

Fiscal Year 2013: Bangor Savings Bank, Overall Top Performing SBA lender; Katahdin Trust Company, Top 7(a) Dollar Volume Lender; People's United Bank, Top Performing 3rd Party Lender; Granite State Economic Development Corp., Top Performing 504 Lender; NorState Federal Credit Union, Top Performing Credit Union; CEI, Top Performing Microlender; and Eastern Maine Development Corp., Top Community Advantage Lender.

These recipients are among the best that Maine and New England have to offer. Through their leadership and incredible commitment to their communities, Maine and New England are better places in which to live and do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the honorees of the Small Business Administration's Annual Awards Luncheon on their outstanding service and achievement.

RECOGNIZING DIA DE PORTUGAL

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues Mr. NUNES of California, Mr. CICILLINE of Rhode Island, Mr. VALADAO of California, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Ms. LOFGREN of California, and Mr. HONDA of California to recognize Dia de Portugal. On this day, we celebrate the heritage of the Portuguese people and underscore the importance of the strong relationship between the United States and Portugal.

From California to Massachusetts and Rhode Island to Hawaii, Portuguese Americans have made positive contributions to our communities for many years. According to the U.S. Census, more than one million individuals living in the United States are of Portuguese ancestry. These vibrant Portuguese communities are a reflection of the ties that bind our two nations.

Since the founding of our nation, the United States has had few allies as reliable as Portugal, which was among the first countries to recognize the United States following the Revolutionary War. The oldest continuously operating U.S. Consulate in the world is located in Ponta Delgada on the island of Sao Miguel in the Azores. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry recently said, "The strong partnership between our two countries is more vital than ever." We wholeheartedly agree.

Mr. Speaker, on this Dia de Portugal, we reaffirm our commitment to strengthening the economic, cultural, and security relationship between Portugal and the United States, and we join with the people of Portugal and our Portuguese American constituents in wishing everyone a joyous Dia de Portugal.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "BUSINESS SUPPLY CHAIN TRANSPARENCY ON TRAFFICKING AND SLAVERY ACT OF 2014"

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce bipar-

tisan legislation along with my colleagues on the Human Trafficking Caucus, Rep. CHRIS SMITH.

Very few Americans are aware that many of the goods they use everyday are tainted by human trafficking or the worst forms of child labor. According to the U.S. Department of Labor's 2012 List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor, 134 goods from 74 countries were made by forced and child labor. This bill will increase transparency in supply chains in order to remove slavery from business operations and products.

The Business Supply Chain Transparency on Trafficking and Slavery Act doesn't tell businesses what to do, but rather to tell consumers what they are doing to end human slavery.

This bill will give consumers the tools they need to know where and how their goods are being made. While there are good actors, there are businesses operating in parts of the world that rely on enslaved humans to produce their products. We believe American consumers have a right to know who these companies are.

This legislation creates a market-based solution rather than relying on prescriptive action by the federal government. Large global companies already reporting to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) simply need to include what they are doing to rid their supply chains of human slavery. This information will then be posted on the company, SEC, and Department of Labor (DOL) websites for easy public access. Consumers will be able to research a company and determine their purchasing decisions based on the information provided. Very simply, this bill creates competition to improve practices to end slavery by providing the public with information about what companies are doing to address slavery.

Human trafficking is the 21st century slavery. It is estimated that over 20 million people are working in some form of forced labor worldwide. We must use every tool available to help men, women, and children around the world who fall victim to the scourge of human trafficking, forced labor, and the worst forms of child labor.

HONORING MARTI MICHAEL

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the Riverdale YM-YWHA is fortunate to have had Marti Michael at its helm. Deeply rooted in Jewish culture, the Riverdale Y is open to all within the community and promotes an environment of inclusion and diversity.

Marti's involvement with the Riverdale Y started long before she became its Executive Director and even before the first bricks were laid. While working at UJA-Federation in the early 1980s, Marti worked with the Riverdale community to raise the necessary capital to build the Y.

Marti has worked for the Riverdale Y for 28 years, and since taking the helm as Executive Director, she oversees a thriving community center that offers athletic, artistic and enrichment for children, adults and seniors. The Riverdale Y also offers after-school programs at

PS24 and Kinneret, and Marti wants to expand that scope even farther.

The Riverdale Rising Stars' Broadway Gala will honor Marti for all that she has done at the Riverdale Y, particularly her dedication to the performing arts. There is something magical about the theater. Audiences become enraptured by the performances as actors make their characters come to life.

Children and teens who participate in theater programs through the Riverdale Y grow too. Marti enjoys watching once-shy children and timid teens develop greater confidence in themselves. There is indeed magic in the theater and all that Marti does to encourage our youth to flourish.

Her devotion to the Riverdale Y and the greater community is inspiring. I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize Marti Michael's leadership and achievements. We are saddened that she is leaving but I wanted this opportunity to thank her for all that she has done and continues to do in our beloved community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 10th, 2014, I mistakenly voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 277. I meant to vote "aye" on the Nadler Amendment to H.R. 4745 to increase funding for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program (HOPWA) by \$29.1 million. HOPWA is a program that I have supported throughout my tenure in Congress. HOPWA provides much needed housing assistance to low-income persons with HIV/AIDS in my Congressional District and throughout the Country. I will continue to work with my colleagues as this bill moves through the Senate and onto the Conference process to advocate for increased funding for HOPWA.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF MR. BYRON PIGG

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for the House's attention today to recognize Byron Pigg who is retiring from the position of Public Safety Director with the East Alabama Water, Sewer and Fire Protection District.

Mr. Pigg is retiring after 33 years and 10 months of service. Prior to his service as a full-time employee, Byron served as a volunteer firefighter. He served as fire chief for 25 years of his full-time employment.

During his tenure as fire chief, Byron worked to significantly upgrade the fire department. In 2005, he oversaw the construction of a new headquarters fire station. He received over \$1 million in grant money to help improve the fire department. He also has served in numerous local, regional and statewide organizations.

Mr. Speaker, we join his family and friends in celebrating Mr. Pigg's retirement and wish him the very best.