

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING SAMUEL
HICKENLOOPER, TYLER JOHN-
SON, AND ALEXANDER MAURITS

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Samuel Hickenlooper, Tyler Johnson, and Alexander Maurits for designing the 8th District of Ohio's winning application for the 2014 Congressional Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Competition, "The House App Contest." The three Ross High School students developed a mobile app called, "The Cryptographer," which allows users to teach themselves various types of digital encryption and decryption. Their entry was selected from many submitted throughout the 8th District of Ohio. Entries were reviewed by an independent panel of judges and evaluated based on innovation, appeal, production quality, and presentation.

This year marked the first year of the Congressional STEM Competition. Established by this House in 2013, the competition is a nationwide event that engages students' creativity and encourages their participation in STEM education fields. Our first competition in the 8th District could not have been a success without this year's judges: Dr. James Kiper; Dr. Cathy Bishop-Clark; Mike Stahr; and Kurt Johnson. I would like to thank them for their service throughout this year's competition, and for their continued dedication to STEM education.

Education in the STEM fields is critical to preparing America's students to enter a competitive global economy. STEM fields are the future of job creation in this country, and I appreciate how competitions and opportunities, such as the Congressional STEM Competition, encourage our young people to take on technical challenges that will help them develop proficiency in these areas. As I've said before, we can't have a strong economy without preparing the next generation to fill the jobs and drive the innovations that will keep America competitive.

Again, congratulations to this year's winners and thank you to all who participated in this year's competition. I look forward to seeing what innovations next year's Congressional STEM Competition will bring.

RECOGNIZING MS. ALIA EL-ASSAR

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize one of my constituents, Ms. Alia El-Assar, for her reception of an English Teaching Assistantship through the Fulbright Program. A student at Rollins Col-

lege, Ms. El-Assar traveled to Mexico in September 2013 where she will be teaching until May 2015.

The Fulbright Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, is supported by the United States, participating foreign governments and the private sector. Established by Congress in 1946, the Program's purpose is to "build mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the rest of the world." Fulbright awardees are selected for academic excellence, professional achievements or demonstrated leadership in their fields.

I commend Ms. El-Assar for her commitment to education, and I thank her for representing the United States through the Fulbright Program in Mexico.

H.R. 4031

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I voted against H.R. 4031, a bill named the "Department of Veterans Affairs Management Accountability Act of 2014", because I don't throw babies out with the bathwater.

Let me explain. When our fellow Americans put on our country's uniform in service to our nation, we owe it to them to repay that service. When these Americans retire the uniform, as veterans they deserve everything a grateful nation can offer—our love, respect, gratitude and, just as importantly, the care and attention they may now need upon coming home.

Reports that the Department of Veterans Affairs failed to provide many of our veterans the care and service they have earned are more than disturbing, and if true, warrant decisive action. With facts in hand, our government must be prepared to move swiftly to right the wrong and hold people accountable.

H.R. 4031 is a bill which is being portrayed as a fix to the troubling reports of mismanagement and mistreatment at VA facilities. It is hardly that. H.R. 4031 would go well beyond giving the Secretary of Veterans Affairs the authority to fire personnel in this particular case of potential mismanagement. This bill makes permanent and reactionary changes to longstanding rules governing the hiring and firing of people holding positions of public responsibility. It would paint responsible, hard-working public servants with the same brush as those who may have recklessly mismanaged VA services.

If H.R. 4031 became law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs could hire or fire someone based on a whim. It would forever and irreparably damage our ability to hire and retain the best and brightest based on merit and experience. This bill would bring back the dark days when hiring and firing decisions within our federal workforce were driven by political influence and patronage.

The vast majority of veterans will tell you that they have received the quality of care that they have earned and deserve at VA health centers. But anything less than 100 percent satisfaction for our veterans is not good enough. That's why we must swiftly and decisively investigate these alarming reports of mismanagement at the Department of Veterans Affairs. I will do anything and everything I can to live up to that standard. But I will not lump truly dedicated, hard-working public servants together with those who have failed in their fundamental obligation to serve and care for our veterans. I will not throw the baby out with the bathwater—and I do not believe America's veterans want us to do that either.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4660) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas.

As a longtime supporter of the Census Bureau's work and the American Community Survey, I urge the Committee to keep this survey as current law provides.

The ACS is a vital resource for all of us in Congress, the federal agencies, and private businesses.

The accurate, timely data collected through this survey is the basis for over \$415 billion allocated by the federal government to states and localities—over two-thirds of all federal grant funding.

Accurate data ensures that these federal dollars go where they are needed—and where Congress intended. This amendment would undermine the accuracy of the ACS and deprive our agencies of this vital information.

But it's not just government. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and its members know the value of census data. The Chamber stated that "ACS data points are critical for business decision-making and long range planning."

Businesses from restaurants, to retailers, to developers know that accurate information about our population is critical for their marketing and expansion activity. This amendment would remove a crucial recourse that helps businesses expand and create jobs.

What's more, we know what would happen if this amendment passes.

In 2003, the Census Bureau tested a voluntary ACS to disastrous results. Response rates plummeted by at least 20 percent, and

• 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.

in 2012, the Bureau estimated that a voluntary survey maintaining the current reliability would cost taxpayers an additional \$120 million each year.

A voluntary response survey would especially undermine our information about rural areas and low-income households. The Census Project estimates that with the change proposed by this amendment, the Bureau could not publish data for up to 40 percent of all counties in the country.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to look beyond the quick headline or talking point, and truly understand the importance of the American Community Survey.

For policymakers, for researchers, for businesses—this data set helps answer our most pressing questions.

This misguided amendment will undermine the ACS and deprive all Americans of this critically important information.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL
JAMES WARREN

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, it brings me sadness and honor to pay final tribute to Lieutenant Colonel James Warren, USAF (Retired). He died Saturday, May 17, 2014, of cancer in Vacaville, California. He was 90.

James served 35 years in the United States Air Force during World War II, Korea and Vietnam as a Tuskegee Airman, the first African American aviators in the United States Armed Forces. During his distinguished career, James flew over 12,000 hours and 173 combat missions. He was the first navigator to bring home a group of American POWs from North Vietnam aboard "Homecoming One," and flew the Apollo 14 crew from splashdown near American Samoa back to the Manned Space Center in Houston, Texas. Throughout this extensive career James was awarded numerous medals for his exceptional service, including the Distinguished Flying Cross with two Oak Leaf Clusters, three Meritorious Service Medals, the Air Medal with eleven Oak Leaf Clusters and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

James Warren was a man of humble beginnings, born on August 16, 1923, into the racially segregated world of Gurley, Alabama. His mother worked hard to save enough money to buy him a bus ticket to Highland Park, Illinois, when he was 15 years old.

After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the aviation cadet program, arriving at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama in November of 1942. Soon after in March of 1943, James was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Army Air Force, later graduating from Hondo Navigation School in August of 1944 and assigned to the 477th Bombardment Group, Medium.

Unfortunately despite his extensive military accomplishments, James' biggest battles were to break down the barriers of segregation. In 1945, James and his fellow African American members of the 477th attempted to integrate an all-white Officers' Club at Freeman Army Air Field. The incident led to the arrest of 102 officers, including one of its instrumental lead-

ers, Lt Col Warren. This incidence is generally regarded by Civil Rights historians as a seminal moment in the drive toward full integration of the Armed Forces and later as a model for civil disobedience of the Civil Rights Movement.

For seven decades, Lt Col Warren was a living legend as a proud American, a decorated veteran, and as both a member and representative of the valiant Tuskegee Airmen. Even in retirement James continued his selfless service, tirelessly promoting the accomplishments of the Tuskegee Airmen and all African American participation in armed conflicts across the globe and sharing his infectious passion for flight with the next generation of Vacaville youth.

The challenges he faced, fought for, and overcame are a true inspiration.

I invite my colleagues to join me as I offer my condolences to his loving family, Xanthia, his wife of 61 years, and sons, James, Stewart and Dwayne and daughter, Sharron. He will be greatly missed. His legacy will live on as a source of inspiration for generations to come.

I wish Lieutenant Colonel James Warren "high flight."

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SHEPHERD'S CENTER OF ANNANDALE-SPRINGFIELD

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 10th anniversary of the Shepherd's Center of Annandale-Springfield (SCAS) and to thank its volunteers for their many contributions to the Northern Virginia community. Established in 2004 by a coalition of religious institutions, foundations and non-profits, SCAS is a non-profit interfaith organization that provides services to help older adults continue living independently. SCAS also offers programs that supply opportunities for enrichment, learning, and socialization. Services are available free of charge to anyone age 50 or older who resides in the local community.

The services and programs offered by this extraordinary organization help to ensure that our seniors stay connected to the community through promotion of active lifestyles, ongoing social integration, and availability of resources for older residents to use their experience, training, and skills in significant roles in society. SCAS volunteers provide transportation for seniors who need rides to medical appointments and other essential activities, "Handy Helper" services for seniors who need help with basic household tasks, and "Friendly Calls" to home-bound seniors. Social and enrichment programs include bi-monthly lunches featuring musical programs or guest speakers, day trips to local areas of interest, and educational seminars.

Last year, SCAS volunteers, board members and staff devoted approximately 2800 hours of their time to serve our seniors. Drivers provided 253 rides for local seniors, taking them mostly to medical appointments. More than 225 lunches were served at six Lunch N' Life programs. 63 seniors enjoyed day trips to

local attractions, and 86 attended seven-week sessions of Adventures in Learning on subjects such as A History of the Early Christian Church, The Civil War, Going Green, The War of 1812 and other Lesser Known Wars, Up In Space and Under the Sea, and other topics.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Shepherd Center of Annandale-Springfield for the services which enable older adults in our community to age in place and enjoy their golden years with dignity and independence. I thank the many volunteers and sponsors who generously dedicate their time, efforts and resources to the welfare of our neighbors. The value of their contributions cannot be overstated and are deserving of our highest praise.

IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD WAR II VETERAN ANGELO "ABE" BARONE FOR RECEIPT OF THE FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR MEDAL

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Angelo "Abe" Barone, a native of Pottsville, Pennsylvania, for his outstanding military service during World War II. Mr. Barone served as a machine gunner with in the U.S. Army's 80th Division in the European theater. He bravely fought in seven battles, including the Battle of Normandy, and helped in liberating France from Nazi occupation. On September 5, 1944, Mr. Barone was injured in combat and captured the following day by German forces. He was held as a prisoner of war for eight months.

In recognition of his heroic service on French soil, Mr. Barone was named a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor by France. Mr. Barone received the medal from Consul General of France Olivier Serot Alm  ras at a ceremony at the French Embassy in Washington, DC on May 8, 2014. He was one of 15 veterans to receive the honor. The Legion of Honor, created in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte, is the highest military distinction offered by France.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Barone for his courageous service during the Second World War. And I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Barone for his having been designated a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor.

IN MEMORY OF DR. MAYA
ANGELOU

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the memory of an exceptional individual whom I had the distinct pleasure to meet—a great artist and compassionate intellectual, Dr. Maya Angelou. With extraordinary compassion, Dr. Angelou used her art to portray communities, conditions, and individuals that were often overlooked by mainstream society.

Dr. Angelou's wisdom and eloquence inspired countless people around the world to better understand themselves and their neighbors. Dr. Angelou was also an influence and friend to many leaders throughout her life; an unyielding advocate for tolerance, equality, justice, and integrity in the face of intractable intolerance.

Mr. Speaker, we bid farewell to a singular voice and world renowned poet. However, we can all find solace in the certainty that Dr. Angelou's timeless works and example will inspire generations to come. Her spirit will continue to animate her words and her life will remain a testament to the power of perseverance.

WILLARD HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC
EDUCATION AWARD

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Willard Public School District on being named one of the Nation's Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM).

Chris Church has served as the band director for 32 years at Willard High School. Out of 1,200 students who attend Willard High School, more than 500 are involved in band, choir or both, with more still involved in other fine arts programs such as visual arts and theater.

Willard was one of three schools from Missouri to be honored. While other school districts' music programs are hit with cutbacks, music education funding has been protected at Willard.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the teachers, students, administrators and the community of Willard for the support they have provided.

I am honored to recognize Willard Public School District on their efforts which led to the community being named one of the Nation's Best Communities for Music Education by the NAMM foundation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. HURT. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall vote No. 254. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 4660) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. BARLETTA. Madam Chair, I speak today in support of H.R. 4660, the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2015.

Though we are not voting on a perfect piece of legislation, which rarely is the case, I will enthusiastically support this measure because I believe it accomplishes a number of goals that are very important to me and my constituents back home in the 11th District of Pennsylvania.

As was highlighted in a recent lengthy story in the New York Times, my home town of Hazleton is just like many cities of its size across the country—it is home to a persistent and growing heroin problem. And just recently, Pennsylvania's attorney general teamed up with a variety of law enforcement agencies to run Operation Rising Star, which was aimed at cracking down on the illegal drug trade. That's why I am pleased that the bill recognizes the recent surge in heroin use, overdose deaths, and trafficking, and encourages the Drug Enforcement Agency to increase its use of task forces to address the increasing heroin epidemic.

And, Madam Chair, as we all know, where there are illegal drugs, there will be gangs. I've been working closely on a bipartisan approach to gangs in my district, with Democratic State Senator John Yudichak, through a program called "Operation Gang-Up," which seeks to educate parents, educators, students, and communities about the dangers of gangs, warning signs of gang activity, and prevention techniques. At my request this bill, in addition to funding the FBI's Safe Streets Task Forces and the National Gang Intelligence Center, allocates \$10 million for regional task forces. In this way, Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies can continue to do the important work of attacking gangs where they live and grow, and protect our children and neighborhoods.

And speaking of protecting our neighborhoods and public safety, I think it's worth noting that this bill calls on the Department of Justice to investigate discretionary enforcement decisions of the Department of Homeland Security. This is particularly relevant given the recent news that the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency had released more than 36,000 illegal immigrant inmates who had been found guilty of a total of almost 88,000 crimes. Those crimes included 116 homicides, 43 counts of voluntary manslaughter, and one classified as 'homicide-willful kill-public official-gun.' We should know more about why dangerous criminals have been released into our neighborhoods.

Reforming immigration laws has been the center of a lot of talk in Washington these days, and most of that has to do with the millions of illegal immigrants who are already present. One part of that discussion that is usually left out is how local governments must deal with illegal immigrants who are arrested and incarcerated in local jails and prisons.

Just this March, the Times Leader newspaper of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania reported that my home county, Luzerne County, housed 184 illegal immigrants in the county's correctional facility last year, costing taxpayers

more than \$1.7 million. The county was reimbursed through the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program—not the full amount, mind you, but about \$130,000. Unfortunately, the President's budget proposal would entirely zero out that funding, leaving localities like Luzerne County stuck with the whole bill for locking up illegal immigrants who had broken the law. Let us remember that these are illegal immigrants who would not be around to break the law in our communities if the Federal Government were doing its job enforcing our borders and immigration laws in the first place. Also at my request, this CJS bill restores that funding, and in fact increases it by \$30 million, to a total of \$210 million. This is by no means a full reimbursement, but it is an improvement, and it is certainly better than the President's proposal to defund the program altogether.

Madam Chair, the CJS appropriations bill also places greater emphasis on programs that protect women from violence and exploitation. It contains \$425.5 million for Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution programs, representing an increase above existing funding and an amount above the President's request. We will also build on efforts to combat sex trafficking by providing a landmark increase in Victims of Trafficking grants of four times the President's requested amount. All U.S. Attorneys will have to participate in an anti-trafficking task force, and the Department of Justice will be required to continue collecting evidence of 'honor violence' against women in this country.

There are a great many items to be pleased with in this funding bill, Madam Chair. I have mentioned but a few of them, but there are many others with which I agree—increased emphasis on STEM Education, the continued prohibition against the transfer or release of Guantanamo Bay detainees to the United States, dedication to Lyme Disease research, and youth mentoring programs.

The bill contains \$51.2 billion in funding by prioritizing programs and spending, and saves more than \$398 million over the enacted fiscal year 2014 level.

I urge passage of the bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR DAILY BREAD

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 30th Anniversary of Our Daily Bread. Our Daily Bread (ODB) is a non-profit organization whose primary focus is combating hunger and poverty in Fairfax County, Virginia.

The organization began in 1984 as a temporary homeless shelter that rotated among several churches in the area. As permanent organizations and programs developed to assist the homeless in Fairfax County, ODB recognized a need that was going unmet—serving those families who, while not homeless, were in financial crisis and in danger of "falling through the cracks." ODB's leadership observed that many people work hard but live paycheck-to-paycheck. Any kind of unexpected expense, such as a car repair, rent hike, or medical cost can throw them into a financial crisis.

Today, the families ODB helps are likely to be members of the working poor, the elderly, disabled, and those who unexpectedly found themselves in crisis due to job loss, debt, or health issues.

More than half of those served are children. ODB's programs offer the temporary assistance families need to recover from a crisis, stay in their homes, and maintain their self-sufficiency. ODB strives to prevent homelessness with a three-tiered approach; providing food assistance, financial assistance, and, ultimately, financial literacy training. ODB also provides back-to-school supplies for low-income school children and holiday assistance. These programs meet the short-term food and financial needs that often accompany job loss and ill health, while also educating clients about ways to prepare for such financial crises in the future and return to self-sufficiency.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Our Daily Bread for 30 years of service to and in thanking the staff, volunteers, community partners, financial supporters and sponsors for contributing their time, energy, and resources to this worthwhile organization.

HONORING JOE GLIK FOR HIS
YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE
TO SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Joe Glik and in recognizing his many years of community service and leadership in southwestern Illinois.

Joe Glik is Chairman of the Board and "patriarch" of Glik's, a family owned retail business started by Joe's grandfather out of his horsedrawn wagon in 1897 and now employing over 500 people, with 62 stores in 9 states.

The Glik's business model is for the stores to be connected to the communities where they do business and Joe Glik has led by example through his leadership and community involvement in the Tri-City area of Illinois he calls home. The Glik family was a long-time supporter of St. Elizabeth Hospital (now, Gateway Regional Medical Center) in Granite City, Illinois and Joe served as chairman of the hospital building fund and president of its lay board. In 1993, the hospital recognized Joe's support and contributions to the hospital and his community by awarding him the De La Roche Award.

Joe Glik's community service has also involved the Tri-Cities Area United Way, where he served as the Annual Fund Chairman and President of the Board of Directors. He has been recognized for his community and business leadership by being named a Distinguished Business Alumni from the Washington University School of Business.

While Joe Glik still serves as Glik's Board Chairman, the company is actually now in its 4th generation of Glik family leadership and looking forward to passing the torch to the 5th generation, with the headquarters remaining in Granite City.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Joe Glik well and thanking him for a lifetime of community service.

IN RECOGNITION OF JENA IRENE
ASCIUTTO, MALAYA WATSON,
AND SAM WOOLF FOR THEIR
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES
ON AMERICAN IDOL'S THIR-
TEENTH SEASON

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise with pride to recognize three outstanding students, with Michigan roots, whose vocal talent earned them spots in the coveted finals of American Idol for its thirteenth season.

For more than a decade, teens from across America have been using the stage of this great competition to share their musical gifts with people across our country. American Idol has been the proving ground for many young vocal artists who have gone on to make careers in the extremely competitive music industry. This year, Jena Irene Asciutto of Farmington Hills, Malaya Watson of Southfield and Sam Woolf, originally of West Bloomfield, have demonstrated the incredible talent that exists amongst the youth of Michigan's Fourteenth Congressional District and the Greater Detroit area.

Paying homage to the incredible vocal talent of Detroit's past, Malaya Watson began her journey on American Idol by singing Ain't No Way from Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul. As the daughter of a professional guitar player, an active member of Detroit's Mosaic Youth Theater, and a tuba player in her high school marching band, it is clear that Malaya's passion for music began at a young age and is a significant part of her life. Having made it to the final eight contestants, Malaya is one of the youngest finalists in American Idol history.

Sam Woolf, who spent his early years growing up in West Bloomfield, comes from a family with a long history of musical talent. Sam's great-grandfather, Sammy Woolf, was a well-known bandleader in Detroit, and his uncle, Randall Woolf, is a composer. Sam's great-uncle was a particularly prominent musician in Greater Detroit's Jewish community. With his top-five finish in this year's American Idol competition, Sam has undoubtedly made his family, the community of West Bloomfield and his current neighbors in Bradenton, Florida proud.

For Jena Irene Asciutto, this year's American Idol competition has been a magical ride—one that took her all the way to the finale. It is clear that Jena Irene's love and passion for music began long before her American Idol debut. From age 12 to 16, Jena Irene was an active member of the band Infinity Hour and has been an annual participant in her school's Coffee House talent show. As she prepares to graduate from North Farmington High School, Jena Irene's outstanding performances on American Idol have brought great pride to her family, her friends and to many across the State of Michigan and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, again, it is a pleasure to rise and recognize the outstanding talent of Jena Irene Asciutto, Malaya Watson and Sam Woolf, who have inspired aspiring young vocalists from across the country to hone their vocal talents and pursue their dreams. I join their family, friends, and many in the Greater Detroit community in expressing pride of their

accomplishments and wishing them ongoing success as they continue to pursue their dreams.

CONGRATULATING MR. PAUL W.
FERGUSON ON HIS SELECTION
AS PRESIDENT OF BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Paul W. Ferguson on being selected as the 15th President of Ball State University.

Mr. Ferguson has had a long and distinguished career as an educator and college administrator. He was an Assistant Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the University of Louisiana, Monroe (ULM), where he was instrumental in establishing the first undergraduate toxicology program in the South.

After working as Senior Toxicologist for Unocal Corporation in Los Angeles, he returned to Louisiana and served as an award winning Professor and Head of the Division of Pharmacology and Toxicology at ULM. Paul would go on to hold many leadership positions there, as well as at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the Edwardsville campus of Southern Illinois University (SIUE). During his time at SIUE, the university received national recognition for its academic innovation, culture of assessment and commitment to continuous quality improvement.

In 2011, Mr. Ferguson became the 19th President of the University of Maine. President Ferguson demonstrated an ability to accomplish high quality results with a student-centered approach to leading while at Maine. Their loss will be Ball State's gain.

I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in welcoming Paul and his wife, Grace, to Indiana, and congratulating him on being selected as Ball State's next President. We wish you the best of luck in this next adventure!

INTRODUCTION OF RESPONSIBLE
GSE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN-
VESTMENT ACT OF 2014

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Responsible GSE Affordable Housing Investment Act of 2014.

This bill would take away an incentive for the Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSEs)—Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac—to make investments that would lead to a decrease in affordable multifamily housing units. In particular, the bill would curtail Fannie and Freddie's ability to invest in future deals—like in the case of Stuyvesant Town/Peter Cooper Village in my district—that do not result in an increase in, or preservation of, affordable housing.

Since 1992, the GSEs have been required to meet certain affordable housing goals each year. "Housing goals credit" is awarded numerically based on the types of transactions

that they enter into. The GSEs, in turn, make decisions about their investments based on whether these investments would be eligible for such housing goals credit.

In 2007, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac invested in a \$22 billion commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) transaction that contained the debt on the Stuyvesant Town/Peter Cooper Village project. The deal was one of the largest CMBS deals ever; Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac's participation as senior debt holders of \$3 billion was critical.

At the time of the deal it was clear that the Stuyvesant Town property was overleveraged—the debt on the property was larger than the rental income it was receiving. After the transaction closed, over the course of several years, the new owners of the property engaged in aggressive tactics to convert affordable units to market rate so that they could increase their rental income—yet the GSEs received affordable housing goals credit for this investment. The investment on the part of the GSEs secured completion of the deal and the GSEs were incentivized to make it because of the housing goals credit they received.

The GSEs should be incentivized to invest in projects that actually do increase or preserve affordable housing. That is what my bill will do. It will require the Federal Housing Finance Agency to rewrite its rules for distributing housing goals credit so that Freddie and Fannie cannot receive credit for investments like the one they made in the Stuyvesant Town project. It would also require the GSEs to use the same underwriting standards for investments in the secondary market that they do for their direct investments which are much stricter. That way, the GSEs won't invest in the secondary market in projects where the rental income is insufficient to cover the payments on the debt on the property.

Mr. Speaker, this bill addresses a critical component of GSE decision-making when it comes to their investments: whether or not they will receive housing goals credit. It does not prohibit them from making investments, it merely says that if those investments do not lead to an increase or a preservation of affordable housing, the GSEs cannot receive credit for them.

CONGRATULATING SARCOXIE HIGH SCHOOL ARCHERY TEAM

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sarcoxie High School Archery Team for winning their second state championship in a row. Sarcoxie started their archery program last year, winning a state championship their first year in existence. As a team, this year they shot a score of 3396, breaking the record they set last year by 57 points.

Sarcoxie's archery team competed against 81 other schools. They competed in a field of over 1,300 archers with 51,000 arrows shot during the competition. Sarcoxie is a Class 2 school that competes in the high school division against all high schools in Missouri, regardless of size or enrollment.

I would also like to recognize the individual performances by Hunter Berry, Brice Dobbs

and Ariana Goddard. Hunter broke the Missouri all-time high male score with 296 points. Brice finished 5th in the high school male division with a score of 287 and Ariana finished 3rd in the female division with 286 points.

I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to the team's head coach, Kaycia Woolsey, the assistant coach, David Woolsey, and athletic director, Jeff Kabance for their dedication and leadership.

I am honored to recognize the Sarcoxie High School Archery Team for winning their second straight state championship.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FAMILY SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th anniversary of Northern Virginia Family Service and to commend the 2014 Community Champion and Legends of Northern Virginia honorees. Since its founding by community volunteers in 1924, NVFS has addressed the growing needs of communities throughout our region. NVFS works to improve the lives of its clients through a variety of programs in five mission initiatives: housing, child and family enrichment, health access, emergency assistance, and workforce development. Today, more than 36,000 individuals and families receive assistance each year.

In 2013, NVFS led a coalition of nonprofits that trained volunteers to help the public learn about and sign up for health insurance coverage through the Affordable Care Act. In just a few months, these volunteers held more than 2000 enrollment sessions with clients.

The Community Champion Award is a recognition given each year to someone who has made immeasurable contributions to children and families in Northern Virginia. This year, this award will be presented to Lauren E. Peterson. Following her family's philosophy of giving back to the communities in which it lives and works, Ms. Peterson has consistently been involved with major charities in the Washington Metropolitan area. She was a Member of the Northern Virginia Family Service Board of Directors for 12 years. Her current charitable activities include: Vice Chair, Life with Cancer Board; Secretary, Washington International Horse Show; Board Member, Teach for America; Board member, Charity Works; Board Member, Inova Foundation; Committee Member, Inova Cancer Services; and Committee Member, Rainbow Therapeutic Riding.

Sidney O. Dewberry will be honored as a Legend of Northern Virginia for decades of leadership in commercial, civic, charitable, and academic endeavors in the Washington D.C. region. In 1956, Mr. Dewberry founded a planning, engineering, and surveying firm that bears his name and is widely known as an industry leader in the greater Washington metropolitan area. He is a founding member and former chairman of the Engineers & Surveyors Institute, and the George Mason University Urban Systems Engineering Institute, now known as the Civil Engineering Institute. He is Rector Emeritus of the George Mason University Board of Visitors, a past member of the

Governor's Commission for the Future of Higher Education in Virginia, a member of the Virginia Business-Higher Education Council and former Trustee of the George Mason University Foundation. His leadership activities also include having served on the board of The Greater Washington Board of Trade, as chairman of the Governor's Regional Economic Development Advisory Council for Northern Virginia, as a director of the Air & Space Heritage Council, member of the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance, chairman of the Arlington County, Virginia, Planning Commission and chairman of the Fairfax County, Virginia, Engineering Standards Review Committee. For his service, he has received numerous accolades, including the George Mason University Mason Medal and "Northern Virginian of the Year" by New Dominion magazine.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending NVFS for 90 years of service to our region's most vulnerable families and congratulating this year's deserving honorees. I also thank the staff, volunteers, sponsors, and community partners for their dedication and ongoing support of NVFS.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS CONDOLENCES AND SUPPORT FOR ASSISTANCE TO THE VICTIMS OF THE HISTORIC FLOODING IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution to express condolences and support for assistance to the victims of the historic flooding in the Western Balkans, which began on May 13, 2014. The record rainfall caused widespread flooding in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia, and the Republic of Serbia, leading to thousands of landslides, massive destruction, and loss of life.

To date, the flooding has claimed over 40 lives and impacted over 500,000 people across the region, particularly in western Serbia and eastern Bosnia and Herzegovina. The equivalent of three months of rain fell during the course of three days, making this the worst flooding event seen in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina since recordkeeping began 120 years ago. Tens of thousands across the region remain displaced or homeless and, according to the Red Cross, many lack access to clean water and electricity.

The Bosnian Foreign Ministry has reported that the flooding has rendered 100,000 buildings unusable, and that 500,000 people have evacuated or fled their homes amidst the ongoing state of emergency.

On May 27, 2014, the Government of Serbia declared three days of national mourning, having described the situation in the country as "catastrophic." It estimates that at least 25,000 people have evacuated, particularly in the town and municipality of Obrenovac, and that the flooding has caused over 100,000,000 Euros (\$140,000,000) in damage to the Kolubara coal mine that supplies the Kostolac power plant. Efforts continue to protect the

Kostolac power plant and the Nikola Tesla power plant, which provides half of the nation's electricity, from the waters of the overflooded Sava River.

Furthermore, an estimated 100,000 landmines remaining from the Balkan conflicts of the 1990s have been lost or dislodged due to landslides, causing great concern for public safety.

In response, the United States Government has provided assistance through the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) to the Serbian Red Cross, as well as from the Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs. Additionally, U.S. Embassy funds have been used to purchase sandbags and other material assistance, with Embassy volunteers dedicating their time to filling hundreds of sandbags in suburbs threatened by Sava River flooding. The United States Government has further provided OFDA assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as boats, food, and supplies through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and Department of Defense.

Mr. Speaker, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia, and the Republic of Serbia share an increasing commitment to core democratic values, reconciliation, and European integration. The United States expresses deep sympathy to all those affected by the flooding in the Western Balkans for the terrible loss of life and massive destruction, as well as a continued desire to provide essential assistance along with that of other nations and organizations to help their countries recover from this tragedy.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION: TO MAKE PERMANENT THE STATE AND LOCAL SALES TAX DEDUCTION

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce my bill to make the state and local sales tax deduction permanent. Simply put this is a matter of fairness. The families of Tennessee shouldn't pay more in federal taxes because our state chooses to have a sales tax instead of an income tax. This is just not equitable. By making this deduction permanent we can bring certainty to families in Tennessee, bring certainty to the tax code, and give families the time they need to plan their budgets.

Mr. Speaker, in 2011, over 556,000 Tennessee filers claimed the deduction for state and local sales tax and reduced their taxable income by \$1.23 billion. These families deserve fair treatment and certainty in the tax code.

My legislation will give these families the fair treatment they deserve, by making the state and local sales tax deductions a permanent part of the federal tax code.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House to support me in passing my legislation to make permanent the state and local sales tax deductions in order to ensure American families are treated fairly by the tax code.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT KEININGHAM

HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired United States Marine Corps Corporal and United States Air Force (USAF) Master Sergeant Jack Keiningham who passed away on September 30, 2007.

Master Sergeant Keiningham knew from an early age that he wanted to join the military and serve our country. On July 2, 1942, he enlisted and served in F Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marines, 2nd Division, where he was quickly promoted to the rank of Corporal.

Master Sergeant Keiningham courageously fought and served our nation during World War II, where he was wounded in the Battle of Saipan. During his service, he was highly awarded and decorated with the Navy Cross, Silver Star, Purple Heart, Navy Presidential Unit Citation with Two Stars, Marine Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, Marine Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with Three Stars, and the Marine WWII Victory Medal for his bravery in the call of duty.

After an honorable discharge from the Marine Corps due to the injuries he received during the Battle of Saipan, he enlisted in the United States Air Force (USAF) where he earned the rank of Technical Sergeant. While in the Air Force, he was awarded the USAF Outstanding Unit Ribbon, two USAF Good Conduct Medals, the Vietnam Service Medal, the USAF Longevity Service Ribbon with 4 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, and the USAF Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon.

After retiring from active duty, he continued his service in the Air Force Reserve as a Technical Sergeant and retired with the rank of Master Sergeant. On September 30, 2007, Master Sergeant Jack Keiningham was laid to rest. He will forever be remembered as an American hero who dedicated his life in service to our country.

America thanks him and his family for their service and sacrifice for our country.

As I close, I ask everyone to continue praying for our country during these difficult times and for our military men and women who protect us from external threats and our first responders who protect us from internal threats right here at home.

God bless our military men and women, and God bless the United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would have voted on the following votes had I been in attendance, on H.R. 4660, Commerce Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015.

Yes—Amendment 738 by Rep. James Moran (A049) to strike sections 528 and 529 which prohibit the use of funds to be used to transfer or release any detainee who is or was

held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba or construct any facility in the U.S. to house any detainee held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Roll No. 254
No—Amendment 742 by Rep. Blackburn (A053) to reduce by 1 percent each amount made available by the bill, except funding for the FBI, fees and expenses for witnesses, public safety officer benefits, and the US Trustee System Fund. Roll No. 255

No—Amendment 744 by Rep. Blackburn (A055) to prohibit the use of funds for operation, renovation, or construction at Thomson Correctional Facility in Illinois. Roll No. 256

Yes—Amendment 745 by Rep. Bonamici (A056) to prohibit the use of funds to prevent a State from implementing its own State laws that authorize the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of industrial hemp, as defined in section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014. Roll No. 257

Yes—Amendment 748 by Rep. Rohrabacher (A059) to prohibit the use of funds to prevent certain States from implementing their own State laws that authorize the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of medical marijuana. Roll No. 258

No—Amendment 750 by Rep. George Holding (A061) to prohibit the use of funds to transfer or temporarily assign employees to the Office of the Pardon Attorney for the purpose of screening clemency applications. Roll No. 259

Yes—Amendment 754 by Rep. Massie (A065) to prohibit the use of funds in contravention of section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 by the Department of Justice of the Drug Enforcement Administration. Roll No. 260

No—Amendment 756 by Rep. Southerland (A067) to prohibit the use of funds to develop, approve, or implement a new limited access privilege program that are not already developed, approved, or implemented for any fishery under the jurisdiction of the South Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, New England, or Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. Roll No. 261

Yes—Amendment 759 by Ellison (A070) to prohibit use of funds to enter into a contract with any person whose disclosures of a proceeding with a disposition outlined in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System include the term "Fair Labor Standards Act". Roll No. 262

Yes—Amendment 763 by Grayson (A074) to prohibit the use of funds to compel a journalist or a reporter to testify about information or sources that the journalist or reporter states in a motion to quash the subpoena that he has obtained as a journalist or reporter and that he regards as confidential. Roll No. 263

No—Amendment 767 by Rep. Duffy (A078) to prohibit the use of funds to relinquish the responsibility of the NTIA with respect to Internet domain name system functions, including responsibility with respect to the authoritative root zone file and the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority functions. Roll No. 264

No—Amendment 768 by Rep. Garrett (A079) to prohibit the use of funds by the Department of Justice to enforce the Fair Housing Act in a manner that relies upon an allegation of liability under C.F.R. 100.500. Roll No. 265

No—Amendment 770 by Rep. Steve King (A081) to prohibit use of funds in contravention of section 642(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1373(a)). Roll No. 266

No—Amendment 771 by Rep. Meadows (A082)—At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following: SEC.—None of the funds made available by this Act ***.

Roll No. 267
Yes—Motion to Recommit with Instructions.
No—Final Passage.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SACRAMENTO HOUSING ALLIANCE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sacramento Housing Alliance as they celebrate the 25th anniversary of their founding. As supporters of this organization gather to celebrate, I ask all my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Sacramento Housing Alliance for their incredible service to the Sacramento region.

For 25 years, the Sacramento Housing Alliance, along with its community partners, have addressed a variety of issues surrounding affordable housing, homelessness, environmental justice, regional equity, land use, hunger and community empowerment. Founded in 1989, the Sacramento Housing Alliance provides advocacy, education, leadership development and civic engagement to homeless and low-income communities throughout the Sacramento metropolitan region.

The Sacramento Housing Alliance has achieved a number of accomplishments that have benefitted thousands of individuals. In 2001, their efforts led to Sacramento County's adoption of the landmark Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, which required affordable housing in new housing developments be made available to individuals and families with low-incomes. In 2012, the Sacramento Housing Alliance collaborated with other community-based organizations to host the region's first Homeless Employment Summit, where over 100 businesses and community partners participated and led to many homeless individuals getting jobs. Additionally, the Sacramento Housing Alliance recently launched its Affordable Housing Campaign, which addresses current housing issues, such as the dissolution of redevelopment agencies in California, the lack of affordable housing options, and rising family homelessness. Most recently, in 2013, the Sacramento Housing Alliance has taken part in the Sacramento Coalition for Shared Prosperity, which seeks a comprehensive Community Benefits Agreement for the Sacramento Entertainment and Sports Complex, to help ensure that good jobs, affordable housing, and environmentally sound developments are available for everyone in the community.

Mr. Speaker, as they gather for their 25th anniversary and awards celebration, I am pleased to honor the Sacramento Housing Alliance and its members for their longstanding commitment and service to the entire Sacramento region. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them continued success in creating positive, lasting change throughout the Sacramento region.

RECOGNIZING WALNUT GROVE HIGH SCHOOL LADY TIGERS BASKETBALL

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Walnut Grove High School Lady Tigers Basketball Team for winning the Missouri Class 1 Girls State Championship.

The Lady Tigers clinched back-to-back state championships after defeating North Andrew with an impressive final score of 84–49. Members of the team include Heather Harman, Lexi Harman, Madisyn Freeze, Karsyn Hejna, Miranda Allison, Megan Shuler, Audree Crain, Ellen Hayter, Raylie Hejna, Shelby Harman, Carrigan Comstock, Mikayla Louderbaugh, and Katelynn Garoutte.

Through their hard work and discipline on and off the court, the Lady Tigers developed into a truly great championship team. The Lady Tigers ended the season 28–4.

I also want to commend Head Coach Rory Henry for a job well-done on developing such a strong basketball program.

I am proud to recognize the school and the players on their victory, and applaud the hard work that has brought them so much success. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Walnut Grove Lady Tigers as they celebrate their Class 1 Girls State Championship.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ALEX AND MARITZA ALVAREZ AND OLGA A. VALDEZ

HON. PETE P. GALLEGO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the second anniversary of the passing of three constituents of the 23rd District of Texas who died in a tragic accident on May 26, 2012—Alex Alvarez, his wife, Maritza Alvarez and her mother, Olga A. Valdez. I rise today to speak in their honor.

I honor their lives. Like all of us, they sought a better life. They worked hard to achieve success. Like many of us, they were parents who longed to see their son and grandson graduate from high school, go off to college, get married, and generally succeed at life.

Unfortunately, they got none of the above. Their deaths were caused by a person who was texting and driving. Poor judgment caused a terrible tragedy. The lone survivor of this horrific car accident was Alex and Maritza's young son, Alex Jr.

Alex and Maritza were hard workers. Alex was a native son of the border, having been born in Eagle Pass, Texas. He worked in the IT department of the Fort Duncan Regional Medical Center.

Maritza was also a native daughter of the border region. She was born in Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico, the sister city to Eagle Pass. She worked in Eagle Pass as a dental assistant.

Olga A. Valdez was born in San Luis Potosí, Mexico. She was a devoted grandmother, mother, and sister.

Three lives tragically cut short. One young boy left to face life alone without his parents. One moment of poor judgment by an inattentive third party—nothing, absolutely nothing in that text could've been worth the cost of three lives not yet fully lived.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the lives of Alex and Maritza Alvarez, to commend the courage of a young boy, Alex Alvarez Jr., who still I'm sure struggles to make sense of the loss he has suffered, and urge the residents of the 23rd District of Texas and our entire Nation not to text and drive.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NOVA-ANNANDALE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the NOVA-Annandale Symphony Orchestra. The Orchestra was originally formed in 1994 as a collaborative arrangement between the Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) Annandale Campus and the Reunion Music Society. Led by award-winning Music Director Christopher Johnston since 1996, the NOVA-Annandale Symphony Orchestra has performed a wide range of music embracing different cultures and heritages and is the "Orchestra-in-Residence" at the Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center on the Northern Virginia Community College's Annandale Campus.

Over the years, the orchestra has grown in size, repertoire, and prominence in the greater Northern Virginia community. The Orchestra is composed of members of the community, as well as NOVA students for whom the ensemble is a laboratory for the orchestral repertoire. The Orchestra performs a wide variety of music from around the world, demonstrating its versatility and its goals of presenting compositions of little-known composers and offering programs of seldom-heard music representing a range of cultures.

Throughout its two decade history, the orchestra has performed on and off campus, premiered numerous works, created scholarships, provided opportunities for young soloists, and generated unique multi-cultural events designed to reach diverse audiences. It is most unusual for a community college to maintain a full symphony orchestra, and the orchestra's quality and enduring place in the Northern Virginia community are now widely recognized.

At the orchestra's anniversary concert this year, the symphony orchestra will perform a concert entitled "Scotland and the Sea." Included in the program is the debut of a symphonic work by students of the Fairfax Academy for Communications and the Arts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the NOVA-Annandale Symphony Orchestra on the occasion of its 20th Anniversary and in thanking the musicians, volunteers and supporters for their efforts to preserve and enrich the music and culture of Northern Virginia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes:

1. Pompeo amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.

2. McNerney amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this amendment.

3. Bridenstine amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this amendment.

4. King (IA) amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.

5. Cohen amendment No. 1 to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.

6. Cohen amendment No. 2 to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this amendment.

HONORING THE CALIFORNIA
STATE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the AAA Northern California, Nevada and Utah, formerly known as the California State Automobile Association, (CSAA) upon its 100th anniversary of supporting the insurance needs of AAA members. The club is one of the largest motor clubs in the American Automobile Association (AAA) National Federation, serving members across Northern California, Nevada, and Utah.

The club has a long history of having done so, tracing its roots to a 1900 meeting of car buffs in San Francisco's Cliff House. Recognizing the need for better roads, given the dearth of paved roads, signage, and consistent traffic laws across the region, those car owners formed the Automobile Club of California (ACC) to deal with barriers that hindered acceptance of the auto throughout the state. The club's efforts began to pay off in 1905, when the legislature passed a set of uniform regulations governing the use of motor vehicles on California highways. This legislation facilitated safe and efficient movement, as drivers were able to follow a consistent legal structure.

In 1907, ACC merged into the newly founded California State Automobile Association, which formally affiliated with the AAA in that same year. The new club's focus was "Good Roads and Just Legislation."

CSAA sent teams of cartographers to survey California's roads for the production of maps, with the first ones produced in 1909. The organization also helped post thousands of porcelain on steel traffic signs throughout the State and continued to do so until the State of California took over the task in the early 1950s.

CSAA began to offer automobile insurance in 1913 and homeowner's insurance in 1974.

The club changed its name to AAA Northern California, Nevada & Utah, or AAA in 2008. However, it still legally retains the California State Automobile Association name.

In 2013, the insurance company changed its name to CSAA Insurance Group, a AAA Insurer. In 2014 the California State Automobile Association or the CSAA Insurance Group, a AAA insurer, celebrates 100 years of supporting the insurance needs of AAA members.

The CSAA employs more than 3,500 Americans and sells AAA-branded insurance in 23 States and Washington DC. The CSAA Insurance Group, one of the Nation's most long-standing property and casualty insurance companies, provides auto and home insurance to nearly 2.4 million Americans.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating CSAA Insurance Group on its 100th anniversary of providing quality insurance to AAA members. Their history of providing quality service and security for their members has benefited us all. I look forward to a rich future of continued success by CSAA.

TRIBUTE TO BOB KING

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the distinguished career of Bob King as the United Auto Workers (UAW) assembles for their 36th Constitutional Convention next week. Bob King—as an individual, as a 44-year Member of the UAW and its President since 2010—vividly represents the proud and historic tradition of the UAW. Like his union, he has devoted his life to the rights to workers, to the fundamental belief in collective bargaining, to the strength of diversity, and to the cause of economic justice and civil and human rights for all.

Bob King combines in his leadership a generous spirit—a kindness—and a tenacious determination. At his core, he is an organizer in the finest tradition knowing that workers are stronger when their voices are united. He listens broadly, and acts decisively, always with the best interest of workers at the UAW and throughout the U.S. and around the world at the forefront of his efforts.

Bob King started his career in his twenties at Ford Motor Co.'s Detroit Parts Depot and began his electrical apprenticeship in 1972. He joined Local 600 where he later served as President. He served three terms as Regional Director and three terms as a Vice President. He took the lead as the National Organizing Director and participated in many successful negotiations. He has also played a leading role on the international stage bringing together the efforts of workers around the globe in common cause.

From serving his country in the U.S. Army, to serving the workers of the UAW, Bob King is a unique individual who is smart, thoughtful and results-oriented. It has been a privilege to work alongside of him on so many policy issues. Mr. Speaker, next week, Bob King will oversee the transition of leadership at the UAW, and while he no longer will serve as the President, I am confident that he will continue to serve—and work on behalf of the rights of workers. I also know that he will continue to

speak out on behalf of the economic and social justice issues that are vital to creating opportunity and ensuring fairness in our society. I offer my best wishes to Bob and his wife, Moe and look forward to the next chapter in advancing the causes they devote their lives to.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4660) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. WOLF. Madam Chair, I want to again recognize and thank all of the staff members who worked on this bill, including the Appropriations Committee staff members as well as the associate staff who work in the personal offices of the members of our subcommittee. They have all worked hard to help us hold nine hearings in just over a month and then prepare this bill for markup, the earliest it has been advanced by the House in many years.

I would like to again thank the majority staff for their hard work, including the subcommittee's clerk, Mike Ringle, as well as Leslie Albright, Jeff Ashford, Diana Simpson, Colin Samples and Taylor Kelly. I also want to thank Bob Bonner and Matt Smith on the minority staff. They worked together to produce an excellent bipartisan bill that the committee should be proud of.

I also want to recognize my personal office staff, especially Tom Culligan, Elyse Bauer Anderson and Dan Scandling.

In addition to serving as my office's legislative director, Tom Culligan has served as my associate staff to the Commerce-Justice-Science (CJS) Appropriations subcommittee since 2008, while I served both as ranking member and, more recently, as chairman. Tom has been my senior policy adviser on key issues this subcommittee has prioritized in recent years, including counterterrorism, cybersecurity and space exploration policy, and I have appreciated his strategic focus and knowledge of these issues. He has also managed many of my oversight investigations while I have chaired this subcommittee, aimed at keeping our country safe and competitive, as well as preventing waste and abuse at federal agencies. The bill, report and oversight hearings over the last several years reflect this focus and I appreciate Tom's work on these issues.

Elyse is on her fourth tour of duty in my office. She is my top staffer for my work on the State & Foreign Operations subcommittee as well as the congressional Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, which I co-chair. Many of those issues run parallel to the work in the CJS bill. Elyse's knowledge of Congress and world affairs is a huge asset. She also is a gifted writer whose words always make me sound better.

Dan has served as my chief of staff and press secretary for the last 14 years and has been an invaluable manager of my office and adviser on many issues, including on this bill. Dan has been an outstanding leader of my staff and has helped me ensure that balance my responsibilities to the 10th District as well as this subcommittee. He has planned trips and travelled with me around the world—including to China, Iraq, Afghanistan, Sudan and Egypt—to conduct oversight on U.S. national security and human rights policies. This would not have been possible without Dan's hard work, guidance and support over the years.

RECOGNIZING BOB LAPP

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bob Lapp for his nearly 40 years of service to The Timken Company. Since joining the company in 1975, he has served in a number of unique positions, ranging from supervising general accounting to investor relations and public affairs. As the outgoing Vice President for Government Affairs and Community Relations, he leaves behind a legacy of trustworthiness, honesty, and reliability that made him an asset to not only The Timken Company, but to Northeast Ohio. I consider Bob a friend and I am grateful for his counsel throughout my time in office. I know I can always count on Bob to provide me with accurate, relevant information about an issue, putting aside politics and getting to the heart of good policy.

Born and raised in Coshocton, Ohio, Bob is a graduate of two great Ohio schools, earning his bachelor's degree from Miami University and his master's degree from the University of Akron. An active member of our local community, Bob has served on the board of several organizations including the Ohio Manufacturers Association, Stark County Government Leadership Academy, and the Ohio Steel Council. He also has chaired the Ohio Prosperity Project, an organization that educates and informs Ohioans about public policy issues and elections.

Bob's retirement will allow him to spend more time with his family, especially Kaci and his six-month-old granddaughter, Kyli.

I'd like to thank Bob for his years of hard work and wish him nothing but the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE PENDERBROOK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FOR EARNING THE 2013 COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN CHAPTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS INSTITUTE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the Penderbrook

Community Association located in Fairfax County, Virginia, for earning the 2013 Community Association of the Year Award (Very Large category) from the Washington Metropolitan Chapter of the Community Associations Institute.

The Penderbrook Community Association (PCA) consists of 1,776 single family homes, townhomes, and condominiums located in the heart of the Fair Oaks area about 20 miles west of Washington, DC, and it is home to over 4,000 residents. The PCA is a Master Association, which unites seven separate land bays with exceptional amenities including a fitness center, swimming pool complex, golf course, tennis courts, basketball courts, clubhouse, boardroom facility, and tot lots. The association amenities serve as a hub for a wide variety of community events that offer something for everyone who calls Penderbrook home.

In addition to the topnotch amenities, PCA emphasizes frequent and robust communications with residents. The PCA employs an interactive website for instant correspondence, a weekly email newsletter to inform residents of local issues, meetings, and events, and an onsite office to manage day-to-day operations and provide immediate assistance to residents. Resident input and involvement is solicited, encouraged, appreciated, and recognized. Open lines of communication also are utilized in an ongoing effort to solicit association volunteers for various committees and projects. Volunteerism leads to true community ownership, fosters friendships, and motivates neighbors to serve the common good.

The PCA prides itself as an association that gives back to the community. The clubhouse hosts the annual Fairfax County Police Foundation Santa's Ride Banquet, biannual blood drives, and serves as a Fairfax County election polling facility. The PCA annually donates use of the facilities to the Special Olympics for event practice, and the Penderbrook Clubhouse is an official collection site for Toys-for-Tots.

Each year the Washington Metropolitan Chapter of the Community Associations Institute honors communities that demonstrate excellence in all facets of association operation and governance, and which best represent common-interest community living. There are four categories: Very Large (1,000+ units), Large (500–999 units), Medium (150–499 units) and Small (1–49 units).

The Penderbrook Community Association was selected based upon a review of the community's governance, board procedures, financial management, committee structure, crime prevention efforts, community communications, and insurance preparedness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Penderbrook Community Association for earning this honor and in thanking the volunteers and Board Members who devote countless hours toward the ultimate goal of creating an ideal home and serving our entire community.

THE SEEING EYE OF MORRISTOWN 85TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, on almost any day of the year, if you were to find yourself in the middle of Morristown, New Jersey, you would be almost certain to see a remarkable partnership being developed. You might notice a well-behaved, bright-eyed young dog wearing a special vest as it navigates, with a trainer, the crosswalks and sidewalks of the bustling Morristown Green. This dog is being trained to join a long line of dogs that have provided a "seeing eye" to thousands of Americans under the tutelage of The Seeing Eye, a remarkable organization that is marking its 85th Anniversary this year.

In 1927, Morris Frank, a young blind man, read an article about dogs being trained as guides for blinded veterans of World War I. Mr. Frank decided to reach out to the author and dog trainer Dorothy Harrison Eustis for help. Ms. Eustis, who was in Switzerland at the time, agreed to help Mr. Frank if he could come to Switzerland.

He made the trip and a year later Mr. Frank returned to New York City with his dog, "Buddy." Buddy and Mr. Frank captured the attention of many reporters as the two proved the ability of a guide dog and his master. This partnership among Ms. Eustis, Mr. Frank, and Buddy would launch an effort that would change the world for people who could not see.

In 1929, Dorothy Harrison Eustis, who trained the first dog, returned to America, and with the help of Morris Frank, E.S. Humphrey, and Willi Ebeling, founded The Seeing Eye, Inc. on January 29, in Nashville, Tennessee. Two years later, The Seeing Eye moved its headquarters to Whippany, New Jersey, and has remained in the area since then.

A few years after settling into their new headquarters, the organization decided to create a way to reach students, graduates, and other interested people in order to share inspirational stories and updates on new developments and programs. In 1935, the Seeing Eye published the first issue of the Guide magazine, which is published quarterly even today.

On December 8, 1941, the day after the attacks on Pearl Harbor, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution, "to supply Seeing Eye dogs, without charge, to eligible members of the armed forces who lose their sight in the line of duty." Since then, these American heroes have been given priority over all other applicants.

The first women's dormitory opened in 1950, allowing women to become students at the Seeing Eye. Within the first year of the new dormitory opening, one third of the students were female.

In 1952, Warner Brothers brought the inspiration story of The Seeing Eye to moviegoers everywhere with the release of the motion picture called, "The Seeing Eye." The Seeing Eye's story would inspire other moviemakers through the years.

In 1966, Walt Disney filmed the movie, "Atta girl, Kelly!" on the Seeing Eye campus. Jim Kutsch, the current president of the organization, watched this film as a young child. Years

later, after losing his vision to a chemical explosion, he remembered that movie and was determined to work toward his first Seeing Eye dog. Jim is the first Seeing Eye graduate to serve as president of the organization.

Twenty years later, Walt Disney Studios returned to the story of The Seeing Eye for another film, "Loves Leads the Way." This 1986 picture depicted the story of Morris Frank and Buddy.

From the beginning, the work of The Seeing Eye has captured the attention of countless Americans, including several who called the White House home. In 1930, President Herbert Hoover met with Morris Frank to learn more about his work. In 1948, Mr. Frank and his third dog (named Buddy III), visited President Harry Truman at the White House. In 1972, First lady Pat Nixon visited The Seeing Eye at its headquarters in Morristown. In 1990, President George H.W. Bush named The Seeing Eye the 138th "Point of Light" in honor of its corps of volunteers.

One year later, The Seeing Eye marked several significant milestones, including matching its 10,000th dog with a student and hiring its first full-time veterinarian, Dr. Dolores Holle.

The Seeing Eye, Inc. has continuously dedicated itself to the goals of increasing independence and dignity of those who are blind, providing the best guide dogs possible, educating the public, providing ongoing assistants to both graduates and dogs, and to practice fiduciary responsibility.

The Seeing Eye Inc. is ever dedicated to their growing community through their continuous care of each individual, both human and canine. As the graduates continue on with their dog guides, The Seeing Eye, Inc. will ensure that help is always provided, as needed. The Seeing Eye, Inc. promises successor dogs to graduates, as well as sends trainers to homes across the U.S. and Canada to help with any training-related problem. This remarkable organization not only raises and trains the dogs, but also provides the best research and care for canine health and development.

As The Seeing Eye marks its 85th Anniversary, it continues to commit itself to providing the best guide dogs, with excellent health and training, and to sustaining excellence in their field while always seeking improvement. The employees, volunteers, students, graduates, and guide dogs, look forward to the challenges and excitement of the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating The Seeing Eye as it celebrates its 85th Anniversary.

CONGRATULATING CRANE HIGH SCHOOL LADY PIRATES BASKETBALL

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Crane High School Lady Pirates Basketball Team for winning the Missouri Class 2 Girls State Championship.

The Lady Pirates clinched back to back state championships after defeating the Skyline Lady Tigers with a final score of 67-52. Members of the team include Allie Hagler,

Lexie Vaught, Kylee Moore, Kylie Vaught, Justeen Mahan, Shelby Roder, Riley Israel, Emma Lander, Karen Belin, Loni Johnson, Jalee Johnson, Addie Reel, Hailey Powell, Jenna Scroggins, Madison Fulp, and Tabitha Bishop.

Through their hard work and excellence on and off the court, the Lady Pirates developed into a truly great championship team. The Lady Pirates ended the season 30-1, remaining undefeated in their Class 2 division.

I also want to commend Head Coach Jeremy Mullins and Assistant Coach Billy Redus for a job well-done on developing such a strong basketball program.

The Crane community is justifiably proud of this extraordinary group of young and talented student-athletes. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Crane Lady Pirates as they celebrate their Class 2 Girls State Championship.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MAYA ANGELOU, MENTOR, TEACHER, SOCIAL ACTIVIST, MOTHER, SISTER, WOMAN OF LIGHT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and remember one of the most remarkable figures of the 20th Century and an example of a life well lived for those coming of age in the 21st Century.

Dr. Maya Angelou died this morning at her home in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. She was 86 years old.

I first met Dr. Maya Angelou when I was a student at Yale University.

No matter how busy she was—and she was always in demand—Maya Angelou always had time to share with you; as a mentor, a teacher, a social activist, a mother, a sister, a woman of light.

She had a knack of making you feel better about yourself and life's possibilities.

I thank God for her voice, her survival and her spirit and for teaching little girls—with long hair, short hair, curly hair, afros or straight hair—the beauty of all people.

Dr. Maya Angelou epitomized what it is to be a great American who came from a unique and different background.

Dr. Maya Angelou was an American original, a phenomenal writer, woman of insight, eloquence, and artistry who gave voice to the rawness and loftiness of our history and our humanity.

From the struggles of her youth, through her work in the civil rights movement, to her success as an author and her time as the Poet Laureate of the United States, Maya Angelou embodied personal, moral, and artistic courage.

Dr. Maya Angelou reminded us of the beauty of diversity and the importance of the black experience. She wrote of the cry for freedom, the experience of womanhood.

Her story is the story of America. In the early 1960s, Dr. Angelou moved to Cairo, Egypt, where she became the associate editor of a magazine, The Arab Observer.

Dr. Maya Angelou went on to help Malcolm X establish the Organization of Afro-American

Unity in 1964. Since 1981, she held the Reynolds Professorship of American Studies at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Dr. Maya Angelou once said: "I have created myself. I have taught myself so much."

Dr. Angelou defied simple labels. She was a walking list of careers and passions. In addition to authoring books, she was an actress, director, playwright, composer, singer and dancer.

And if that was not enough she was the first female and first black streetcar conductor in San Francisco.

In November 2013 Dr. Angelou stole the show at the National Book Awards in New York when she was presented an award for Outstanding Service to the American Literary Community.

She was introduced that night by her friend, the famed author Toni Morrison, who said of Dr. Maya Angelou: "Suffering energized and strengthened her, and her creative impulse struck like bolts of lightning."

Mr. Speaker, today we lost one of the "great souls" which Dr. Angelou often wrote about.

I hope it is a comfort to her family that so many around the world mourn with them at this sad time. But through our sadness, we draw strength from the enduring power of her own words: "Just like hopes springing high, still I'll rise."

On a personal note, who can imagine a child who silenced herself for five years because of a brutal experience in her young life?

That silence could have ruined her life or been a rebirth of her life.

It was a rebirth.

Just like a butterfly she was reborn and throughout her life she gave us the gift of her genius.

So instead of saying good-bye, I say, as Dr. Maya Angelou said on January 20, 1993, at the inauguration of President Clinton, in her remarkable poem, "A Rock, A River, A Tree":

Here on the pulse of this new day
You may have the grace to look up and out
And into your sister's eyes, into
Your brother's face, your country
And say simply
Very simply
With hope
Good morning.

So long my friend. We will never forget you or all you did to make our world a better place.

HONORABLE GARY GIARDINA

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Gary F. Giardina who, after 36 years of service to the people of Clifton as a member of the Clifton Police Force, is being honored for his retirement on Sunday, June 1, 2014. A life-long resident of the City of Clifton, Gary Giardina devoted 36 years to the community that raised him, most notably serving 4 years as Clifton's 9th Police Chief. I am extremely proud to represent such a noble and committed individual in the 9th Congressional District, and I am extremely grateful for the service Chief Giardina has contributed to our community.

Chief Giardina's passion for public service began in his teenage years, when he began training in 1978 through the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. His extraordinary work ethic and enthusiasm for public service earned him a permanent spot in the Clifton Police Department a few short years later. Not long after his appointment to the force, his success was dampened by a traumatic injury when he was run over by a vehicle traveling on Route 3. Doctors concluded that the damage would render his entire right arm permanently useless. However, his prognosis could not stop his passion for public service; he was determined to return to the police force. He was finally able to return to the force after enduring a long brutal battle through physical therapy. While life continued to present obstacles for then-officer Giardina his resilience persisted, even through lay-offs, demotions, and even brushes with death until 1988, when he was finally recognized for his incredible tenacity and was appointed to the Narcotics and Patrol Division and promoted to Sergeant.

Over the next decade his skill as a leader would earn the respect of his fellow officers and propel him to the rank of Lieutenant where he would assume command of the Community Policing Division in 1997. He was then given the rank of Captain and assigned to Field Operations in 2002. As head of the Field Operations Bureau, he was responsible for the Patrol, Traffic, and Communications Divisions which collectively made up the largest component of officers in the department until he would reach the pinnacle of his career when he was appointed as the Chief of Police in 2010.

During Chief Giardina's long career he was also able to continue his education and earn a Masters of Administrative Science degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and a Baccalaureate degree from Jersey City State College of Criminal Justice. Chief Giardina is also a National and State Certified Public Manager. He has always been a strong believer in open communication and cooperation, not only within the department but also with other City, County, State, and Federal Departments. Chief Giardina has always said, "There are no unimportant jobs or people in this agency. Everyone plays an essential role in success of this Police Department". This type leadership is what has made Clifton, New Jersey a safe and welcoming place to live.

As Co-Chair of the Congressional Law Enforcement Caucus, I have been honored to work first-hand with him on a long list of public safety issues in my district. Chief Gary Giardina has always exemplified the virtues that merit all of his accomplishments. He has been a leader, a mentor, and friend to many of us and I am honored to have worked with a man of such integrity.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating the achievements of individuals such as Chief Gary F. Giardina.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Chief Giardina's coworkers, family and friends, all those whose lives he has touched, and me, in recognizing the career of Chief Gary F. Giardina.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN L. "JACK" STITZER, RECIPIENT OF THE FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR MEDAL

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John L. "Jack" Stitzer, who was honored on May 8 as a Chevalier (Knight) of the Legion of Honor at the French Embassy in Washington, DC by Olivier Serot Almeras, the Consul General of France. Napoleon Bonaparte created the Legion of Honor in 1802 when he was first consul of France. Those who qualify for this award aided in the liberation of France during World War II.

Mr. Stitzer, resident of Gordon, Pennsylvania, entered the U.S. Army on May 24, 1943, and served with the 159th Engineer Combat Battalion. He was stationed in the United States, unaware his unit was preparing to leave for the D-Day invasion in Normandy. Mr. Stitzer served in the Third Army, which was commanded by General George S. Patton. Mr. Stitzer remained in Normandy for a few weeks before his unit of engineers travelled up the coast to clean the mines off the beaches, and ultimately fought as infantry. He and his unit travelled from Brest to Luxembourg and were stationed there until the Battle of the Bulge, where Mr. Stitzer was wounded.

Mr. Stitzer aided in the relief of the 101st Airborne Division, which defended the Belgian town of Bastogne against the Nazis by cinderling the roads for the tanks throughout the day and night. He also witnessed the liberation of the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany.

Mr. Stitzer was also honored on May 26, 2014 as the grand marshal of the Gordon Memorial Day parade. Mr. Stitzer has received the Good Conduct Medal, Distinguished Unit Badge, American Service Ribbon, Eastern Theater Offensive Ribbon with five Battle Stars, the Purple Heart and World War II Victory Medal. He served in Scotland, England, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Holland and Czechoslovakia until he was discharged on December 19, 1945.

Mr. Stitzer and his wife live in Gordon, Pennsylvania, and have three children. After his service in World War II, he ran his father's lumber yard and hardware store, and also was a salesman for Ajax Building Materials for 20 years.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Stitzer for his outstanding service for our country, and for risking his life during World War II to fight in France. He serves as a role model and inspiration to all, and I offer my sincere congratulations to him on this momentous occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor on Wednesday, May 28, 2014. Weather in Chi-

cago delayed my flight to Washington, DC until late that night. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 599 (Roll No. 241) and in favor of H.R. 503 (Roll No. 242).

COMMENDING LOCAL 2014 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR THEIR DECISION TO ENLIST IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOR HOSTING THE FOURTH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 50 graduating seniors in my community for their record of academic and athletic accomplishment and for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Army. I also express my appreciation to Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia for providing this opportunity to be among the first to say to each of these young men and women: "Thank you."

I have had the privilege of working with Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia since its inception in 2011. That year my office was contacted by one of the founding parents who upon learning that her son and other students at his school who had decided to enlist would not receive any recognition during graduation, joined with other parents to organize the first enlistee recognition ceremony of its kind in the region. The first ceremony recognized a total of 9 students. This year, we will recognize 129 young men and women who have chosen to serve our country in uniform.

With graduation season upon us, thousands of young people in my community, and millions across the nation, are preparing for the next chapter in their lives. Some will pursue higher education or vocational training, others will seek to enter the workforce immediately, and many will answer the call to serve their community and their country.

The United States of America has distinguished itself from other nations through the entrepreneurship and spirit of our people, the knowledge that we can achieve any goal if we set our minds to it, our inherent compassion and generosity, our fierce patriotism, and the extraordinary sacrifices and dedication to country exhibited by the members of our Armed Forces. The young men and women from our community who will be enlisting possess an abundance of each of these qualities. I join with their families and friends in congratulating and commending the following graduates on their enlistment in the United States Army:

Matthew Ainslie, Daniel Alt, Chardai Adora Anderson, Gustabo Arguera Granados, Rajhan Jubar Atkinson, David Barber, Dustin Barnes, Luke Battle, Anthony Boothby, Nathaniel Macques Bradford, Andrew Brown, Lam Hoai Bui, Jamie Nicole Cabling, Matthew Carrero, Thomas James Cleary, Gloria Cruces-Johansson, Caleb Downing, Oscar Gonzalez, Daniel Hemmingson, Kyle Hodges, Mitchell Henry Johnson, Romulo Grame Jovero, Nershon Kamara, Hunter McConchie,

Adam Moore, Christian Josue Morales, Lisdeth Morales, Paul Nosegbe, Julius Osei Nyanin, Andrez Obando, Jacob Olave, Alexander Parada, Lisa Vianey Perez, Richard Reese, Edward Robinson, Adriana Roca, Ivonne Aracely Rojas-Telleria, Elijah Jeremiah Scott, Javil Glendon Zannick Seaton, Billy Gene Sims, Gregory Sorbara, Peter Jordan Stefanov, Philip Suarez, Samuel Crawford Taylor, Avery Tillman, Mark Tull, Elliot Wood, Stephen Wooldrige, Edwin Xicotencatl, Clement Yeboah.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the courage and dedication of these graduates and in assuring them and their families that the full support and resources of the U.S. Congress and the American people will be behind them on every step of their journey in defense of our nation's freedom.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF JOE AND FLO HALL

HON. RANDY K. WEBER, SR.

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to congratulate Joe and Flo Hall, of Lake Jackson, Texas, on the celebration of their 60th Anniversary this month.

Mr. Joe Hall married Ms. Flo Broussard on May 1, 1954. Though they both grew up in the Lake Jackson area, they did not go on their first date until after Joe returned from World War II, serving our country in the United States Army. It was true love.

After they were wed, their marriage was blessed with three adopted children that they raised while living throughout the United States. Now that they have settled back in Lake Jackson, Texas, they get to spend well-deserved time with their six grandchildren, great-grandchild, and the many children that are lovingly entrusted to their care by friends. Mr. Speaker, 60 years is a long time, and this truly is a Diamond Anniversary. To share these many years with the love of your life is a tremendous blessing.

Mr. Speaker, the institution of marriage provides the strength that holds our communities together. Maintaining a marriage requires sacrifice, understanding, patience and sometimes forgiveness by both husband and wife. Marking the 60th anniversary of a marriage is a very special occasion for not only the couple, but also for the family, friends and community they have touched.

Mr. Speaker, Joe and Flo's lives and love have been a model of excellence and are an inspiration to us all. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating 60 years of happiness and wishing Mr. and Mrs. Hall all the best in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRIES

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc.,

recipient of the President's "E Star" Award for Exports.

Ocean Spray Cranberries has played a pivotal role in forwarding U.S. exports abroad through its innovative, multi-tiered marketing strategies. The team at Ocean Spray Cranberries has worked extensively with non-profits to expand U.S. agricultural exports. In this way, Ocean Spray Cranberries has been a leader in the global promotion of exports in American agriculture and serves as a model for other domestic exporters. Their achievements have also enabled Ocean Spray Cranberries to employ many Americans, including many Massachusetts cranberry growers, providing valid solutions to the issue of national unemployment. Ocean Spray has long been vital to the Commonwealth's community and region's economy.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Ocean Spray Cranberries for receiving the President's "E Star" Award for Exports. I ask that my colleagues join me in offering congratulations.

TEXAN COL. RUDDER'S BOYS OF PONTE-DU-HOC

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it was raining as the English Channel churned and tossed the Americans in the landing craft. The sun was coming up over the horizon, but no one could see it through the gray clouds. Thousands of teenage liberators stared into the distance to see the high cliffs of Normandy, France. It was D-Day, June 6, 1944—70 years ago.

Expecting to land on Omaha Beach at 6:30 am ahead of other Allied Forces, Texan Lt. Col. James Earl Rudder led the United States Army Rangers' 2nd Ranger Battalion into what seemed like an impossible feat.

As the treacherous weather conjured crashing waves five to six feet tall, a shifting wind tossed the Rangers off course. The mist, clouds and smoke obscured the navigation, making it hard to locate Pointe-du-Hoc from a mile out at sea. Their landing was delayed by forty minutes. Already, the mission seemed doomed. This navigational error meant two things: They would have to sail parallel to the coast facing intense enemy fire. It gave the enemy time to recover and prepare for the next assault.

For almost half an hour, the Rangers rode along the coast as bullets were flying all around them. Some Rangers were hit by enemy fire. But bleeding or not, still they pushed forward.

They battled the wind as the pelting rain blurred their vision and soaked their climbing equipment. They were exhausted and tense. The landing crafts that brought the GIs to shore were beginning to take on water, presenting yet another obstacle for Rudder's Rangers. Water began to leak in through the front ramp of the landing crafts, so the Rangers ripped up the floorboards and used their helmets to bail out the alarming amount of water rushing in all while the Nazis fired down at them atop the cliffs.

One of the landing crafts sunk from the weather and enemy fire. The brutal conditions

of the sea caused others in the landing crafts to become violently seasick. Finally, the Rangers reached the eastern side of the Pointe, their new designated landing spot. It was now 7:10 am. The battle had just begun, and the odds were stacking up against Rudder's success.

The Rangers were miserable, cold, wet and seasick; some bleeding from injury but none wavered. Their mission: to conquer the cliffs at Pointe-du-Hoc and find the big German guns. The guns could reap havoc on later landings.

No longer was the weather their only enemy. As the first shoe print was made in the wet sand of Normandy, the Rangers came under brutal fire from atop the cliffs as the enemy chunked grenades down at them. The men had to resist the urge to take out the machine guns because the primary mission was to climb. Fifteen men were already lost in the crossing of the beach. Divided into three units, Lt. Col. Rudder prepared to lead the Provisional Rangers, task force A of 250 men up the cliffs. They moved quickly with precision and expertise. They shifted through the chaos that ensued around them all while operating soaking wet equipment. (The ropes attached to the grappling hooks were heavy with water and thus could not reach the top of the cliffs when launched from a mortar.)

The Rangers used rope ladders, a few dry grappling hooks and steel ladders to scale the cliffs. Their machine guns were clogged with mud. Amidst enemy fire and malfunctioning equipment, the Rangers were flung back and forth climbing the wet ropes.

While some Rangers provided cover on the beach, amazingly, the first ones to the top, conquered the cliff in 10 minutes. They in turn provided covering fire for the ones still on the beach.

As soon as the Rangers pulled themselves over the cliff, snipers immediately fired. Fortunately, the heaving bombing the Americans had done to the island in the days beforehand had created large craters in earth. This allowed the Rangers to hide themselves from the enemy fire.

Within half an hour, the remaining task forces had made it up the tall cliffs. Rudder, bleeding from two gunshot wounds, never let his focus waver or his determination grow weary. He discovered quickly that the Germans had left wooden decoys in the gun casements. Exhausted, wounded and bewildered, Rudder kept pushing the Rangers inland. They had to find the big guns. Around 8:00 am small patrols were sent south to locate the missing guns. By 9:00 am, their second goal completed. Now, they had to take them out.

The Rangers had located the missing guns 600 yards south of the Pointe. The Nazis had hidden the guns back from the beach to protect them from Allied air strikes and naval bombardment.

Rudders' Rangers took out the emplacements using thermite grenades and eliminated the enemy protecting them.

The mission though completed in spite of the horrific obstacles was not without cost. Rudder's Rangers had over 50 percent casualties. Some Rangers gave their lives that summer morning conquering the cliffs.

As American blood was shed on the French beaches and cliffs, General Rudder had secured the beachhead for later Allied Forces coming ashore. This paved the way to eventual victory.

In the months leading up to the Normandy Invasion, Rudder's elite group of Army Rangers underwent rigorous training in preparation for the part that they would play for the invasion named Overlord at Normandy.

Colonel Rudder put his 2nd Ranger Battalion through hell in order to prepare them for their mission at Pointe du Hoc. He made them march in full gear for over 20 miles. He had them train in hand to hand combat, climb rope ladders without safety harnesses and endure difficult amphibious training.

The success that the Rangers had on D-Day was a direct result of Rudder's intense personal involvement with their training. The amount of effort and dedication he put forth into the training is why the troops were able to manage the chaos and complete their mission. Rudder made sure that every man was prepared to do the impossible.

James Earl Rudder was born in the small Texas town of Eden, about 45 miles southeast of San Angelo, in 1910. After graduating from high school, he played football for two years at Tarleton State. He then transferred to Texas A&M in 1930. He graduated in 1932 with a degree in education. After graduation he joined the US Army Reserves as a second lieutenant.

In 1937, he married Margaret Williamson (who graduated from the University of Texas), and together they had five children. In 1941, he was doing what he loved, coaching football, when duty called.

These brave men who cracked the Nazi grip on Europe began with the liberation of France 70 years ago. From there, the Rangers went on to fight in the Battle of the Bulge and U.S. forces on to Germany. Nothing like it had ever been done before in history. Over 150,000 Allied soldiers hit the beaches during the assault landings on the 6th of June. By the 4th of July, over 1 million joined in the invasion force through Normandy. It was a miraculous feat for 1944.

Colonel Rudder received many military honors including the second highest award, the Distinguished Service Cross. He was a full Colonel by the end of the war and was promoted to Brigadier General of the U.S. Army Reserves in 1954 and Major General in 1957.

After the war, Rudder returned to Texas. He remained a highly successful and distinguished Texan until his death.

He served as Mayor of Brady for 6 years, visited the White House frequently—advising Lyndon Baines Johnson on many military issues and was hired to clean up the corruption going on in the General Land Office.

Col. Rudder became president of Texas A&M University in 1959 and president of the entire A&M system in 1965, holding both positions until his death in 1970.

The boys of D-Day came; they liberated; and some went home. Over 9,000 other GIs are buried at the top of the cliffs of Normandy France. As we reflect on those Rangers on D-Day, 70 years ago, and the Texan who led them into battle, Lt. Col. James Earl Rudder, we once again marvel at the lives of those we call the Greatest Generation of Americans. And that's just the way it is.

FIT FOR LIFE INTRODUCTION

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, May is Health and Fitness Month, a critical time to encourage our communities to live healthier lives. It is also an appropriate time to highlight an issue that, in recent years, has greatly impacted the physical and economic health of our country.

Nearly one third of all children in this country are overweight or obese—a rate that has tripled over the past fifty years. Largely due to obesity and obesity-related diseases, this is the first generation of Americans that are likely to be less healthy and have shorter life expectancies than their parents.

Though this is a nationwide epidemic, childhood obesity disproportionately affects low-income and minority populations. Earlier this year, scientists touted some significant progress in the fight against childhood obesity among the youngest children, however, African American and Hispanic Children experienced a smaller reduction in obesity rates and remain three and five times more likely than Caucasian children to be obese.

To address this troubling epidemic, I introduced the Fit for Life Act of 2014, which increases access to healthy foods, expands prevention and treatment options for low-income children, and increases opportunities for physical activity for our youth. Further, this critical legislation supports mobile healthy food programs, broadens access to healthy foods for children in child care, increases coverage for obesity prevention and treatment options for low-income children, and expands opportunities to take part in joint use agreements, opening existing facilities in low-income areas to community use.

This country cannot afford for our children to continue to feed into the cycle of obesity. We must begin to aggressively combat this epidemic before it puts more of our children at risk.

I encourage my colleagues to stand with me in this fight and cosponsor the Fit for Life Act.

HONORING IOWA CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR MARY ELLEN MASKE

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mary Ellen Maske on being selected as the Iowa Central Office Administrator of the Year. Mary Ellen serves as the deputy superintendent of the Cedar Rapids Community Schools in my district. Mary Ellen was selected because of her leadership in establishing Professional Learning Communities and her efforts to create school-community partnerships for parents and students in the community.

Mary Ellen began her career as an elementary school teacher in Iowa City. She also previously served as an executive administrator in Cedar Rapids. She received her bachelor's

degree in elementary education and her master's degree in educational administration, both from the University of Iowa.

Mary Ellen was selected for this award by a committee of Iowa central office administrators. Mary Ellen has proven that she is a leader at her school and throughout the Cedar Rapids community. I'm proud to call her a constituent, and congratulate her on all of her success.

COMMENDING LOCAL 2014 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR THEIR DECISION TO ENLIST IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AND OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOR HOSTING THE FOURTH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 13 graduating seniors in my community for their record of academic and athletic accomplishment and for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Air Force. I also express my appreciation to Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia for providing this opportunity to be among the first to say to each of these young men and women: "Thank you."

I have had the privilege of working with Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia since its inception in 2011. That year my office was contacted by one of the founding parents who upon learning that her son and other students at his school who had decided to enlist would not receive any recognition during graduation, joined with other parents to organize the first enlistee recognition ceremony of its kind in the region. The first ceremony recognized a total of 9 students. This year, we will recognize 129 young men and women who have chosen to serve our country in uniform.

With graduation season upon us, thousands of young people in my community, and millions across the Nation, are preparing for the next chapter in their lives. Some will pursue higher education or vocational training, others will seek to enter the workforce immediately, and many will answer the call to serve their community and their country.

The United States of America has distinguished itself from other nations through the entrepreneurship and spirit of our people, the knowledge that we can achieve any goal if we set our minds to it, our inherent compassion and generosity, our fierce patriotism, and the extraordinary sacrifices and dedication to country exhibited by the members of our Armed Forces. The young men and women from our community who will be enlisting possess an abundance of each of these qualities. I join with their families and friends in congratulating and commending the following graduates on their enlistment in the United States Air Force:

Joshua Gragg, Jaren Gregory, Erin Harmon, Skylar Johnson, Calvin Kim, Alan Menacho, Joshua Mims, Patrick Moon, Christopher Pidgeon, Shaun Reardon, Cassidy Smith, Carlos Soto-Flores, and Jackson Sullivan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the courage and dedication of these graduates and in assuring them and their families that the full support and resources of the U.S. Congress and the American people will be behind them on every step of their journey in defense of our Nation's freedom.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4660) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. NUNES. Madam Chair, the United States has a strong history of negotiating high-standard trade agreements that grow our exports and create jobs. Already, international trade supports more than 4.4 million jobs in California and 38 million jobs nationwide. We are in the midst of negotiating significant trade agreements with partners in the Asia-Pacific, Europe, and elsewhere. But because Trade Promotion Authority is not in place, we are negotiating with one hand tied behind our back.

As a result, some of our negotiating partners are seeking to lower the standards of our trade agreements by excluding key products from full tariff elimination. In the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations, countries such as Japan and Canada are seeking to exclude critical agriculture products from full tariff elimination. I am deeply concerned about this development for several reasons.

First, such exclusions from full tariff elimination would harm U.S. exporters and put them at a significant disadvantage, denying them valuable market access and leading to a ripple effect as other countries seek to exclude their sensitive products from liberalization. In fact, just yesterday, key agriculture groups called on the Administration to conclude TPP without Japan if it continues to resist opening its agriculture market.

Second, allowing exclusions in TPP would make it harder to reach good outcomes in future negotiations. Already, EU negotiators, empowered by Japan's intransigence, argue that they should be able to exclude products in the TTIP negotiations. And the Chinese are doing the same in negotiations to expand the information technology agreement in the WTO.

Madam Chair, I had intended to introduce an amendment today that would ensure that the United States concludes only high standard agreements by prohibiting the Administration from negotiating or entering into a trade agreement that excludes any product from full tariff elimination.

Such an amendment would ensure that we continue to secure maximum market access for our job-creating exporters. However, I decided not to introduce this amendment based

on an understanding with the United States Trade Representative, Ambassador Froman, that he would work very closely with Chairman Camp and me to conclude a strong and ambitious agreement and would keep us informed about these negotiations in detail so that we may advise the Administration. I take that commitment very seriously, and it is only with this specific understanding that I am not offering this amendment tonight.

Again, I note that the current state of our negotiations shows the urgent need for TPA. Negotiating trade agreements with a strong Congressional mandate is vital to ensuring the best agreements possible. That's why I joined in introducing H.R. 3830, the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities Act, earlier this year. This legislation gives our negotiators maximum leverage to get the best deal possible in our trade negotiations and is key to unlocking new markets and creating U.S. jobs.

RECOGNIZING OZARK HIGH
SCHOOL JUNIOR ROTC DRILL
TEAMS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ozark High School Junior ROTC Drill Teams for being named national champions at the 2014 U.S. Army JROTC National Drill Championships.

Ozark High School represents the 3rd Brigade of the Army Cadet Command, which is comprised of teams from 10 states. The 3rd Brigade consists of 119 Army JROTC programs, and Ozark was one of just six honored to compete in the 2014 National Drill Championship.

The Ozark Unarmed Team placed first overall in their division with a total score of 3,833 points. The Ozark Armed Team placed second overall with a score of 3,690 points. The Ozark Rifle Team won their third consecutive National Championship.

Of the 1700 plus schools that have JROTC, there is only one school, one city and one state that can claim two National Championship teams in the same year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the instructors of the JROTC program and the family members of the students who support them.

I am honored to recognize the Ozark High School JROTC for their National Championships this year and wish them continued success in the future.

CAROL URNER

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with my colleagues to honor Carol Urner, a community leader in Portland, Oregon who has worked for decades to pro-

mote peace, social justice, and global safety through nuclear disarmament.

Carol first voiced concerns about nuclear weapons testing in the 1960s and imagine her surprise when she found hundreds of other women who shared her passion that something must be done.

She co-founded Women for Peace, based in Portland, OR, which served as a model for grassroots groups around the country, each working to promote the first nuclear test ban treaty.

In 1963, Carol traveled to Japan and took one thousand white roses that she exchanged for one thousand peace cranes to honor the nuclear disarmament work of Women Strike for Peace.

Throughout her life, Carol survived many tragedies. Yet she always persevered and overcame difficult circumstances to continue her work.

For 35 years, Carol lived abroad with her husband and raised two children. In the midst of this, she sought to improve human rights for some of the world's poorest citizens.

Today she is still an active leader with the Portland Chapter of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and the Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility.

It is a great honor to recognize Carol. She remains a dedicated leader and mentor in our community and her vision for a safer world is one we will continue to aspire towards.

RECOGNIZING ABILITYONE
PROGRAM

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize an AbilityOne program. Located at Tinker Air Force Base, the program has resulted in the employment of more than 1,300 people with disabilities around the state of Oklahoma.

The AbilityOne Program buys products and services from participating community-based nonprofit agencies that are dedicated to training and employing individuals with disabilities. In doing so, the program affords Americans with disabilities opportunities to acquire job skills and training, earn wages and benefits, and gain greater independence. This program provides vital assistance to a segment of the population that has one of the highest levels of unemployment in our country.

Since 1996, the Dale Rogers Training Center, with the assistance of Professional Contract Services, Inc. (PCSI) has improved the quality of life, helped remove barriers to independent living. The benefits to those that participate in the program cannot be overstated. The opportunity to work, be independent, and participate in community life enhances participant's lives and provides an avenue for them to contribute society.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons I would like to thank all the people involved with the AbilityOne program, and PCSI for their important work to Oklahomans of all ages and abilities reach their full potential.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 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 \$17,490,047,622,577.60. We've added \$6,863,170,573,664.60 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN RED
CROSS**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendously positive impact the American Red Cross has on my congressional district.

Earlier this month, my constituents in the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions of New York endured disastrous levels of flooding. Upon finding their homes severely damaged, hundreds of people sought refuge at local Red Cross shelters.

I had the opportunity to visit the areas in Yates County hit hardest by the storm and was humbled by the outpouring of care and support provided by the Red Cross. As it has done countless times in the past, the Red Cross responded immediately to provide critical resources and assistance to our friends, families, and neighbors who were affected by the damaging floods. With the help of the Red Cross, these communities were able to pull together to support each other and overcome the challenges caused by the flooding.

Since its founding in 1881, the Red Cross has consistently provided excellent care and relief to those who need it most. Throughout wars, famines, and natural disasters, the staff and volunteers from the Red Cross put themselves on the front lines to help the victims of these tragedies through their times of need. Each year, the American Red Cross responds to over 70,000 catastrophes all over the world, providing emergency relief to those impacted. In addition to providing temporary housing, warm meals, medical assistance, and emergency blood supplies, the Red Cross deploys mobile response units to help ease suffering during disasters.

I thank the staff and volunteers of the American Red Cross for serving as "real heroes" in our community, our country, and throughout the world. I commend their dedication to ensuring the safety and well-being of each person in need, especially in New York's 23rd Congressional District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes:

1. Moran Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this amendment.
2. Blackburn Amendment No. 14 to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.
3. Blackburn Amendment No. 15 to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.
4. Bonamici Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this amendment.
5. Rohrabacher Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this amendment.
6. Holding Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.
7. Massie Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this amendment.
8. Southerland Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.
9. Ellison Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this amendment.
10. Grayson Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this amendment.
11. Duffy Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.
12. Garrett Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.
13. King (IA) Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.
14. Meadows Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.
15. Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this measure.
16. Final Passage of H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this bill.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4660) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Chair, I want to thank my colleague from California, Representative HUFFMAN for his leadership on this issue. I

also want to thank Chairman WOLF and Ranking Member FATTAH for working with us on this important amendment.

West Coast fishermen are in a tough spot, and in a very unique spot. Unlike other regions of the country where fishermen had their buyouts funded by taxpayers, our fishermen took on the loan willingly and knowing they would have to pay it back. And they are paying it back—but at an interest rate that is two points above prime and therefore costing them 5 percent of their landings.

Representative HUFFMAN, Representative HERRERA BEUTLER, and I are working to legislatively refinance this loan. In fact, today, that refinance bill passed out of the House Committee on Natural Resources and it has already passed the Senate Committee. But it's going to take some time to implement.

West Coast fishermen are bearing increased observer costs. We are transitioning to electronic monitoring, but that's going to take time—too much time in my opinion. But until electronic monitoring is adopted by the Council and NOAA, fishermen will have to pay for 100 percent observer coverage—which can be as high as \$350–\$450 per day.

And now, fishermen are bearing an additional cost—\$2.4 million this year to help pay for the management of the fishery—known as the "cost recovery fee." West Coast fishermen are willing to pay this fee. They knew the fee was coming. But, right now, with the mounting costs of the buyback loan, the observer costs, and pending trailing amendments that will make the fishery more economically viable—this additional financial burden is too much.

This amendment would provide one year of relief to West Coast fishermen. It would mean the difference for many fishermen of selling their boats and trying to find a different livelihood in already distressed coastal communities, or staying in business.

This amendment is bipartisan. It does not score. And it might not seem like a lot of money to people in this body, but it's a huge deal for my fishermen, their families, and small businesses that depend on the fleet to make a living. I urge my colleagues to adopt this amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, due to a family obligation, I was absent for rollcall votes on May 29 and May 30, 2014. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall Vote 243—Pompeo Amendment—Eliminates all funding for the Economic Development Administration and transfers the savings to the Spending Reduction Account—"no."

Rollcall Vote 244—McNerney Amendment—Increases funding for the COPS program by \$3 million (intended for the Technology Grant Program), reduces the Census Bureau by the same amount—"aye."

Rollcall Vote 245—Brindenstine Amendment—Increases funding for NOAA—Operations, Research, and Facilities by \$12 million (intended for weather research), reduces the Census Bureau by the same amount—"aye."

Rollcall Vote 246—King Amendment—Directs \$5 million within DOJ—General Administration—Salaries and Expenses towards investigating the actions of DHS regarding the discretionary release of criminal aliens—“aye.”

Rollcall Vote 247—Cohen Amendment—Increases funding for DOJ—Administrative Review and Appeals by \$2 million, reduces Bureau of Prisons—Salaries and Expenses by the same amount—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 248—Cohen Amendment—Increases funding for the Legal Services Corporation by \$15 million, reduces DEA—Salaries and Expenses by \$18 million—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 249—Thompson Amendment—Increases funding for grants to improve records in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System by \$19.5 million, reduces funding from various other accounts by the same amount—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 250—Polis Amendment—Reduces DEA—Salaries and Expenses by \$35 million, and transfers the savings to the Spending Reduction Account—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 251—Cicilline Amendment—Increases funding for State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance by \$8.5 million, reduces NASA—Construction by the same amount—“aye.”

Rollcall Vote 252—Smith (TX) Amendment—Redirects \$15.35 million within NSF—Research from the Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences to the Physical Sciences Directorates—“aye.”

Rollcall Vote 253—Scott (GA) Amendment—Eliminates all funding for the Legal Services Corporation and transfers the savings to the Spending Reduction Account—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 254—Moran Amendment—Strikes Sections 528 and 529 which prohibits funds from being used to transfer detainees to the U.S. or construct, acquire or modify any facility in the U.S. to house detainees—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 255—Blackburn Amendment—Reduces spending by 1% across the board—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 256—Blackburn Amendment—Prohibits funds from being used for operation, renovation, or construction at Thomson Correctional Facility in Illinois—“aye.”

Rollcall Vote 257—Bonamici Amendment—Prohibits funds from being used by DOJ to prevent a state from implementing its own state laws to authorize the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of industrial hemp—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 258—Rohrabacher Amendment—Prohibits funds from being used by DOJ to prevent states from implementing their own state laws that authorize the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of medical marijuana—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 259—Holding Amendment—Prohibits funds from being used to transfer or temporarily assign employees to the Office of the Pardon Attorney for the purpose of screening clemency applications—“aye.”

Rollcall Vote 260—Massie Amendment—Prohibits funds from being used by DOJ or DEA in contravention of sec. 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 regarding industrial hemp research—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 261—Southerland Amendment—Prohibits funds from being develop, ap-

prove, or implement a new limited access privilege program (catch shares) that are not already developed, approved, or implemented for any fishery under the jurisdiction of the South Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, New England, or Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 262—Ellison Amendment—Prohibits funds from being used to award contracts to contractors who have violated the Fair Labor Standards Act—“aye.”

Rollcall Vote 263—Grayson Amendment—Prohibits funds from being used to compel a journalist or reporter to testify about information or sources that they regard to be confidential—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 264—Duffy Amendment—Prohibits funds from being used to relinquish the NTIA’s responsibility with respect to internet domain name system functions, including responsibility with respect to the authoritative root zone file and the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority functions—“aye.”

Rollcall Vote 265—Garrett Amendment—Prohibits funds from being used by the DOJ to pursue litigation using the “disparate impact” legal theory—“aye.”

Rollcall Vote 266—King (IA) Amendment—Prohibits funds from DOJ—Office of Justice Programs—State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance from being used in contravention of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996—“aye.”

Rollcall Vote 267—Meadows Amendment—Prohibits funds from being used to enter into a trade agreement that establishes a limit on greenhouse gas emissions—“aye.”

Rollcall Vote 268—Motion to Recommit H.R. 4660—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 269—Passage of H.R. 4660—Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015—“yea.”

Rollcall Vote 270—Motion to Recommit H.R. 4681—“no.”

Rollcall Vote 271—Passage of H.R. 4681—National Intelligence Authorization Act, 2015—“yea.”

COMMENDING THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM FOR OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THE INTERIM REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN VIETNAM

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest appreciation to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for officially recognizing the Interim Representative Committee of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Vietnam, of which I am a member. I thank the Politburo, Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung, President Truong Tan Sang, the Fatherland Front, the National Assembly, Foreign Ministry, Public Security, and any and all government agencies, especially the Committee on Religious Affairs, for sparing no effort to bring this day about.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the efforts and leadership of Chairman Pham Dung, Vice Chair Bui Thanh Ha, retired Vice Chair Nguyen Thanh Xuan, as well as Director Hoang Thi Thao, and the entire staff of the Committee on Religious Affairs.

I am grateful to H.E. President Nguyen Sinh Hung, Vice President Madam Tong Thi Phong, Vice President Madam Nguyen Thi Doan of the National Assembly, as well as Vice Chairman Ha Huy Thong of the Foreign Committee and all other Members of the National Assembly.

I thank Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh as well as any and all associated with the Foreign Ministry.

I also express my deepest appreciation to Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Cuong, Dr. Luan Thuy Duong, and Mr. An Nguyen at the Embassy of Vietnam in the United States for their tireless efforts.

I also thank officers of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, including The First Presidency, the Quorum of the Twelve, the Asia Area Presidency, as well as local leaders in Vietnam. In particular, I thank members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Vietnam and abroad.

I thank all those who have participated in this marvelous work and glory—those named in addition to all those who have added their efforts and prayers to ours, including those who have gone before us.

May 30, 2014, the official day of recognition, is a special occasion, a sacred occasion. Vietnam is a multi-religious society with approximately 25,000 places of worship and about 24 million followers of various faiths. In my official capacity as former Chairman and current Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs’ Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I have attended religious services in diverse houses of worship in Vietnam, and did so unannounced. Always, I found Vietnam to be a place favorable for religious activities and I thank Vietnam for encouraging and protecting the rights of individuals, families, and congregations to practice their religions and contribute as good parents and good citizens under the law.

I am very proud of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the work it does to protect activities of religious groups, including those of my faith. I consider the followers of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Vietnam my brothers and sisters. I feel the same about the leaders and officials of Vietnam. With mutual understanding, respect and trust, we have walked together to this day of recognition. We have walked together with faith in every footstep. And, as we journey forward, I am confident we will do so side by side.

When President Brigham Young led the followers of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints into the Salt Lake valley in 1847, he declared: “This is the right place. Drive on.” To members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, to government and party officials in Vietnam, to friends and family, I echo Brigham Young’s words. Drive on knowing that May 30, 2014 will forevermore be one of the best days of my life, and I am sure many others will always cherish this day, too.

COMMENDING LOCAL 2014 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR THEIR DECISION TO ENLIST IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS AND OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOR HOSTING THE FOURTH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 60 graduating seniors in my community for their record of academic and athletic accomplishment and for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Marine Corps. I also express my appreciation to Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia for providing this opportunity to be among the first to say to each of these young men and women: "Thank you."

I have had the privilege of working with Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia since its inception in 2011. That year my office was contacted by one of the founding parents who upon learning that her son and other students at his school who had decided to enlist would not receive any recognition during graduation, joined with other parents to organize the first enlistee recognition ceremony of its kind in the region. The first ceremony recognized a total of 9 students. This year, we will recognize 129 young men and women who have chosen to serve our country in uniform.

With graduation season upon us, thousands of young people in my community, and millions across the Nation, are preparing for the next chapter in their lives. Some will pursue higher education or vocational training, others will seek to enter the workforce immediately, and many will answer the call to serve their community and their country.

The United States of America has distinguished itself from other nations through the entrepreneurship and spirit of our people, the knowledge that we can achieve any goal if we set our minds to it, our inherent compassion and generosity, our fierce patriotism, and the extraordinary sacrifices and dedication to country exhibited by the members of our Armed Forces. The young men and women from our community who will be enlisting possess an abundance of each of these qualities. I join with their families and friends in congratulating and commending the following graduates on their enlistment in the United States Marine Corps:

Steven Lawrence Allen, Jovina Argueta, Coty Brown, Daniel Bukari, Khizer Butt, Jose Cajar, Patrick Casey, Michael Conroy, Adam Crews, Jason Crites, Michael Daughtry, Hunter Day, Christopher Dullea, Jordan Dunmore, Zachary Frye, Ernesto Garcia, Nina Garrido, Zachary Gingras, Flor Gudiel, Junior Guzman Melendez, Demetrius Higgins, Garrett Humberson, Michael Irwin, Jake Kinder, Brian Knauf, Matthew Levesque, Ariel Jeffrey Magalong, Phillip Mauel, Zachary McCall, Lukas McKennedy, Blake TW Mendenhall, Sergio Miranda Henrquez, Duncan Mungovan, John Munies, Robin Murray, Alex Naupari, Rory Nelson, Omer Nezam, Kevin Nidell, Sanjar Omuraliev, John Peters, Siam Putipong, Jaycee Quispe, Hithem Shaw,

Sohrab Ali Shojanezhad, Travis Nathaniel Sievert, Luis Enrique Sosa Lopez, Michael Such, Phillip Suh, Sean Sullivan, Carl Tchatchouang, Destinee Tenakoun, Brandon Thien, Taylor Trahan, Marvin Ventura, George Vera, Damon Villamar, Mark Walker, Andrew Webster, Winfield Wilson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the courage and dedication of these graduates and in assuring them and their families that the full support and resources of the U.S. Congress and the American people will be behind them on every step of their journey in defense of our Nation's freedom.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. ALAN EHRGOTT

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Alan Ehrgott for his twenty-five years of service with the American River Conservancy. As his family, friends and colleagues gather to celebrate his outstanding career and ongoing contributions to the community, I ask my colleagues to join me in tribute to Mr. Ehrgott's many years of service.

With its beginnings in April of 1989, the American River Conservancy, then known as the American River Land Trust, was founded by Mr. Ehrgott and several other community leaders and members with the aim of acquiring and conserving land along the American River for future generations. As Executive Director, the American River Conservancy has thrived under Mr. Ehrgott's leadership and his love of nature. Located in the historic Kane House in the Marshall Gold Discovery State Park in Coloma, the American River Conservancy has completed over 78 land conservation projects protecting 13,709 acres of high-quality wildlife habitat, recreational lands and native fisheries in the Upper American River and Upper Cosumnes River watersheds. Mr. Ehrgott's vision led to the existence of the 25-mile network of trails known as the South Fork American River Trail System. These projects were made possible through \$76 million in funds that Mr. Ehrgott was successful in securing.

In 2010, Mr. Ehrgott was instrumental in the acquisition of the 272-acre Gold Hill Ranch which has a rich cultural history starting with the local Nisenan tribe. The site is most well known for being one of the first permanent Japanese settlements in North America from the period of 1869–1871 when it was known as the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony Farm. With Mr. Ehrgott leading the way, the American River Conservancy hopes to preserve and celebrate the legacy of farming that has occurred on the site.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to pay tribute to Mr. Alan Ehrgott, who has served the Sacramento community and the surrounding environment for more than two decades. His continued service has greatly contributed to the community and ensured the continued enjoyment of the American River. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this man whose persistence and leadership has helped to preserve one of Northern California's many natural treasures for years to come.

IN SUPPORT OF THE HIGHWAYS BETTER THE ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT ACT OF 2014

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Highways Bettering the Economy and Environment Act with my Co-Chairman of the Congressional Pollinator Protection Caucus, Representative JEFF DENHAM. This bi-partisan bill provides much-needed aid for the birds, bats, bees and butterflies that pollinate our food.

The Highways BEE Act seeks no new monies and involves a limited federal role.

This bill provides for existing authorities and finding sources to incorporate integrated vegetation management practices along America's highways, which includes things like reduced mowing and replacing invasive plant species with native forbs and grasses. This kind of roadside vegetation management provides much-needed habitat for pollinators and other small nesting animals.

The Association of American State Highway and Transportation Officials Vegetation Management Guidelines advances integrated vegetation management principles and recommendations consistent with the objectives of this legislation. A number of states, including Minnesota are already doing this and reporting maintenance cost savings of 20 to 25 percent from reduced mowing alone.

Mr. Speaker, there are around 17 million acres of land where significant reductions in mowing and maintenance can reduce costs for cash-strapped states. The millions of acres of agriculture and wildlife ecosystems adjacent to these roadways will benefit from the increased pollinator habitat resulting from integrated vegetation management practices.

To understand how worried we should be about declining pollinator populations, consider that rising global food prices have been the primary topic of discussion at recent G-20 meetings. This is the first time that agriculture has had the top spot at a meeting and is indicative of how serious the issue is. Food prices have already led to global riots overseas and a declining pollinator population will only make the situation worse. Seventy-five percent of all flowering plant species rely on creatures like birds, bats, bees and butterflies for fertilization. One out of every three bites of food that we eat, as well as \$20 billion of products in the United States alone, derive from pollinators.

If we don't solve these problems soon, we won't have any bees. Without bees, we won't have any food. The benefit to cost balance in the case of this bill is an easy choice.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 28, 2014, I was not present for 2 votes. Had I been present for rollcall No. 241, I would have voted "yea." Had I been present for rollcall No. 242, I would have voted "yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI OF PIUS X ON THE OCCASION OF THE SCHOOL'S 11TH ANNUAL AWARDS

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Augustine Pullo, Alfred DeRenzis, and Father Edward Quinnan for their contributions to their profession, community, and faith after graduation from Pius X in Bangor, Pennsylvania. They have been recognized by their beloved school.

Augustine Pullo, Class of 1973, had a passion for music that started early. He continued his musical endeavors and earned a degree at East Stroudsburg University. For 17 years, he worked as a top manager at a McDonald's. Later, he established three successful businesses in the Northampton County's Slate Belt. A posthumous award recognized his dedication to his community and to his school.

Alfred DeRenzis, Class of 1963, was once Student Council President and was active in clubs and sports. He left Pius to earn a dental degree, become faculty at the University of Maryland School for Dental Medicine, and later a stockbroker. Today, he participates in model airplane competitions. He kept a second residence in his hometown of Roseto and maintains ties to Slate Belt community.

Father Edward Quinnan, Class of 1974, was a member of the honor society while in school and was active in many clubs. After Pius, he studied biology and chemistry before graduating from the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, CA, and becoming an Assistant Professor in Counseling at Loyola University in Chicago. He currently provides retreat programs and finds it "life-giving."

I add my congratulations to the honors bestowed from Pius X Junior/Senior High School. I applaud the dedication to profession, community, and country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I missed the following votes:

1. Thompson (CA) Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this amendment.
2. Polis Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.
3. Cicilline Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.
4. Smith (TX) Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.
5. Austin Scott Amendment to H.R. 4660. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this amendment.

CONGRATULATING REPUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL TIGERS BASKETBALL

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Republic High School Tigers Basketball Team for winning the Missouri Class 4 State Championship.

The Tigers clinched the title with a thrilling finish, making a three pointer with only seven seconds left for a final score of 45–42. Members of the team include Dylan Bekemeier, Brock Yocum, Chase Hoffmann, Josh Vaughn, Dillen Ramsey, Dakota Fortner, Canyon Smith, Jordan Kerr, Cole Hurst, Cody Geiger, Tim Brazeal, and Cory Lafferty.

Through their hard work and determination on and off the court, the Tigers developed into a truly great championship team, earning back to back state titles. The Tigers ended the season 27–4, remaining undefeated in their district. The Tigers were also the Central Ozark Conference Champions for the 2013–2014 season.

I also want to commend Head Coach Trevyor Fisher for a job well-done on developing such a strong basketball program.

The team, with the help of its coaches and the support of their families and community, persevered through the turmoil of the season and the trials of the state championships. Together, they grew as individuals and as a team, and their successes show what can be achieved through hard work, dedication, and belief.

The Republic community is justifiably proud of this extraordinary group of young and talented student-athletes. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Republic Tigers as they celebrate their consecutive Class 4 Boys State Championships.

TRIBUTE TO REP. PATRICK MEEHAN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize my colleague, Rep. PATRICK MEEHAN of Pennsylvania, for his work on behalf of victims of domestic violence, sexual trafficking and addiction. The legislation approved by the House today includes significant funding and reflects his advocacy for these issues in Congress.

Congressman MEEHAN has been a leader throughout this process and I have appreciated his input on how to make this bill as strong as well possible to deal with domestic violence, trafficking and addiction. It is my understanding that just last week, Mr. MEEHAN hosted a summit on human trafficking, bringing together local and Federal law enforcement and victims' advocacy organizations to address the crisis. He has also long been a voice for the victims of domestic violence and has been among the strongest advocates for funding for programs authorized by the Violence Against Women Act. He has also fought for our veterans, and his leadership helped ensure higher funding for veterans' treatment courts.

I am pleased to say that the FY15 CJS bill contains the highest levels of funding for combating human trafficking, ever. This is a testament to the hard work and experience of Congressman MEEHAN who, among others, knows just how vital these resources are for trafficking victims. I appreciate his continued efforts to raise awareness in Congress and to advocate for these important resources.

COMMENDING LOCAL 2014 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR THEIR DECISION TO ENLIST IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY AND OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOR HOSTING THE FOURTH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 6 graduating seniors in my community for their record of academic and athletic accomplishment and for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Navy. I also express my appreciation to Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia for providing this opportunity to be among the first to say to each of these young men and women: "Thank you."

I have had the privilege of working with Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia since its inception in 2011. That year my office was contacted by one of the founding parents who upon learning that her son and other students at his school who had decided to enlist would not receive any recognition during graduation, joined with other parents to organize the first enlistee recognition ceremony of its kind in the region. The first ceremony recognized a total of 9 students. This year, we will recognize 129 young men and women who have chosen to serve our country in uniform.

With graduation season upon us, thousands of young people in my community, and millions across the nation, are preparing for the next chapter in their lives. Some will pursue higher education or vocational training, others will seek to enter the workforce immediately, and many will answer the call to serve their community and their country.

The United States of America has distinguished itself from other nations through the entrepreneurship and spirit of our people, the knowledge that we can achieve any goal if we set our minds to it, our inherent compassion and generosity, our fierce patriotism, and the extraordinary sacrifices and dedication to country exhibited by the members of our Armed Forces. The young men and women from our community who will be enlisting possess an abundance of each of these qualities. I join with their families and friends in congratulating and commending the following graduates on their enlistment in the United States Navy:

Teresa Bailey, Sullivan Stansfield, Kevin Quintanilla, Yeagwang Kim, Ryan Kokotkiewicz, and Saurav Bhandari.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the courage and dedication of these graduates and in assuring them and their families that the full support and resources of the U.S. Congress and the American people will be behind them on every step

of their journey in defense our nation's freedom.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF SERGEANT CHRIS HUFFMAN, PENSACOLA POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am humbled to recognize Sergeant Chris Huffman upon the occasion of his retirement from the Pensacola Police Department on May 31, 2014. For more than three decades, Sergeant Huffman dedicated his life to protecting and defending the lives of those around him, and I join citizens throughout Florida's Gulf Coast and across the Nation in extending my deepest appreciation for his faithful service.

The proud son of a father who was Chief of Police of the Piqua Police Department in Piqua, Ohio, Sergeant Huffman followed in his father's footsteps in pursuit of a law enforcement career. Sergeant Huffman served as a police officer in Troy, Ohio, from 1979 until 1984 when he joined the Pensacola Police Department.

Sergeant Huffman performed various roles while at the Pensacola Police Department, including Community Relations; SWAT; K-9 Unit with his partner Isia; TAC, Uniform Patrol; and DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Officer at N.B. Cook and Scenic Heights elementary schools, Episcopal Day School, Montessori, and Sacred Heart schools. In 1999, he was promoted to sergeant, and in 2002, he was honored as the Florida DARE Officer of the Year.

Throughout the course of his career, Sergeant Huffman was an inspiration to our Nation's youth and his fellow officers. There is no question that he made a significant impact in the lives of many, and the Northwest Florida community was blessed by his unwavering commitment to service. While Sergeant Huffman's retirement will signal the end of his career with the Pensacola Police Department, it is merely the beginning of the lasting legacy that he leaves behind.

On June 1, Sergeant Huffman will kick off his retirement and embark on his next journey with a 60 day, 3,785 mile bike ride to help raise awareness and support for multiple sclerosis research.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great honor to recognize Police Sergeant Chris Huffman for his years of service and his passion for bettering the lives of others. My wife Vicki joins me in thanking Sergeant Chris Huffman for his dedication to the Northwest Florida community and wishing him; his wife of 32 years, Darla; and their two daughters, Courtney and Kelsey, all the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF
PREECLAMPSIA AWARENESS
MONTH

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Preeclampsia Awareness Month and the importance of addressing maternal and infant health.

Preeclampsia is a serious and far too common complication of pregnancy and is one of the leading causes of maternal deaths, illness, and premature birth. According to the Preeclampsia Foundation, the disease affects approximately 1 in 12 women, and if untreated can lead to seizure, stroke, organ failure or death. The good news is that early diagnosis is possible through simple screenings and good prenatal care can predict or delay many adverse outcomes of preeclampsia.

However, too many people are unaware of this potentially fatal condition. The main indicator of preeclampsia is high blood pressure. Additional symptoms of preeclampsia are common to pregnancy such as headaches, abdominal pain, shortness of breath, vomiting, confusion, heightened state of anxiety or visual disturbances such as oversensitivity to light or blurred vision. That is why I support the Preeclampsia Foundation's efforts to educate women and their families to know the symptoms, respond to warning signs, and seek prenatal care.

So much more needs to be understood about this condition—why it occurs, how to cure it, and its long-term effect on a woman and her child's health. Research has demonstrated a possible direct link to the placenta. I understand that starting this year, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development at NIH will embark on a new effort to understand diseases and conditions related to the placenta, and it is my hope that it leads to new discovery for preeclampsia and other conditions of pregnancy.

Together we must do all we can to eliminate preventable maternal and infant death and disability. I am hopeful for the promise of our research efforts, and I am grateful for the work of clinicians around this country and organizations like the Preeclampsia Foundation who work so hard tirelessly to advance maternal and infant health and well-being.

HONORING DAVID FREEMAN AND
PROCLAIMING WILLIAM B. IDE
DAY

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William Brown Ide, the leader of the 1846 Bear Flag Revolt, and the only President of the California Republic. After California's annexation into the United States, Mr. Ide served as a Probate and County Judge, Presiding Judge of the Court of Sessions, County Recorder, County Auditor, County Clerk, County Treasurer, Deputy County Surveyor and Deputy Sheriff of Colusi County.

Mr. Ide passed away in December of 1852 with only a wooden grave marker that disappeared shortly thereafter. It is thanks to a local man, David Freeman that Mr. Ide's gravestones have been corrected after he collected funding from various organizations and did much of the labor himself.

In just over a week, on June 7th, 2014, the new gravesite for Mr. William Brown Ide will be unveiled. I would like to thank Mr. Freeman for his work to ensure that important historical figures like William Brown Ide are remembered, as is the history of the great state of California.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4660) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Chair, with regard to my votes on the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act:

I voted for and helped pass the Grayson amendment, confident that as the bill proceeds, a sophisticated, nuanced, and balanced reporter shield provision will be inserted in lieu of the current text of the amendment. The rules and traditions of the House require that amendments to appropriations bills offered on the floor conform to strict rules that preclude balanced and detailed formulation. The Conference Committee will have the latitude needed to insert a balanced reporter shield provision and I will urge such an approach.

Additionally, I voted for final passage with the assumption that certain problematic provisions would be removed in Conference Committee.

I am pleased that we can move forward with the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act and expect that upon passage in the Senate, the Conference Committee will improve the bill.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL DIRON J.
CRUZ ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM
THE GUAM ARMY NATIONAL
GUARD

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 30, 2014

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize COL Diron J. Cruz on his retirement from the Guam Army National Guard. COL Cruz is the second son of Antonio Babauta Cruz and Guadalupe Santiago Cruz of Malesso, Guam. He was born in Tamuning, Guam and graduated from Father Duenas Memorial School in 1980. COL Cruz is the father of two daughters, Lenika and Nozomi.

COL Cruz earned his commission in the United States Army as a second lieutenant of Field Artillery from the University of Guam ROTC Program in 1984. In addition to his Bachelor of Arts in Business Management from the University of Guam, COL Cruz also holds a Master of Arts in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, PA. In 1985, COL Cruz completed the Field Artillery Officers Basic at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma and then advanced courses in 1988.

As a newly commissioned officer, his first assignments included battalion ammunition officer, service battery executive officer, howitzer platoon leader and nuclear weapons officer with 1st Battalion, 36th Field Artillery in Augsburg, Germany from 1985 to 1988. He then served with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) from 1989 to 1993. During his time in the 101st Airborne Division, COL Cruz's duties included targeting officer for 3rd Brigade, bat-

talion fire support officer, 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, division Artillery. He then served his last regular Army assignment as Operations Advisor to the 479th Field Artillery Brigade in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from 1993 to 1994.

In 1994, COL Cruz left the Army and moved to Cincinnati, Ohio and worked as a territory sales manager for International Paper Co. until March 1996. He then returned to Guam and worked as general manager of Guam Freight Forwarders and then as operations manager for Flowco Sales and Service Co.

In 1999, COL Cruz joined the Guam Army National Guard and began serving as operations officer of 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry and Guam National Guard training officer and domestic operations officer. He then served in different positions in both Hawaii and Virginia

from 2001 to 2008. COL Cruz has served as the chief of staff of the Guam Army National Guard since his return in 2008.

COL Cruz was a respected leader in the Guam National Guard. As Chief of Staff, he undertook efforts to ensure the continued professionalization of enlisted and officers in the Guam National Guard. Further, he worked to ensure that staff collaborated as a truly Joint staff to push forward critical initiatives like a flying mission for the Guam Air National Guard; protection of critical force structure to support the rebalance and establishment of a light utility helicopter flying mission on Guam.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I commend COL Cruz for his service to Guam and the United States. I further congratulate and offer my sincerest appreciation to him on his retirement.