to find work.

"When I was in college I worshipped her and her husband," Miss Kaptur said. She wanted to take her grandmother back to Ukraine and find the town they came from, Burtyn, but her grandmother was afraid, she said. Teofila died in 1970.

In 1973, Miss Kaptur—then a planner for the city of Toledo—and her mother, the former Anastasia Rogowski, drove into Soviet Ukraine, where they found her grandmother's brother, a former inmate of Stalin's gulag political prison system for 20 years.

"He was not allowed to travel out of his area because he was viewed as an enemy of the state," Miss Kaptur said. He was released from the gulag in 1952, but lost his brother to the camps. Her great-uncle's crime: He had offered aid to a wounded Kulak, a member of the property-owning farming class that was being driven into extinction by Stalin. They had the only car in the dusty town, and were the only guests in the hotel, which had no curtains but a listening device. They had sent word to relatives that they would be at the hotel if anyone wanted to meet them. They were on their third day with no visitors when they heard activity in the lobby.

Miss Kaptur's great-uncle Casmierz Swiecicki was a former inmate in Joseph Stalin's prison system for 20 years. "We learned the desk clerk had been denying to the woman visitor that any foreigners were staying in the hotel, despite her repeated attempts to contact us," Miss Kaptur said.

She said the moment that she finally met her grandmother's brother, Casmierz Swiecicki, was an emotional one. "There stood this tall man and I looked at him and gasped because he held his hands the same way that our grandmother did. He looked at my mother and said, 'are you my sister?' We just wept," Miss Kaptur said. They gave him an orange. "That began the moment when we began to unlock the history of what hap-

pened," she said. They met more family members in a return trip two years later.

Andy Fedynsky, resident scholar at the Ukrainian Museum and Archives in Cleveland, said Miss Kaptur has actively supported Ukraine since her first term in 1983. He said that year she played a leadership role in passing a bill to create a commission on the Ukraine famine, which was widely denied.

"This commission was set up and did a thorough job establishing there was a famine, it was planned, 7 million people were deliberately starved to death," Mr. Fedynsky said. He said Miss Kaptur testified that the victims included her own family.

"She said, 'Don't tell me this never happened. I know it happened because my ancestors endured it,'" Mr. Fedynsky said. The commission "made a huge difference in Ukraine historiography."

Miss Kaptur and others worked to get President Obama to include a Ukraine reference in his State of the Union speech last week, which he did. The President said, "In Ukraine, we stand for the principle that all people have the right to express themselves freely and peacefully and to have a say in their country's future."

"I have been meeting with Ukrainians on a regular basis. We are planing a trade mission for farmers to bring them to Ohio in February," Miss Kaptur said.

She has a picture of herself meeting a year and a half ago with one of the opposition leaders when he was in Washington.

She said she was in Ukraine in 2013 while on her way to Poland to be awarded an honorary citizenship—her father's family was from Poland—when she feared that Ukraine was slipping backward. "I left very, very worried. I saw how much more difficult their life had become. I was deeply worried about what I saw—greater poverty among older women, farmers that I've known."

Ironically to the girl whose grandmother had only wanted to raise money in order to buy a piece of land on which to graze their cow, Ukrainian farmland is being bought up by oligarchs.

"There was a real sense that democracy was slipping away. Then all of this has happened. The people of Ukraine have stood up, and we should stand with them," Miss Kaptur said.

HONORING JACOB E. LEE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob E. Lee. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 444, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jacob replaced a gate at Harvester's Community Garden in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob E. Lee for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for

his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF MASTER SERGEANT SHAWN EDWARDS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Master Sergeant Shawn Edwards, a constituent of mine from Opelika, Alabama. MSgt Edwards is retiring June 1st from the United States Air Force after over 20 years of service.

MSgt Edwards began his career as a Security Forces member. He was responsible for guarding our nation's highest priority weapons. He spent ten years in this position with assignments in Grand Forks Air Force Base, Izmir Air Station in Turkey; and Kirtland Air Force Base. In 2003, he re-trained into the contracting career field. He has been responsible for the purchase and acquisition of supplies, services and construction to support the needs of the installation at which he is serving. As a contractor, he has served at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ramstein Air Base and Hurlburt Field. MSgt Edwards has also served his country in deployments to Camp Victory, Iraq, Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan and Thumrait, Oman.

MSgt Edwards has served his country with honors for over 20 years. Some of these awards include: the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with four devices, the Air Force Achievement Medal with two devices, the Air Force Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Medal with one device, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one device, the Iraq Campaign Medal with one device, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal with one device and the NATO Medal.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Master Sergeant Shawn Edwards for his tireless dedication to serving America. His service to our state and country is an inspiration. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING POLK STATE COLLEGE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Polk State College on the occasion of its 50 year anniversary.

Polk State College, the first higher education institution in Polk County, was established in 1964. The college enjoyed early success, enrolling 1,200 students in its first semester. Its continued growth necessitated construction of a larger, permanent campus. Ground was broken in 1966 on the shores of

Lake Elbert, and within a decade, the campus had expanded to accommodate the growing student population and academic program offerings.

Today, Polk State College serves more than 20,000 students of which 95% are Polk County residents. It is a multi-campus institution offering four-year degrees, including a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management. Further expansions are planned for Polk State in 2014, including the Polk State Center for Public Safety in Winter Haven.

I applaud Polk State College for their commitment to education and invaluable contributions to our community. Go Eagles! As their motto declares, Polk State College is "the perfect place to soar."

HONORING SIX OUTSTANDING GRADUATES TO RECEIVE FULBRIGHT AWARDS

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor six outstanding graduates in Florida's 22nd District who have been selected to receive prestigious Fulbright awards to study, lecture, teach, or conduct research abroad during the 2013–2014 academic year. All of them were selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields.

The awardees are the following: Asma Aftab of the University of Miami, Jack Armstrong of Broward Community College, Anne Fertig of Rollins College, Debra Reyes-Brannon, also of Rollins College, Alicia Richardson of Florida State University, and Usar Suragarn of Florida Atlantic University.

These individuals are continuing a tradition of international exchange and mutual understanding that began in 1946, when Congress established the Fulbright Program. I would like to congratulate them on such a remarkable accomplishment and wish them the best of luck in their endeavors abroad.

THE SENSIBLE ESTATE TAX ACT OF 2014

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Sensible Estate Tax Act of 2014. This legislation offers a thoughtful, comprehensive approach to reforming our estate tax system that is supported by voters across all income levels. As America comes out of one of the worst recessions in its history, this Congress must carefully consider all sources of revenue that are not only effective, but fair and equitable. This estate tax embodies those values.

The past decade of failed tax policies have killed jobs and resulted in significant income and wealth disparity in this country. The promise and strength of America lies in a system

that benefits everyone. These tax policies have steered us away from this promise and crippled the American economy. The middle class continues to shrink as more and more wealth flows to the top—and this country's current tax system makes this unfairness worse. The current estate tax policy is the poster child for the unfairness we all see.

That is why I am introducing this legislation. This bill will bring the estate tax back to the rates and exemptions from before the Bush tax cuts—a time when this country experienced continued prosperity and budget surpluses.

Specifically, the Sensible Estate Tax Act of 2014 will return the top marginal rate to 55% and lower the exemption for individuals to \$1 million. Estate tax loopholes are also addressed, including a 10-year minimum on grantor retained annuity trusts, limitations on the generation skipping transfer trust exemption, and rules for consistent basis reporting.

Succeeding financially in life is a wonderful American right and the families of wealthy people should benefit from that good fortune. But no one gets wealthy on their own. Financial success for any American is achieved by using the roads, schools, and public services that all Americans pay for. It is only fair that they reinvest in the country that provided them with so much opportunity.

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF LAKE COUNTY RISING TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because Lake County, Illinois is rising. Lake County has joined One Billion Rising around the world to stand up for justice, equality and women's rights.

This initiative started two years ago because the United Nations reported that one-in-three women will be victims of rape or other gender-based violence in their lifetimes.

That tragic statistic is simply unacceptable. That is why the global community has joined together to rise up to end this violence and work towards equality and justice for all.

This February 14th, one billion, in more than 200 countries, will rise, and I am most proud that Lake County will join this historic effort and rise up for justice.

One Billion Rising celebrates the empowerment of women and girls around the world, bringing people together in a joyous expression of freedom and strength.

Around the world, one billion people stood up last year and danced in support of justice. And true justice must include all facets of life: at home; at work; before the law; and everywhere else in society.

Every woman and girl deserves the freedom and confidence to live free, absent of fear.

Perhaps the single most effective tool in this campaign for justice is education. Education is how we improve our lives, and how we help others improve theirs. Education allows women and girls throughout the world to rise up and achieve their full potential.

Mr. Speaker, these committed men and women of Lake County have shown an inspir-

ing dedication and resolve to stand for justice. I thank everyone involved in this year's celebration for their work and for showing that Lake County is strong, Lake County is committed, Lake County is rising!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor on Monday, February 10, 2014. Winter weather in the Midwest delayed my flight out of Minneapolis. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2431 (rollcall No. 55), in favor of H. Res. 447 (rollcall No. 56), and in favor of the Journal Vote (rollcall No. 57).

HONORING SCOTT DANIEL BYBEE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Scott Daniel Bybee. Scott is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 177, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Scott has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Scott has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Scott has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Scott planned and led his troop in a tree-planting project in conjunction with the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

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

RECOGNIZING VFW POST 7327 AND THE 2014 AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Springfield Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7327 and the recipients of its 2014 Annual Awards.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW, traces its beginnings to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish American War established local organizations to bring awareness to their service and to advocate for veterans' retirement benefits and improved medical care. Annually, the nearly 2 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliaries contribute more than 8.6 million hours of volunteerism in the community, including participation in Make A Difference Day and National Volunteer Week.

With approximately 700 Comrades and 150 Ladies Auxiliary members, the Springfield VFW Post 7327 stands out for the depth of its commitment to our community. Often called "The Friendliest VFW Post in Virginia," Post 7327 has one of the most aggressive ADOPT-A-UNIT programs in the entire VFW organization to support our service members stationed overseas. VFW Post 7327 visits the VA hospital at least quarterly; bringing along goodie bags for our Wounded Warriors. Each Thanksgiving and Christmas, VFW Post 7327 adopts military families in need through the USO and provides them with meal baskets for each holiday, gifts for children, commissary cards for the parents, and a Christmas party where the children can meet Santa and receive a gift-filled stocking. The Ladies Auxiliary members collect, sort, and distribute more than 2,000 pieces of clothing each month to various charitable organizations. VFW Post 7327 is a strong supporter of local youth organizations including the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Little League Baseball that contribute greatly to the education and well-being of our children.

Each year, VFW Post 7327 bestows awards to local students who have submitted outstanding essays on a theme and to local citizens in recognition of their extraordinary actions and dedication. I am honored to enter the names of the following 2014 honorees into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Voice of Democracy:

Winner: Sebrina Hess.

2nd Place: Tirzah Sheppard.

3rd Place: Nicia Grier-Spratley.

Patriot's Pen:

Winner: Aubrey Taradash.

2nd Place: Madelynn Cerami.

3rd Place: Skyler Foley.

Fire Fighter of the Year: Anthony Shaffer.

EMS of the Year: Sean Wetjen.

Police Officer of the Year: PFC James L. Thur.

Teachers of the Year: Aaron Tagert, Silverbrook Elementary; Jennie Lindner, South County High School.

I would also like to recognize the following sponsors of the VFW's Recycled Rides Program that provided an automobile to a needy soldier at Fort Belvoir: Progressive Insurance, Enterprise Car Rental, Refinish Solutions, Tan Auto Body, LKO Northern Virginia, and Jerry's Collision Repair.

Finally, I wish to thank the following sponsors of the 2013 VFW Thanksgiving/Christmas Program which provided food and gifts to 14 needy military families at Fort Belvoir. The sponsors of this program were Hilltop Golf Club, Olympians Family Restaurant, Safford Dodge of Springfield, Frizzles Salon and Spa, Residence Inn Marriott of Springfield, Northern Virginia Surgical Center, Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, Women's Club of Springfield, Springfield Optimist Club.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2014 Awardees and in thanking the members, Ladies Auxiliary, program sponsors, and supporters of VFW Post 7327 for their continued service to our country and our community.

CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT AWARENESS WEEK

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week, which is February 7–14, 2014.

Congenital Heart Defects affect nearly two million Americans and are considered one of the most common birth defects within the United States. Each year approximately forty thousand babies are born in the United States with Congenital Heart Defects, while many remain undiagnosed for months or even years after birth. This dangerous condition can cause sudden cardiac death if left undiagnosed, which is especially harmful in young adolescent athletes who unknowingly suffer from this defect.

This week not only serves to raise awareness of Congenital Heart Defects to increase screenings and funding for research, it serves as a dedication to the millions of Americans diagnosed with Congenital Heart Defects, the challenges their families face, and for the families of those who have sadly lost loved ones to this condition.

HONORING GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY'S 225TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Georgetown's 225th anniversary. Founded in 1789 by Bishop John Carroll of Maryland, Georgetown stands as the oldest Jesuit and Catholic University in the United States. For over 225 years Georgetown has educated young scholars of all ages and backgrounds, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to make a difference in the world. What began as a two story old brick building has now become one of the finest universities in the country and I celebrate the University's founding.

Bishop Carroll, in his "Proposals for Establishing an Academy at George-Town, Potowmack River, Maryland," envisioned an institution which gave "undivided attention . . . to the cultivation of virtue, and literary improvement." On January 23rd, 1789 he received the first deed for the land that became the campus of Georgetown University. Then in 1815 President James Madison signed an Act of Congress granting a federal charter to "The College of Georgetown in the District of Columbia." Only the U.S. Military Academy had received a federal charter prior to Georgetown. In 1850 the first Catholic Medical School was established and 20 years later Father Patrick Healy, who was born a slave, became the first African American president of a major American university. Much later in 1919 the university added the Walsh School of Foreign Service, of which I am a proud alumnus.

For over two centuries Georgetown has grown and evolved along with the Nation; today, it is home to students from all fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico,

Guam, the Virgin Islands and the Northern Marianas as well as from 141 countries around the globe. At the university's Centennial Anniversary a speaker noted, "It has taken a century to develop our country into a mighty nation and a united people. The same century has developed the college founded by John Carroll into a great and prosperous university, fully competent to hold her place among the universities of the world." This statement still holds true today and Georgetown stands as one of the most highly ranked educational institutions in the world.

In recent years, research at Georgetown has led to important breakthroughs such as the development of a vaccine against the human papillomavirus, and efforts are being made to improve the Nation's capacity to identify and track the outbreak of diseases. The campus has been home to renowned faculty including the late U.N. Ambassador Jeanne Kirkpatrick and the late Carroll Quigley whom, Georgetown alum Bill Clinton quoted in his first inaugural address.

Today, fifteen Members of the House of Representatives hold Georgetown degrees including our colleague the Honorable JOHN DINGELL, who holds two Georgetown degrees and is the longest serving Member of Congress in the Nation's history. It is a distinct privilege to serve in this body with esteemed colleagues who also studied at Georgetown.

Mr. Speaker, I know they, in particular, share my pride in recognizing the 225th anniversary of the university's founding and look forward to a bright future for our alma mater.

THANK YOU, LORA HOBBS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, I am very grateful for the opportunity to recognize Lora Hobbs, a committed staff member for the Second Congressional District of South Carolina. After serving the great state of South Carolina for more than two and a half years, Lora is leaving the office to join the office of Congressman BRADLEY BRYNEE of Alabama's First Congressional District as a legislative assistant.

Lora, is a native of Laurens, South Carolina, and joined the office in August of 2011 as a staff assistant after recently graduating from the University of South Carolina. Her tremendous leadership skills allowed her to transition quickly and become the legislative correspondent.

It is with sincere gratitude that I would like to thank Lora for her dedicated staff work. I have no doubt that the people of lower Alabama will benefit significantly from her expertise. I wish Lora all the best in future endeavors and look forward to hearing of her continued success.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

HONORING U.S. CAPITOL POLICE
SERGEANT CLINTON HOLTZ

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of U.S. Capitol Police Sergeant Clinton Holtz. Sergeant Holtz served this Congress every day, working to keep us safe, willing to put his life on the line. But he was more than a police officer. He was a beloved son and brother. He had an exciting career before joining the police force, playing professional basketball across the globe, and he was also my friend. Sergeant Holtz was always ready with a kind word or a funny story; willing to swap stories with an old cop like me. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends as they mourn him. He will be greatly missed but always remembered.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTOPHER
HABERLAND FOR RECEIVING
THE 2013 CRITICAL LANGUAGE
SCHOLARSHIP

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Christopher Haberland, a resident of Herndon, Virginia, who is a recipient of the 2013 Critical Language Scholarship.

The Critical Language Scholarship Program was established in 2006 by the Department of State as part of an effort to train American young people in languages that are critical to our nation's global interests. For three months, attendees are immersed in an intensive cultural environment that teaches a new language, new culture, and new sense of self. The CLS program is remarkably competitive; in 2013 nearly 4,000 students from around the country applied, but only 597 were accepted. Due to his impressive academic success, I am proud to say that Christopher Haberland was one of those chosen.

Participants in the Critical Language Scholarship Program do more than simply enrich their own understanding and appreciation of a foreign culture. Their deep understanding of these critical regions ensures that our nation has capable individuals that can work on issues vital to the interests of the United States. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the service of Christopher Haberland, and in wishing him heartfelt congratulations on his achievements.

TRIBUTE TO MEREDITH OCKMAN

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Meredith Ockman, recipient of the Palm Beach County National Organization for Women (NOW) Blood, Sweat, and Tears Award and tireless advocate for justice and equality.

Meredith, who currently serves as Vice President for Florida NOW, has truly dedicated her career to community service. She has worked with Compass: The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of the Palm Beaches to teach safe sex education, and has bravely defended women seeking abortion care from harassment and intimidation.

Her impact includes grassroots advocacy as well. She organized participants for the March for Women's Lives, and has served NOW in several capacities, including as Legislative Director for Florida NOW and President of Palm Beach County NOW.

With her limited spare time, Meredith volunteers with several organizations and is the President of the Women's Health Foundation of South Florida. In honor of her tireless efforts on behalf of South Florida women, I am pleased to recognize Meredith Ockman for her amazing achievements and wish her continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for votes on Monday, February 10, 2014.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 55, and "yea" on rollcall vote 56, and "nay" on rollcall vote 57.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROMOTING NATIONAL SERVICE AND REDUCING UNEMPLOYMENT ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Promoting National Service and Reducing Unemployment Act, to address one of the greatest workforce tragedies resulting from today's economy—our unemployed young people—and to spur economic growth and alleviate strain on state and local governments. This tragedy is not only hurting our young people, it is costing our government \$25 billion each year through lost tax revenue and other costs. While over 10.4 million Americans are unemployed, my bill targets the 3.8 million young people who have not had a fair chance to ever use their high school and college education, which this nation has strongly urged them to get.

What is particularly disappointing is the high unemployment rate for young people who heeded our advice to graduate from high school and college, only to try to enter the workforce in the worst economy in generations. The total unemployment rate was 7.3 percent compared to 16.3 percent for young adults aged 16 to 24 even during the recent summer. Hundreds of thousands now compete for unpaid internships wherever they can find them. By significantly expanding AmeriCorps, my bill, without needing a new administrative structure or bureaucracy, would allow unemployed young people to earn a stipend suffi-

cient to support themselves and to obtain work experience and secure a good work history to help them obtain future employment. The net cost of the expansion would be low, because these young people would be providing urgently needed local services that are being dropped or curtailed because of federal, state, and local budget cuts, such as after-school programs, tutoring, and assistance for the elderly.

The bill would significantly expand job opportunities for young people who have played by the rules but find themselves unemployed in this economy. It would increase the number of participants in the AmeriCorps State and National program from approximately 78,000 to 500,000 full-time participants. Participants receive a living allowance, which most find sufficient to meet their basic needs, and are also eligible for an education award equal to the value of a Pell grant, for school-loan forbearance, health care benefits and child care assistance. By expanding the program, we would reduce the number of unemployed young people, provide them with the work skills and experience they would not get while unemployed, and help cash-strapped states and local governments provide services that they would otherwise have to cut.

For some time, it has been clear that policies to address today's unusually stubborn unemployment need to be targeted in order to be effective. Without significant targeting, young graduates will continue to face their first years as adults without jobs and with no way to acquire work experience. They deserve better. I ask my colleagues to support this urgently needed targeted assistance for young, unemployed Americans.

IN HONOR OF THE 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF REVEREND BILL LAWSON AND MRS. AUDREY LAWSON

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the 60th wedding anniversary of two respected and revered individuals, Reverend Bill Lawson and Mrs. Audrey Lawson. Married January 28, 1954, while Reverend Lawson was attending Central Baptist Theological Seminary. The Lawsons are pillars of the Houston community, who have reared four successful children.

In 1962, Reverend Lawson alongside his first-lady Mrs. Lawson founded the Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church with just thirteen members. Reverend Lawson went on to serve as Senior Pastor at the church for 42 years before retiring to focus on his work in the community, through the William A. Lawson Institute for Peace and Prosperity (WALIPP).

Mr. Speaker, I am blessed to have the opportunity to pay tribute to two individuals who have so selflessly and faithfully served their community. They are exemplars for all those who aspire to greatness through service and mentorship of others. I pray that God will grant them many more years of love and happiness.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ACCREDITED ACH PROFESSIONAL DAY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Tuesday, February 11, as National Accredited ACH Professional (AAP) Day. This day highlights the importance of the AAP credential, as well as celebrates the achievements and contributions of AAPs nationwide.

The AAP credential is the standard of excellence in ACH payments competency. AAPs are recognized payments industry experts on subjects ranging from the NACHA Operating Rules to sound risk management practices, and as such, are highly regarded by financial regulators and examiners. They play a key role in the individual organizations they serve and the greater industry as a whole, imparting knowledge and supporting practices that help ensure continued confidence in ACH payments and the safety, security, and reliability of the ACH Network.

The ACH Network, administered by NACHA—The Electronic Payments Association, provides for the efficient exchange of direct account-to-account payments for consumers, businesses, and governments. Annually, it processes more than 21 billion electronic payments—including more than 5 billion Direct Deposit transactions—totaling almost \$37 trillion. Through their expertise, AAPs help safeguard the quality of the ACH Network and the billions of transactions that flow through it. To be awarded the AAP credential, individuals must pass a comprehensive exam, which is administered by NACHA each fall. The exam tests an individual's knowledge of a variety of subjects including the NACHA Operating Rules, the ACH Network and other payments systems, technical and operational ACH requirements, risk management, and payments-related regulations. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the more than four thousand AAPs nationwide by recognizing today as National Accredited ACH Professional Day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize passage this week of three important pieces of legislation: H.R. 2431, the National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of 2013; S. 25, the vehicle which included the military retiree COLA fix and SGR bill; and H.R. 3448, the Small Cap Liquidity Reform Act. Additionally, I would like to make clear that I would have opposed S. 540, the Debt Limit Extension. Unfortunately, I was not able to vote on final passage of these important bills because of much needed hip replacement surgery. I guess I'm finally being paid back for playing rugby all through college and dental school.

H.R. 2431, National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of 2013,

is important legislation that will provide critical benefits for ranchers, waters users and local communities allowing them to better prepare and respond to extreme drought conditions that are continuing to plague the West as well as rural communities.

S. 25 reverses the cost of living adjustment (COLA) cuts for working-age military retirees that was found in the Bipartisan Budget Act. I voted against the flawed Bipartisan Budget Act because it increased spending levels by \$45 billion in one year and \$63 billion over the course of two years. To pay for those increases, the Bipartisan Budget Act erased various, if not all, spending cuts from the Budget Control Act which passed back in 2011. Additionally, the Bipartisan Budget Act reduced the annual retirement COLA for working age military retirees by one full percentage point. I found this provision to be completely unacceptable and don't believe we should be balancing our budget on the backs of our veterans. As S. 25 repeals this provision that penalizes our military retirees and includes a payfor, I would have supported this legislation.

H.R. 3448, the Small Cap Liquidity Reform Act of 2013 is important legislation that establishes an optional liquidity pilot program which will benefit the securities of small emerging growth companies.

Finally, I want to reiterate that I would have opposed S. 540, the Debt Limit Extension. Back in 2011, we reached an understanding that if we're going to raise the debt ceiling and not jeopardize the nation's credit, then we need to attach reforms to each debt ceiling increase so that we reduce the need to constantly raise the debt ceiling and we start living within our means. This increase violates those principles. Although some like to call this a "clean" debt ceiling increase, there is nothing clean about borrowing another trillion dollars; this is as messy as it gets and the term "clean" is propaganda as far as I'm concerned. The bottom line is that our nation has a spending addiction—it's past the point of a problem—when we must continually raise the debt ceiling to accommodate our dangerous spending habits. At what point does it stop? How is it possible that we couldn't include a single reform in this legislation? I don't want our country to default but I wouldn't have voted to give the President a blank check. The federal government will collect an estimated \$3 trillion in taxes from October 1, 2013 until September 30, 2014. We do have the ability to live within our means and it's time we make the hard decisions necessary to make that happen.

Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted in support of these three important bills with a "yea" vote on rollcall Numbers 55, 60 and 62. I would have opposed increasing the debt ceiling and voted "nay" on rollcall Numbers 61.

IN HONOR OF THE NOMINATION OF
RENEE PATRON FOR LEUKEMIA
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Renee Patron for being nominated for

Leukemia Woman of the Year, an award given by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Ms. Patron earned her bachelor's degree in communications with a minor in marketing from Eastern University in St. Davids, PA. During her time at college, a friend of hers named Dina Innella suffered from leukemia. Selflessly, Ms. Patron cared for Ms. Innella during her time of need. While she didn't expect any recognition for her kindness, another friend nominated her through the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to recognize her dedication.

After college, Ms. Patron went on to become a successful small business owner, opening Events by Renee. She is the programming and event co-chair for the Public Relations Society of America, in addition to being a founding member of a Philadelphia women's networking group called Femmefessionals. In her free time, she volunteers with the Big Brothers Big Sisters Philadelphia chapter and with the Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Patron is a role model for her kindness and sacrifice. I join all of South Jersey in thanking Ms. Patron for her dedication and wish her best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE BELLEVUE
DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Bellevue Downtown Association on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. This non-profit organization is made up of passionate community members and has played a key role in creating the flourishing downtown that the citizens and businesses of Bellevue, Washington enjoy today.

Over the last 40 years, Bellevue has been transformed into a thriving business center that is home to roughly 1,300 businesses and 45,000 workers. I am confident that this rapid economic development would not have been possible without the work of the Bellevue Downtown Association, as their efforts have made this area an inviting location for both businesses and residents.

In particular, much of Bellevue's growth as a rising entertainment and cultural scene in the area is largely bolstered by the Association's impressive lineup of annual events. From a jazz festival and summer concert series, to the Eastside's largest Fourth of July celebration, the Bellevue Downtown Association's efforts have made downtown Bellevue more than just a great location to do business, but an appealing, culturally diverse place to live as well.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I recognize the work of the Bellevue Downtown Association. Without its voice and hard work, downtown Bellevue would not be the economic and cultural center that it has become today.

HONORING REVEREND PAM
CAHOON

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, Reverend Pam Cahoon, who has steadfastly fought against hunger and injustice her entire life. When Reverend Cahoon was in elementary school, she convinced her mother to pack extra lunches so her classmates could have something to eat.

Since that time, her impact on Palm Beach County has been extraordinary. As executive director of Christians Reaching Out to Society Ministries (CROS), an organization working to end hunger in our community, she managed to increase the budget by more than 50 times the amount available when she first joined CROS. Under her leadership, CROS has served more than 85,000 meals, given out more than 28,000 after-school snacks, and provided more than 16,000 lunches for students to take home to provide meals over the weekend. She will retire on February 20th

after spending 35 years as the Executive Director of CROS.

Additionally, Reverend Cahoon helped to bring Habitat for Humanity to our area and helped create the Palm Beach County food bank. She has also served on the Palm Beach County Council on Child Abuse and Neglect and served on the board of many other community organizations and coalitions.

Reverend Pam Cahoon is truly an exceptional woman. She received her Masters of Divinity from Emory University, and she has three children and four grandchildren. I am pleased to recognize the Reverend for all of her accomplishments and wish her good health and a peaceful retirement.

RECOGNIZING GRACE MENG FOR
RECEIVING THE 2013 CRITICAL
LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Grace Meng, a resident of

Vienna, Virginia, who is a recipient of the 2013 Critical Language Scholarship.

The Critical Language Scholarship Program was established in 2006 by the Department of State as part of an effort to train American young people in languages that are critical to our nation's global interests. For three months, attendees are immersed in an intensive cultural environment that teaches a new language, new culture, and new sense of self. The CLS program is remarkably competitive; in 2013 nearly 4,000 students from around the country applied, but only 597 were accepted. Due to her impressive academic success, I am proud to say that Grace Meng was one of those chosen.

Participants in the Critical Language Scholarship Program do more than simply enrich their own appreciation of a foreign culture. Their deep understanding of these critical regions ensures that our nation has capable individuals that can work on issues vital to the interests of the United States. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the service of Grace Meng, and in wishing her heartfelt congratulations on her achievements.