EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MARIPOSA COUNTY DISTRICT THREE SUPERVISOR JANET BIBBY

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of The Honorable Janet Bibby, Mariposa County Supervisor.

Janet Bibby was born and raised in Mariposa County. She grew up in a ranching family with five generations of deep roots in the community.

Ms. Bibby's love of community forged the beginnings of her career as a public servant in Mariposa County in 1985. Janet served as the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, and worked in the District Attorney's office and the Farm Advisors office. As a clerk in the District Attorney's office, she devoted herself to making the community a better place to live, work, and recreate. She was elected to the Mariposa Board of Supervisors in 2003 to represent the third district—an honor she has held for the past eleven years.

Janet Bibby has taken her commitment to public service seriously, tirelessly working for the constituents of Mariposa County. Her contributions to the advancement of agriculture in Mariposa are notable, as she has promoted the industry throughout her career. Janet has been involved in a variety of county-improvement projects to benefit those she represents, including: the Yosemite Wastewater Treatment Project, the construction of the Don Pedro Wastewater Treatment Facility, a multitude of projects to improve the local airport, and innumerable efforts to improve funding and support for fire stations.

Janet has also made significant efforts to make the county family-focused, such as the creation of the Recreational Sports Complex, the Mariposa Park Amphitheatre, the Arts Park, and the Skate Park.

This is only a sampling of the work Ms. Bibby has done for the community. She constantly strives to make Mariposa safer, stronger, and more united. I am proud to honor and thank Mariposa County District Three Supervisor Janet Bibby for her many years of public and community service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL EVAN C. EWACHIW FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND TO OUR NATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Evan C. Ewachiw for his exceptional dedication to duty and service to the United States Army and to the United States of America. Lieutenant Colonel Evan Ewachiw will be transitioning from his present assignment as an Army Congressional Budget Liaison (SAFM–BUL) to serve as an operations research analyst for the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–1, United States Army.

A native of Fallston, Maryland, Lieutenant Colonel Ewachiw was accepted into the College of William and Mary's Reserve Officer Training Corps program in 1991 and, upon graduation in 1995, was commissioned a Regular Army Infantry Officer. LTC Ewachiw graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics. He has subsequently earned Master's degrees in Legislative Affairs and Operations Research from the George Washington University and Florida Institute of Technology, respectively.

Lieutenant Colonel Evan Ewachiw's assignments have been diverse and include service within the Active Duty Army, as well as the Army National Guard. His assignments include Infantry Platoon Leader in B Company 1–503 Infantry, Camp Casey, the Republic of Korea; Information Management Officer, 10th Special Forces Group, Fort Carson, Colorado; Signal Detachment Commander and Battalion Signal Officer, 19th Special Forces Group, Colorado Army National Guard; Operations Research Analyst, National Guard Bureau, Arlington, Virginia; Army Congressional Fellow in the office of Representative JOHN CULBERSON (TX–17); and most recently as a Congressional Budget Liaison Officer. Additionally, Lieutenant Colonel Ewachiw deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan, in 2002 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Lieutenant Colonel Ewachiw's leadership throughout his career has positively impacted his soldiers, peers, and superiors. As an Army Budget Liaison Officer for the past two years with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller, he worked directly with the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to educate and inform Representatives, Senators, and congressional staff about military and civilian personnel issues, force structure, operation and maintenance, and the Army Working Capital Fund. Additionally, he served as the Army's liaison to the Office of Management and Budget and the Congressional Budget Office.

Our country has been enriched by Lieutenant Colonel Ewachiw's extraordinary leadership, thoughtful judgment, and exemplary work. As a personal matter, I have benefited from his counsel and I deeply respect this officer for his dedication to serving others.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work with Lieutenant Colonel Evan C. Ewachiw during his time as an Army Congressional Budget Liaison. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Lieutenant Colonel Evan Ewachiw for almost two decades of service to his country. We wish Evan, his wife Carrie, and his children Ana and Rhys all the best as they continue their journey in the United States Army.

HONORING SARAH KENNEDY

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a young lady from California's 25th district who is making a lasting difference in our community, one friendship at a time.

I've been blessed with the honor of serving in Congress for nearly 22 years, and I've had the pleasure of meeting many extraordinary people. However, today, it is a privilege to share a few words about the inspiring work of Sarah Kennedy.

Sarah is a 14-year old student from Santa Clarita, California. I had the joy of meeting Sarah and her family not too long ago. It was evident from our brief conversation that Sarah is a person who can transcend boundaries, and her honest and sincere personality lights up a room. Sarah is the type of person you want to know and befriend.

Actually, friendship is her secret weapon. Sarah is behind a growing anti-bullying movement that recognizes the good in everyone. Through the power of relationships, Sarah breaks down the boundaries that often divide students in our schools. Upon meeting someone, Sarah offers the individual a gumball, and soon they are fast friends. I wouldn't be surprised if every student in Santa Clarita has a gumball by now.

Too often in our busy lives, we forget about the power of the simple things in life. A simple "hello", a modest "how are you", these humble words make a difference. Through Sarah's inspiring and wise actions, she is bringing students together. Adults should stand ready to learn from her as well. We all have time in our busy days to make a friend.

As a father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, I am grateful for the noble pursuit Sarah has undertaken. Mr. Speaker, we know that Sarah is fighting the good fight. I know that her family is proud of her, and I stand here today to congratulate Sarah on her progress. I hope everyone has the chance to have a true friend like Sarah Kennedy.

Sarah is an inspiration to all of us, and she has a friend in me.

RECOGNIZING THE 103RD ANNIVERSARY OF DOUBLE TEN DAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Taiwan on the upcoming celebration of the 103rd anniversary of "Double Ten Day." Double Ten Day traces its roots to the Wuchang Uprising that occurred on October 10, 1911. The Wuchang

Uprising signaled the end of the Qing Dynasty and the start of a democratic movement that we continue to celebrate and recognize. Double Ten Day is a celebration of the birth of democracy and the Republic of China.

I want to especially recognize the people of Taiwan on this important occasion. The strength of the relationship between the people of Taiwan and the people of the United States is strong. I look forward to continue working to expand business opportunities as well as deepen our mutual appreciation for each other's unique cultures. Exchange of our cultures is clearly evidenced on Guam, which is home to many people of Chinese ancestry. Guam continues to benefit from their cultural contributions to our community and the promotion of trade and economic opportunities.

Again, I congratulate the people of Taiwan on the 103rd anniversary of Double Ten Day. We celebrate this historic occasion with them and we honor their friendship with the American people.

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1086, the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014. I would like to thank Chairman KLINE and Ranking Member MILLER for their work on this important legislation.

The Child Care and Development Block Grant program is an investment in our future. We know that quality care can set children up for academic success, and helping families cover the costs of child care enables parents to keep working or train for new careers.

S. 1086 sets new requirements to strengthen child care quality. These requirements, which include background checks for federally-funded providers and yearly safety inspections for non-licensed providers, represent commonsense measures to protect children.

The bill also takes several steps to improve access to child care services. It will give families certainty that their children can receive care for a full year, even if their income—and thus their eligibility—changes. And the bill will help providers budget for their businesses by making sure unpredictable child absences don't affect their funding.

Although I am pleased that the bill authorizes increased appropriations for the Child Care and Development Block Grant program, far too many eligible families will continue to go unserved. Supporting safe, high quality child care requires resources, and I hope my colleagues will join me in continuing to call for increased funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant program.

COMFORT WOMEN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during World War II, the Japanese military forced thousands of women mostly from Korea and China to serve as sex slaves for the Japanese Imperial Army. Estimates vary as to how many women were involved, but most agree the number is around 200,000.

These women were referred to as ''comfort women.'' But there was nothing comfortable about their role. The first so-called ''comfort station'' opened in Shanghai in 1932. These stations were used to satisfy the sexual desires of Japanese troops.

When demand outstripped supply, the Japanese military responded by abducting more women in occupied countries. In other instances, women were lured with promises of work in factories or restaurants before being incarcerated in comfort stations abroad.

An estimated 75 percent of these enforced sex slaves died. Many survivors were left infertile due to sexual trauma or STDs. They also suffered from depression, impaired anger control, and PTSD. These symptoms exist even today, over 60 years later.

Since WWII, the Japanese government has been inconsistent in its message.

Some officials insisted no women were forced into sexual servitude. Other officials claimed their role was ''necessary.'' Still others tried to discredit the few victims that are still alive. Japan would do well to accurately report the history regarding this tragedy.

In 1993, the Japanese released the Kono Statement. In it, they finally confessed to forcing women to work in military-run brothels.

Earlier this year, the Japanese announced that they would be reviewing the ''background'' of the Kono Statement.

It is time for Japan to own up to its actions. Covering these atrocities behind a smoke screen will not change the truth. The stories of these women have been well documented. Victims have a right to be acknowledged. After so many have died, the few remaining survivors deserve an apology. They deserve justice. This would help the diplomatic relationship between Japan and Korea.

And that's just the way it is.

CELEBRATING THE BIONEERS 25TH ANNIVERSARY SUMMIT CONFERENCE

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Bioneers on the occasion of the organization's 25th Anniversary Summit Conference, which will take place in October of 2014.

Since Kenny Asubel and Nina Simons founded Bioneers, the organization has become an important resource for innovators seeking to solve the world's most pressing environmental and social challenges. Through the annual conference and various educational programs, Bioneers connects diverse groups of people to share new, creative ideas and generate positive change at local, regional and international levels. Bioneers has provided one of the planet's primary incubators to help lay the foundation for sustainable and restorative alternatives to the environmentally destructive aspects of the modern global economy.

Bioneers has been a vital tool for the people of California's Second Congressional District and beyond, and I am confident that the organization will continue to serve as a leading-edge think tank for many years to come. Please join me in congratulating Bioneers on their 25th anniversary celebration and wish them many more successful years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent during September 17, 2014. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

Rollcall No. 509: H.J. Res 124, ''aye.''

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday. September 16, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I support the inclusion of additional funding for the United States Office of Special Counsel, ''OSC'' in section 124 of H.J. Res. 124. There is a critical need for ongoing oversight of the Department of Veterans Affairs, ''VA.'' This section of the Continuing Resolution recognizes that need by providing an increase in funding for the OSC.

OSC protects whistleblowers government-wide who expose waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement. Since the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs discovered the use of unofficial, unlawful scheduling lists at the Phoenix VA Health Care System, VA employees across the country have stepped forward to report allegations of further misconduct and threats to Veterans' health care. Whistleblowers have been at the heart of exposing misconduct and promoting accountability at the VA. Many of them have faced retaliation and threats from VA management. This has a chilling and crippling effect on our efforts to restore confidence in the VA.

OSC has been inundated with claims of retaliation and disclosures from VA employees. OSC's numbers are at record-setting levels. In the aftermath of the initial exposure of the VA scandal, cases from VA employees comprise over 29 percent of all OSC's cases, which covers the entire Federal government. This year, OSC will receive over 300 more cases from VA whistleblowers than in the previous year. This is a massive increase for a tiny Federal agency like OSC. In testimony before the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Special Counsel Carolyn Lerner told us that OSC had to establish a new priority intake system for VA cases. OSC also reallocated much of its small staff to deal with the VA increase.

Despite its small size, OSC's efforts are making a tremendous difference. Its work has already resulted in relief for courageous VA employees who were retaliated against for speaking out about wait lists and improper care. OSC's review of the VA Office of Medical Inspector led to an overhaul of the internal oversight structure at the VA.

However, OSC cannot keep up with the influx of claims and respond to them in a timely and responsible manner. The funding increase will provide the additional staff and related expenses necessary to support ongoing investigations of misconduct and whistleblower reprisal. It will promote accountability and better administration of the VA.

I thank Chairman ROGERS for his work to help cleanup the problems at the VA through increased funding of the OSC in section 124 of H.J. Res. 124.

HONORING COMMANDER AUNDREA E. TAPLIN

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Commander Aundrea E. Taplin who is retiring after 21 years of faithful service to our nation in the United States Navy.

Commander Taplin began her dedicated career in public service after graduating from the United States Naval Academy in 1993. Already a distinguished Officer, over the course of the next 21 years, Commander Taplin served the Navy in a wide variety of roles, travelling throughout the country and overseas.

Her assignments included Naval Air Station Sigonella; Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 47; Naval Legal Service Office Southwest; Commander, Naval Surface Forces, Submarine Group Nine, USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74); the Office of the Judge Advocate General and the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs.

Throughout her career, Commander Taplin has demonstrated a commitment to self-improvement, re-dedicating herself to her education at various points. In 1999, she earned her Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego and in 2009 she earned her LLM in Environmental Law from George Washington University.

Commander Taplin has also earned a variety of awards for her outstanding service to our country. Her personal awards include four Meritorious Service Medals, three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, and two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals.

I commend Commander Taplin for her commitment to our country and the sacrifices she has made on our behalf. On the occasion of her retirement, I thank her and her family for over two decades' honorable service to our nation and wish her fair winds and following seas as she concludes a distinguished career.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT OF OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial today in Washington, DC through Honor Flight of Oregon. On behalf of a grateful state and country, we welcome these heroes to the nation's capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are as follows: Albert Azar, Army; Clarence Brace, Army; Howard Christopherson, Army; Jacob Egger, Army; Theodore Flaiz, Army; Henry Krebs, Army; Loyal Lee, Army; Richard Lovett, Army; Eddie Morris, Army; Henry Nelsen, Army; Lewellyn Renville, Army; Robert Strick, Army; Henry Tiano, Army; James Rose, Army Air Corps; Richard Smith, Army Air Corps; Frederick Parish, Army Air Force; Ray Burgess, Coast Guard; Helen Hansen, Coast Guard; Richard Shettler, Coast Guard; Marvin Adams, Navy; Robert Bigler, Navy; Harold Candland, Navy; Paul Clayton, Navy; Byron Dougan, Navy; Joseph Fahey, Navy; John Faust, Navy; John Ferguson, Navy; Troy Grimshaw, Navy; Herman Hansen, Navy; Cecil Hector, Navy; Imer Henry, Navy; Richard Higgins, Navy; Marvin Johnson, Navy; Glenn Lewis, Navy; Robert Montgomery, Navy; Bob Moore, Navy; James Stangland, Navy; Gordon Stone, Navy; Neil Swarthout, Navy; Paul Swenson, Navy; Arthur Tooze, Navy; Gilbert Turner, Navy; Harold Wakefield, Navy; George Yates, Navy; Robert Ganson, USMC; Edward Kimball, USMC; Richard Mann, USMC; Harold Reeves, USMC; Albert Riney, USMC; Thomas Teela, USMC.

These 50 heroes join more than 98,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home states to Washington, DC to reflect at the memorials built in honor of our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize and thank Dick Tobiason for his tireless work as president of Honor Flight of Oregon and trip leaders Erik Tobiason and Pam Kelsay for their efforts.

HONORING THE ANACOSTIA WATERSHED SOCIETY ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the Anacostia Watershed Society, a nonprofit organization based in Maryland and Washington, DC tasked with restoring the Anacostia River for the health and enjoyment of its watershed communities, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Since its founding, it has been cleaning the water, recovering the shores, and honoring the heritage of the Anacostia River for the benefit of all who live in its watershed and for visitors.

Founded in 1989 by Robert Boone, the Anacostia Watershed Society overcame early challenges as it sought to raise awareness of the deteriorating health of the river and its watershed after nearly two hundred years of urban settlement and industrial activity. Mr. Boone worked with local activists and attorneys to take steps to turn the situation around by working to relocate plans to build a new football stadium away from the river, to stop the Navy Yard from dumping toxic waste into the water, and to end the flow of sewage into the river—a project that will be completed in 2022 with the opening of underground tunnels built to capture and treat sewage overflows.

During this time, Mr. Boone and program manager Jim Connolly were also working to raise consciousness in the local community about the river. Mr. Boone and Mr. Connolly hosted trash clean-ups, tree plantings, and numerous public events to get Marylanders and Washingtonians engaged with the river and to promote it as a source of outdoor recreation. The programs and events they developed in the early days of the Anacostia Watershed Society set the stage for the many important activities the organization undertakes today.

Over the next twenty-five years, the Anacostia Watershed Society grew to become a powerful advocate for the river, its watershed, and the communities it benefits. The organization has expanded to include four departments essential to its success: Stewardship, Education, Advocacy, and Recreation. The Anacostia Watershed Society engages local residents of all ages in the cleanup and restoration of the river while involving the community in advocating for policies to reduce and regulate the pollutants entering its waters.

I have been proud to serve as an advocate for the Anacostia and its watershed throughout my time in Congress. My first association with the Anacostia Watershed Society was as a cosponsor of an Earth Day boat tour of the river, aimed at gaining attention in Congress for the Society's advocacy efforts. Later, I was proud to work in Congress to promote policies authorizing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to help restore the Anacostia. Throughout my involvement with the Anacostia Watershed Society, I have met many engaged and energized local activists who are deeply concerned about the future not only of the river but of our region as a sustainable place to raise healthy families.

The Anacostia Watershed Society's vision for the future includes a river that is fishable and swimmable—as per the Clean Water Act—and serves as an urban oasis and destination for those in Maryland, Washington, DC, and visitors from around the country. I congratulate its members on twenty-five years of service to the communities of our region, and I look forward to continue to work with them to advance the Society's mission for many years to come.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR THE EL RIO COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER OF TUCSON, ARIZONA IN RECOGNITION OF THE OPENING OF ITS NEW CONGRESS HEALTH CENTER

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition and celebration of the El Rio Community Health Center of Tucson, Arizona,

which is celebrating the opening of its new Congress Health Center.

The El Rio Community Health Center is one of the largest non-profit community health centers in the United States. Founded in 1970 by Tucsonans committed to bringing accessible and affordable health care to all, the El Rio Community Health Center serves over 900 people each day, more than three-fourths of whom live at or below the federal poverty level.

El Rio's brand new, 54,000 square foot facility makes state-of-the-art healthcare accessible to all residents of southeastern Arizona's largest city. The new facility will help El Rio serve an additional six thousand patients each year, as well as creating numerous new health care jobs and helping our local economy thrive.

I congratulate the El Rio Community Health Center and support its continued efforts to make sure all people are able to access the health services they need.

CELEBRATING THE NORTH BAY CHILDREN'S CENTER 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the North Bay Children's Center on the occasion of the organization's 25th Anniversary Celebration, which will take place on November 8, 2014.

Incorporated in 1986, the North Bay Children's Center was founded on the fundamental belief that every child should have equal access to quality care and early education. Over the last 25 years, the Center has continually met this expectation and become an invaluable asset to the local community. Each year, new programs are added as the Center's staff continues to create positive change by locally addressing key national priorities, such as promoting early literacy, combating childhood obesity and reducing poverty.

The Center serves over 100,000 nutritious meals annually to children in California's Second Congressional District. By teaching families about nutrition, incorporating local gardens to enhance early education, and encouraging childhood literacy, the North Bay Children's Center promotes parent engagement and works to ensure that every child is ready to succeed in school and life from an early age.

Please join me in congratulating the North Bay Children's Center on 25 years of outstanding service to the children and families of Marin and Sonoma counties and wish them many years of future success.

RECOGNIZING HEART OF FLORIDA UNITED WAY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Heart of Florida United Way as they celebrate 75 years of service in Central Florida. Heart of Florida United Way is the largest provider of funds to nonprofit agencies in Central Florida. These agencies provide critical services including job training, financial literacy classes, healthcare and educational opportunities. This year, Heart of Florida United Way committed more than $9.2 million in funding over three years to nonprofit partner agencies in Central Florida.

Additionally, Heart of Florida United Way provides direct services that aid the homeless, connect individuals with volunteer opportunities and ensure accessibility of lifesaving medications. Their dedicated work to engage many aspects of the community has undoubtedly made Central Florida a better place to live and work. I thank Heart of Florida United Way for their dedicated work, and I congratulate them on 75 years of remarkable contributions to our community.

CONGRATULATING JAY WOLVOVSKY

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate my friend Jay Wolvovsky on his 30 years of outstanding service to the residents of the greater Baltimore community. At the end of this month, Jay will retire from his position as CEO of the Baltimore Medical System (BMS), a position he has held since he founded BMS in 1984. Under Jay's stewardship, BMS has grown into Maryland's largest Federally Qualified Health Center system. Since taking over the operation of four East Baltimore clinics from the Baltimore City Health Department in 1984, BMS has expanded to thirteen health centers reaching the whole city and even Baltimore County, including eight school-based health centers that provide essential medical care to more than 1,000 children each year. When struggling communities have faced the loss of healthcare providers, BMS has stepped in, absorbing practices and patients from the Baltimore neighborhoods of Highlandtown and O'Donnell Heights. All told, BMS provides medical care to over 45,000 underserved patients each year.

I consider myself lucky to have worked with Jay for many years. He has had an enormous impact on the Baltimore region and he has changed the lives of countless families in the State of Maryland and beyond. His compassion and dedication to give back to his community and to bring medical care to those who could not otherwise receive it has been the driving force behind BMS' incredible success over the past three decades. His keen eye for innovation, whether in working with the Baltimore City Health Department to provide seniors with pharmacy services 20 years before Medicare Part D, or in building relationships and partnerships with local foundations and national groups to expand BMS' reach, has been an invaluable asset to the organization. Jay has been a true friend to the Baltimore community and to me; I thank him for all he has accomplished and congratulate him on his well-earned retirement.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HISPANIC READING ROOM OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, October 12, 2014, marks the 75th anniversary of the Hispanic Reading Room of the Library of Congress which is located in the Jefferson Building. Since 1939, the Hispanic Division has been systematically acquiring books, journals, newspapers, photographs, prints, maps, posters, sound recordings, and other materials from and about the greater Hispanic world. Today with more than 13 million items, the Library of Congress possesses the most extensive collection in the world on the history and culture of Latin America, the Caribbean, Iberia, and U.S. Hispanics/Latinos.

Hispanic Division specialists assist scholars from all over the United States and indeed around the world with information about materials in all formats in the Library's collections. The reading room's website www.http://loc.gov/rr/hispanic which can be accessed in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is an important resource for students as well the wider public for finding books, maps, images, audiovisual materials, music, and many other sources to learn about the history and culture of the greater Hispanic world. The website is visited more than 100,000 times per month.

The recently issued Hispanic American Members of Congress, 1922–2013, published by the Government Printing Office and available online, was compiled by the Office of the Historian of the Clerk of the House, with help from specialists in the Hispanic Division who provided expertise and access to the vast collections of the Library of Congress. The first and much smaller edition of this directory was prepared in the Hispanic Division in 1994 and published in 1995 by the GPO.

The Hispanic Division's major annual publication is the Handbook of Latin American Studies, an annotated bibliography providing an indispensable guide to publication about Latin America. Compiled and annotated in the Hispanic Division since 1939 and currently published by the University of Texas Press, the Handbook is a collaborative effort drawing on the knowledge and expertise of a network of contributing U.S.-based scholars who volunteer their efforts to the project. Available in print and searchable through an online database www.loc.gov/hlas the Handbook lists and describes the most important scholarly publications in the humanities and social sciences from and about Latin America and the Caribbean.

A unique resource in the Hispanic Division is the Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape, begun in 1943, which holds audio recordings by more than 700 multi-lingual poets and prose writers from the U.S., Hispanic areas, and the Caribbean, including Haiti and Suriname. Richard Blanco, the poet who read at President Obama's second inauguration, recorded in 2013, and Octavio Paz is one of nine Nobel laureates in the archive.

Two years ago the Hispanic Division inaugurated a bilingual portal "Distant Neighbors: The United States and the Mexican Revolution, 1910–1917," which contains photographs, manuscripts, maps, and other rare

documents from the Library's collections chronicling this important period in the history of both countries. It is invaluable for students and researchers because it provides access to rare documents about the U.S.-Mexico border.

The Hispanic Reading Room is ". . . a home away from home for researchers from all over the world," according to Jaime Benitez, noted educator and Puerto Rican Commissioner during 1973–1977. With its arched ceilings, vivid murals by Brazilian artist Candido Portinari, and architecture reminiscent of renaissance Spain, the reading room provides an inspiring space for those seeking to research their ancestors, complete school assignments, or write books. With its vast Hispanic collections, the Library provides both exploratory materials for beginning students and rare published or other materials—maps, manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings—for advanced scholars. These materials allow those of us in the United States and in other parts of the world to better understand Hispanic heritage and history, and its lasting and ongoing influence within our country.

My husband, Latin American historian Dr. Thomas C. Wright, can personally attest to the incredible resources available through the Division to scholars and authors. We congratulate the Hispanic Division and its staff and celebrate the valuable work they have done over the past 75 years.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF JUDY BRADSHAW

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Des Moines Police Chief Judy Bradshaw, and to express my appreciation for her dedication and commitment to law enforcement.

Since beginning her storied career as a police cadet in 1980, Chief Bradshaw has been an integral part of the Des Moines Police Department for more than three decades. As the Des Moines Police Department's first female lieutenant, captain, major, and chief of police, Chief Bradshaw has continually broken new ground while both innovating and improving the department.

Throughout her career, Chief Bradshaw has worked and supervised in every area of the department while developing several programs and policies. Since assuming the role of Chief of Police in 2007, Chief Bradshaw has revitalized the community's relationship with the department and its officers. Two of her programs, the Community Ambassador Program and Mentoring Youth with Cops Program, incentivize productive relationships with at-risk youth and community leaders alike. Chief Bradshaw's tenure has shown that when the Des Moines community and its police work together, great things are possible.

Throughout her illustrious and lengthy career, Judy has never wavered in her commitment to justice and security. Chief Bradshaw is a testament to the high quality character instilled in Iowans, and the city of Des Moines owes her a great debt of gratitude for her service. While Judy's leadership will be sorely missed, she leaves behind a more secure community that will continue to benefit from her service for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a great honor to represent the brave men and women that comprise the Des Moines Police Department in the United States Congress. I thank Judy for her wonderful work and I wish her the best as she begins a new chapter in her life.

REMEMBERING MAYOR JOHN FORD

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize and remember the life of former Hazleton Mayor John Ford, a well known member of the community. Mayor Ford passed away on Thursday, May 8, 2014 after a long and distinguished career of public and civil service.

Prior to serving as mayor of Hazleton, Mayor Ford was the founder and owner of John Ford Trucking and the Hazleton Standard Fuel Co., a small company that continues to service the Hazleton area to this day. Beyond his role as a small business owner, Mayor Ford was very active in the area. He was a member of the Hazleton Elks, West Hazleton Lions, and was on the board of numerous charitable organizations. Mayor Ford continued to serve on multiple committees at the local, state, and federal level after completing his term as mayor.

During his tenure as mayor from 1986–1987, Mayor Ford saw the city of Hazleton change from a commission form of mayor to a strong mayor form, finishing his last two years of government as a member of the city council from 1988–1989. He is remembered by all who knew him as a hard working and generous man committed to making Hazleton a better city.

My sincerest condolences go out to his wife Rose, who survives him, as well as his sisters Marie and Ida, brother Robert, and several nieces and nephews.

HONORING TYRONE HOSPITAL

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 60th Anniversary of Tyrone Hospital in Tyrone, Pennsylvania. It is a milestone in this outstanding facility's history of providing essential healthcare services to the residents of its community.

In the early 1900s, Harvey Gray, a prominent Tyrone businessman had a vision to build a hospital to care for the people of Tyrone and surrounding areas. Mr. Gray and his wife Adda ultimately donated $150,000 after their deaths toward the establishment of Tyrone Hospital. The Tyrone Borough Water department provided the location, donating nearly 17 acres of wooded land west of the Laurel Ridge. The people of Tyrone realized the Gray's vision of a community hospital over a period of years. Numerous community residents, businesses, and social and civic organizations donated time and funds to support the construction of the hospital. A contribution was also made by Tyrone's famous son, Fred Waring who gave a concert in Tyrone to benefit Tyrone Hospital.

On September 20, 1954, Tyrone Hospital opened its doors and accepted its first patient. Over the years, the hospital has grown to bring personalized health care not only to the residents of northern Blair County but also to communities in neighboring counties. That growth has included state of the art medical equipment, an expanded range of services, and a diverse medical staff.

The hospital's 60th year has been marked by the recent introduction of its new name—Tyrone Regional Health Network—reflecting its developing system of new providers and services throughout Central Pennsylvania. The 60th year also coincided with the announcement of plans for a 38,000 square foot expansion that will provide a new hospital facility.

A lot has changed since Tyrone Hospital first opened its doors in 1954. However, its presence as a community hospital and its mission to provide needed healthcare services to local residents has remained the same.

I wish to thank Tyrone Hospital's dedicated staff, Board of Directors and CEO Stephen Gildea for their commitment to quality healthcare. I congratulate them and the people of Tyrone and surrounding communities on this important anniversary for their local hospital. I'm proud to have such a wonderful facility in the 9th District, and wish Tyrone Hospital continued success in the next sixty years and beyond.

STRONGLY SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 726, a resolution supporting the right of the people of Ukraine to freely determine their future, including their country's relationship with other nations and international organizations, without interference, intimidation, or coercion by other countries.

I thank my colleague from Pennsylvania, Congressman GERLACH, for introducing this bipartisan resolution and urge all Members to support it to show the solidarity of the people of the United States with the people of Ukraine.

The United States is strongly committed to the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

The United States strongly supports efforts to assist Ukraine to defend its territory against military aggression by the Russian Federation and by separatist and paramilitary forces.

The Russian Federation has undertaken a campaign of political, economic, and military aggression against Ukraine.

For example, Malaysia Airlines Flight 17, a civilian airliner, was destroyed by Russian-backed Ukrainian separatists using a Russian-made missile, taking the lives of all 298 innocent persons on board.

That is why I strongly support H. Res. 726, which condemns the continuing political, economic, and military aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine and the violation of its sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.

I strongly support the resolution's demand that the Russian Federation remove its military forces and military equipment from the territory of Ukraine, including equipment provided to the separatist and paramilitary forces.

I applaud the resolution's call for the President to cooperate with allies and partners in Europe and other nations around the world to impose visa bans, targeted asset freezes, sector sanctions, and other measures on the Russian Federation and its leadership sufficient to compel it to end its violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in voting for H. Res 726.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. DENNIS A. ROSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, as Taiwan's national day, known as Double Ten Day, approaches on October 10, I rise to remind my colleagues that Taiwan, our democratic ally, continues to be left out of international organizations at the insistence of China.

Taiwan's exclusion does not befit a society that is modern, prosperous, and democratic, and a government whose institutions have implemented the operating procedures and guidelines set forth by the very international organizations from which it has been shut out. America shares many values with Taiwan, including our commitment to democracy, human rights, and free markets, and this is a voice from which we should hear in the forums debating the complex issues and challenges of our time.

The best way we can honor our friends in Taiwan as they celebrate their national day, in addition to extending our best wishes and congratulations—which I do now—is to continue to build on the work we have done to strengthen Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations where Taiwan's membership is impossible due to its unique political status. I hope my colleagues will join me in this effort and also join me in wishing Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION OF QUAKEWRAP FOR ITS SUCCESS IN IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY WORLDWIDE

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition and celebration of QuakeWrap, a growing business in Tucson, Arizona that is improving the safety of infrastructure around the globe. On October 1, 2014, they will be honored by the District Export Council of Arizona for their success in exporting.

QuakeWrap is to be recognized and celebrated for its job creation and sales here in the United States and in multiple international markets, including Australia, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Vietnam, as well as its work with the United Nations. Both private and public sector customers are utilizing its patented carbon fiber technology to repair, modernize and secure vital infrastructure for public safety and commerce, such as bridges, pipelines, buildings and piers. Among their diverse portfolio of projects, they have repaired the tunnel system under the University of Arizona, done retrofit work on Alcatraz Island in the San Francisco Bay, provided seismic retrofit for the VA Medical Center in Albuquerque, provided blast protection for the new UN building in Beirut, Lebanon and begun an extensive infrastructure pile project in Nigeria.

QuakeWrap is an example of a small U.S. business that has grown by being a leader in state-of-the-art technology and by embracing exporting as key to their growth strategy. Even in the face of great economic recession, QuakeWrap increased its revenues and created jobs in our community. QuakeWrap has also made strategic and effective utilization of key export resources at both the federal and state levels, including the U.S. Commercial Service and its Arizona Export Assistance Center in Arizona, the Arizona Commerce Authority, and the U.S. Small Business Administration—demonstrating the impactful collaboration that can indeed exist between the private and public sectors.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 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 $17,770,878,224,353.80. We've added $7,144,001,175,440.72 to our debt in 5 years. This is over $6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 495 I was unable to attend. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BEDFORD, PENNSYLVANIA'S FALL FOLIAGE FESTIVAL

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th anniversary of Bedford's Fall Foliage Festival. This wonderful event celebrates not only the changing of the seasons, but all that the town of Bedford has to offer.

Every year, the coming of fall brings about a beautiful transformation across Central Pennsylvania. From the changing color of the leaves, to the return of autumn favorites like Sunday football and pumpkin pie, there truly is no better place to experience all that the season has to offer than in the heart of our state. That is why I am honored to stand here today to celebrate 50 years of the Bedford Fall Foliage Festival.

In 1964, the Bedford County Motor Club and the Antique Auto Club joined together to create the Historical and Fall Tour, an event which then came to be known as the Fall Foliage Festival in 1966 and has grown ever since. Today, the event draws an estimated 70,000 visitors to Bedford over the course of two weekends, and features the work of over 400 artists and craftsmen. In addition, parades, antique cars, the crowning of the fall foliage queen, and a wide range of musical entertainment offer excitement for people of all ages. The event is one of the largest fall foliage festivals in the Northeast, and its 50th anniversary this year promises to be the best one yet.

I would like to thank all of the dedicated volunteers who have put so much effort into making the Bedford Fall Foliage Festival such a lasting success. Their hard work has ensured that the festival continues to be a highlight every autumn, and I know that it will only get better in the years to come. I'm proud to have such a wonderful event in the 9th District, and hope that everyone has a chance to visit and experience fall in Bedford County.

HONORING RON TINGLEY

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of Ron Tingley, who passed way September 8th in a tragic traffic accident. Ron was born to Ethel and Richard Tingley January 31, 1947. His lifelong interest in our veterans started with his father who was a World War II vet stationed primarily in Guam. In addition, his grandfather served as a motorcycle courier in Germany during World War I. After retiring from 41 years of service as a counselor at Modesto Junior College, Ron wanted to give back and continued his work with our country's veterans.

Mr. Tingley played an instrumental part in establishing the Veteran's Resource Center (VRC) at Modesto Junior College (MJC). The VRC opened three years ago as a permanent location for vets to meet, study, and share camaraderie. Once in place, Ron worked with veteran students to solidify the purposes and services of the VRC. Uniting partners in the community helped the VRC extend services beyond the college campus.

In addition, Mr. Tingley collaborated with off-campus resources to educate and train MJC veteran students to facilitate peer support groups. He became keenly aware of the needs of spouses and dependents and it was

crucial for him to develop a veterans' spousal support group and network.

Beyond meeting the needs of the veterans, Ron educated a wide variety of MJC personnel about the challenges that veterans face on a daily basis as they acclimate to civilian life. Campus staff and faculty leaned on Ron to handle the most sensitive situations. The crisis responses he managed and resolved kept students in school and, for some, kept them alive.

It was a passion for Ron to remain connected with and support the heroes of our country. Ron is survived by his wife of 40 years, Jeanette; his sister, Janice Clair; brother-in-law, Duane Clair; nephew, Eric Cole & his wife Chris; & by many loving friends and relatives.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the life of Mr. Ron Tingley and all of his excellent contributions to veterans and the community.

NATIONAL HISPANIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Hispanic American Heritage Month. For more than 500 years, and long before the founding of the Republic, Hispanic Americans have made significant contributions to American life and culture.

Hispanic Heritage week was formerly proposed by President Lyndon Johnson in 1968 and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100–402.

The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively.

In honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month, we celebrate the diversity throughout the United States with a variety of festivities across the country, including parades, festivals, art exhibits, and musical performances.

Hispanics have had a profound and positive influence on our country through their strong commitment to family, faith, hard work, and service. They have enhanced and shaped our national character with centuries-old traditions that reflect the multiethnic and multicultural customs of their communities.

Hispanics have played a vital role in the moments and movements that have shaped our country. They have enriched our culture and brought creativity and innovation to everything from sports to the sciences and from the arts to our economy.

The Hispanic community is an integral part of our country's rich history and economic well-being. According to most recent data Hispanic-owned businesses have generated $351 billion in economic output towards the U.S. economy, along with creating 1.9 million jobs.

As the Member of Congress from the 18th Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to represent a district rich in cultural and ethnic diversity and with a substantial Hispanic population.

Mr. Speaker, Texas is home to more than 10 million Hispanic residents and there are 938,882 Hispanics in Houston, comprising 43.4% of the city's population, the third largest number of Hispanics of any city in the nation.

The projected population of Hispanics in the United States in 2060 is estimated to be 128.8 million. According to this projection, the Hispanic population will constitute 31 percent of the nation's population by that date.

Hispanics are greatly diverse people. They come from different countries bringing different cultures, language dialects and customs Hispanics have enriched our Union and shaped our character. Hispanics are hardworking individuals that try to better themselves but never forget their upbringings.

Hispanic Americans continue to impact every sector of our country, and are leading officials in all aspects of American life. Many Hispanic Americans serve as elected officials, members of the armed forces, police officers, judges, teachers, construction workers, business men and women, artists, athletes, and civic leaders.

A source of special pride to me is that Texas is the home state of 11 Hispanic recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Many contemporary Hispanic Americans have risen to occupy some of the most important positions in the nation, including U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor; Labor Secretary Tom Perez; U.S. Senators ROBERT MENENDEZ and TED CRUZ, White House Domestic Policy Director Cecelia Munoz; and my colleagues in the Texas House delegation, Congressmen RUBÉN HINOJOSA, HENRY CUELLAR, JOAQUIN CASTRO, BETO O'ROURKE, PETE GALLEGO, and FILEMON VELA.

As the Hispanic community continues to enrich American society, I urge all Americans to take time during this month to commemorate the contributions of Hispanic Americans in shaping the United States.

The best way to honor National Hispanic Heritage Month is to continue cherishing and respecting the ethnic and cultural diversity that strengthens and enhances our nation.

We celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month to continually honor the achievements and contributions of Hispanic Americans to our nation.

Celebrating the National Hispanic Heritage helps keep a vivid image of all the hard work Hispanic individuals accomplished throughout history.

I encourage all Americans to join me in marking this important occasion.

THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT'S DECISION IN MICHIGAN V. BAY MILLS INDIAN COMMUNITY

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, on May 27, 2014 the United States Supreme Court issued its decision in Michigan v. Bay Mills Indian Community, wherein the Court affirmed the sovereign immunity of our Nation's federally-recognized Indian tribes for off-reservation commercial activities. Because the United States Constitution expressly and exclusively grants to Congress plenary authority over every one of our Nation's 566 federally-recognized Indian tribes, I rise to provide my views on this decision that can have serious ramifications for Indian Country.

As the Court's Bay Mills decision correctly observes, our nation's federally recognized Indian tribes are independent governments whose sovereignty pre-dates the United States Constitution. Our founding fathers wisely chose to subject Indian tribes solely to the authority of the United States Congress, to the exclusion of state governments, as well as the Executive and Judicial branches of the federal government. And though Indian tribes are subject to the authority of Congress, they retain all of their inherent and historic sovereign powers, except as those powers may be expressly modified by Congress. If Congress does not act to take away the sovereign powers of Indian tribes, those powers are retained.

One of the most important attributes of sovereignty possessed by Indian tribes is sovereign immunity from suit, including suits initiated by State governments. In addition to being consistently affirmed by decisions of our nation's highest court over the past two centuries, tribal sovereign immunity has been repeatedly acknowledged and confirmed in federal case precedent. Thus the Supreme Court correctly upheld the sovereign immunity of the Bay Mills Indian Community, and affirmed the express desire of Congress that Indian tribes retain the fullest extent of their immunity from suit.

Like state and federal governments, Indian tribes rely on their inherent sovereign powers, including immunity, to protect their treasuries and further their economies. These sovereign powers are vital for any government to provide essential programs and services for its citizens and are critical in maintaining the viability of our nation's Indian tribes, many of which are located in the most economically depressed regions of the country and have been under constant duress due to severe cutbacks in federal funding over the past several decades. For Indian tribes, sovereign immunity is necessary not only to protect the Tribes from private litigants, but also to prevent state governments from overstepping their constitutional authority and diminishing the rights and sovereignty of Indian tribes through litigation. As the Supreme Court acknowledged in the Bay Mills Indian Community decision, only Congress has the authority to diminish the sovereign rights of Indian tribes.

While I applaud the Supreme Court's decision affirming Tribal sovereign immunity, I am deeply disturbed by dicta in the Court's majority opinion that is not only at odds with the Constitution and prior Supreme Court precedent, but is an affront to tribal sovereignty. In its majority opinion, the Court suggests that a state may bring a suit for prospective injunctive relief against tribal officials for alleged violations of state law based on the doctrine of Ex Parte Young. Prior Supreme Court precedent, however, has made clear that the doctrine of Ex Parte Young only permits suit for prospective injunctive relief against government officials for alleged violations of federal law, not for alleged violations of state law. The basis for authorizing such suits against government officials is that federal law is supreme

to state and tribal law, and thus states and tribes cannot officially authorize their officials to violate federal law. However, state law is not supreme to tribal law under the United States Constitution. The Court's suggestion that tribal officials acting in their official capacity are subject to suit for alleged violations of state law is not only in clear conflict with prior Supreme Court precedent, but permitting such suits would eviscerate tribal sovereign immunity by giving states the ability to do indirectly what our Constitution has prohibited from them doing directly: exercising jurisdiction and authority over Indian tribal governments through litigation. Furthermore, it will undoubtedly expose tribal officials to individual liability and aggravation if they are named in baseless Ex Parte Young suits.

Perhaps worse, the Supreme Court's Bay Mills decision includes dicta suggesting that, if civil remedies against Indian tribes and their officials "prove[] inadequate," a state may bring criminal charges against tribal officials acting in their official capacity for alleged violations of state law. This also would enable states to trump the sovereign rights of Indian tribes by criminalizing what would otherwise be civil, government-to-government disputes between states and Indian tribes. Such action would violate the United States Constitution and the sovereign rights of Indian tribes that the Constitution guarantees. Again, the Constitution withholds from States the authority to exercise jurisdiction and power over Indian tribes, and grants that power solely to Congress. The Supreme Court does not have the power to usurp Congress' Constitutionally granted plenary power over Indian affairs by granting States the right to criminalize the exercise of tribal sovereignty where Congress has not seen fit to do so. And again, it will be tribal officials acting in their official capacity that could be exposed to potential criminal liability for doing the very same thing that all of us who are here as elected officials are trying to do—be good civil servants.

Therefore, I urge our federal and state judiciaries to treat the above-referenced dicta (and erroneous dicta at that) in the Bay Mills decision as just that: non-binding dicta, and to instead uphold the United States Constitution by deferring to Congress on all issues involving tribal-state conflicts. Where Congress has not expressly chosen to subject Indian tribes to state jurisdiction or authority, the states cannot usurp Congress' plenary and exclusive authority over Indian tribes by bringing suits or criminal charges against tribal officials for alleged violations of state law as a means of exercising control over sovereign Indian tribes.

HONORING LISA DALE MOORE

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Lisa Dale Moore, who turns 60 years old on September 21, 2014.

Lisa Dale Moore was born on September 21, 1954 in Elizabeth, New Jersey. After graduating from George Washington University with a major in Judaic Studies, she received a Master of Social Work from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University. Professionally, she has dedicated herself to a lifetime of promoting the Jewish people and the state of Israel through her work for the Jewish Federation and Hadassah. She has also been a mentor to my wife, Jill, who said that Lisa taught her everything she knows.

Lisa is truly an exceptional woman, and I am proud to call her a friend. I join her friends and family in wishing her good health and continued success in the coming year.

SUPPORT FOR THE URBAN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION ACT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proudly submit the Urban Agriculture Production Act.

Across America, too many of our urban neighborhoods are absent stores where community members can purchase fresh, healthy foods. There are more than 23 million individuals residing in these so called "food desert" neighborhoods, where there are no stores within one mile in which they can buy healthy food.

Without healthy options, people are forced to eat unhealthy, processed, junk food, because that is all that is available and affordable. The Urban Agriculture Production Act is a step to correct this unacceptable trend.

I am pleased to recognize and support the growing resurgence of locally grown and produced product. I see it in my own community at the Sustainable Local Foods and Frederick Douglass Center Association Community Garden, of Toledo, Ohio.

Individuals, non-profits, and co-ops are stepping up and taking action to address the challenge of access to healthy food, by developing local food sources and community gardens to provide fresh, affordable produce throughout underserved communities. Not only are they growing product to provide to communities though, they are engaging and encouraging community participation all throughout the process. They are teaching community members how to farm.

As the ancient proverb says, "give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." And so goes my bill, the Urban Agriculture Production Act.

The measure will encourage economic development in underserved communities by furthering the mission of local farming. It provides programmatic funds to educate people on health and wellness, supports marketing and development networks, and will inspire communities to create self sufficient food production systems to stimulate community development and healthy eating options.

All throughout our urban communities there are an abundance of unused land and space that are conveniently located to neighborhoods that are ripe for agriculture development. We must support and encourage the means to development these plots so they become local sources of wholesome food options.

Communities that lack access to fresh produce are facing growing epidemics of obesity related diseases. We must get serious about the increased incidents of preventable disease in these communities. Prevention is paramount, and encouraging a balanced diet while also providing access to healthier foods is an obvious solution.

Farmer's Markets, greenhouses and other community agriculture initiatives can help diversify American food production so we rely less on imports and create American jobs that cannot be outsourced. My bill will spur the development and expansion of community agriculture in nontraditional agricultural production areas across this great nation.

Mr. Speaker, urban farming and food production is a viable solution to support healthier dietary options and improve overall health of urban communities. The Urban Agriculture Production Act is the appropriate means to further develop alternative, urban agricultural production and to help meet all communities' food production needs of the future.

HONORING INDIANA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of Indiana Regional Medical Center in Indiana, Pennsylvania. It is a milestone in this wonderful community hospital's long history of providing exceptional healthcare services to the people of Indiana County and surrounding areas.

Resting in the heart of western Pennsylvania, Indiana offers the perfect blend of history, progress, industry, scenery, culture, and charm. When Indiana Regional Medical Center first welcomed the public in November of 1914, it was a 40-bed facility with 13 private rooms. From the time of its opening, the hospital's mission has been to serve the community with quality, progressive, compassionate patient care.

Over the years, this nonprofit institution has grown to become the county's sole full-service health care provider. Throughout its many renovations, expansions in services and continued advancements in knowledge and technology, Indiana Regional Medical Center has remained unchanged in its commitment to the community. It truly lives by its mission to serve the health care needs of every life it touches with compassion, respect and dignity. The hospital and its people certainly have made a difference in making Indiana County a better place to live, and they continue to have a positive impact on the region.

I wish to thank Indiana Regional Medical Center's dedicated staff, Board of Directors and CEO Stephen Wolfe for their commitment to quality healthcare. I congratulate them and the residents of Indiana County and surrounding communities on this important anniversary for their local hospital. I'm proud of having such an outstanding facility in the 9th District, and wish Indiana Regional Medical Center continued success in the next one hundred years and beyond.

HONORING CAPTAIN MARY R. McCORMICK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Captain Mary R. McCormick, a proud veteran of our United States Navy, on her retirement after 26 years of service.

After graduating first in her class as an Ensign in the JAG Corps Student Program from the Navy Justice School in 1988, Captain McCormick was released from active duty on June 30, 1992 and soon was affiliated with the Select Reserves. Captain McCormick has impeccable knowledge concerning military and civilian appellate criminal law. She has represented servicemembers from all military branches during her six-year civilian military appellate practice, and she has served five years as appellate counsel.

Captain McCormick served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Colorado from October 1992 through June 1995 where she was lead appellate attorney. She was recalled to active duty from November 2010 through September 2013, to serve as Appellate Defense Counsel for Guantanamo detainees.

Captain McCormick was named Missouri's Elder Law Attorney of the Year for 2006 and she is author of the treatise Missouri Elder Law published annually by West/Thomson Reuters.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Captain Mary R. McCormick for her admirable service to our country as well as her passion for the law.

GLOBAL EFFORTS TO FIGHT EBOLA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I convened a second hearing in just five weeks on the Ebola crisis in West Africa to underscore just how serious a crisis we are facing—an international pandemic which threatens to balloon unless confronted head on.

Earlier this week, I spoke with Dr. Tom Frieden, Director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the lead witness at our August 7 emergency recess hearing on Ebola and he said that this is the worst health crisis he has ever seen and that Ebola is at risk of spreading beyond those countries currently affected—Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Since our emergency hearing in August, we have seen a constant movement upwards in the number of cases predicted. The World Health Organization now estimates that we will see as many as 20,000 cases of Ebola in this epidemic before it is ended. One hopes that that number does not increase further, but it may be a conservative estimate.

I held yesterday's hearing to take stock of where our intervention efforts stand, particularly in light of the President's decision to commit U.S. military personnel to Liberia to fight this disease. Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, with whom I also spoke earlier this week, has conceded that the Ebola epidemic ''has overwhelmed'' her country's containment and treatment capabilities. A global response, with the United States in the lead, is thus necessary.

It is important to note that in in a letter last week to President Obama, President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf wrote that ''The virus is spreading at an exponential rate and we have a limited time window to arrest it. Mr. President, well over 40% of total cases occurred in the last 18 days. Our message has gotten out and our citizens are self-reporting or bringing in their relatives. But our treatment centers are overwhelmed. MSF is now running a 160 bed-unit that will expand even further. I am being honest with you when I say that at this rate, we will never break the transmission chain and the virus will overwhelm us.''

I held the follow-up hearing yesterday morning to determine if there is a reasonable hope for vaccines, treatments and detection strategies in time to help with this health emergency.

I hesitate to provide figures for the number of people infected or who have succumbed to this virus because even as we hold this hearing, dozens, if not hundreds, of new infections will be documented. According to the latest figures, infections are approaching 5,000 people, and 2,500 deaths.

Ebola, which is mostly unknown in West Africa, presents itself early in the infection like usually non-fatal diseases such as Lassa fever, malaria or even the flu. The temperature seen in early stages might even be brought down with regular medicines. Therefore, many people may not believe, or may not want to believe, they have this often fatal disease.

If someone is in denial or unknowledgeable about this disease, they may not seek treatment until it is too late—both for them and for the people they unknowingly infect. Families in Africa tend to help one another in times of need, an admirable trait that unfortunately increases the risk of infection. The sicker a person gets with Ebola, the more contagious they are, and never more so than when they die. So burials that don't involve strict precautions to avoid direct contact with highly contagious corpses make transmission of this deadly disease almost inevitable. Burial traditions make avoidance of infection problematic.

The porous, lightly-monitored borders in West Africa lend themselves to cross-border transmission, as people go back and forth along well-travelled roads and into marketplaces where hundreds of people, also travelling, make contact with those who are infected.

Patrick Sawyer, a Liberian-American, reportedly was caring for his dying sister a few weeks ago. After she died, apparently of Ebola, he left Liberia on his way to his daughter's birthday party in Minnesota. He collapsed at the Lagos airport in Nigeria and died within days. Had he left Liberia a week or even days earlier, he might have made it home to Minnesota, but he likely would have infected people along the way, including his own family. We can say that because Sawyer infected several people in Nigeria, which led to Ebola being transmitted to health care workers and then to dozens of other people.

We'll never know now if Sawyer realized he had contracted Ebola and just wanted to go home for treatment or whether he thought his symptoms were from some other illness. Many people are just like him, however, and they are spreading this disease even to places where it had been brought under control. For example, the Macenta region of Guinea on the Liberian border was one of the first places this disease surfaced, but by early September, no new cases had been seen for weeks. Doctors Without Borders closed one of its Ebola treatment centers to focus on harder-hit areas. Infected people leaving Liberia for better treatment in Guinea have once again made Macenta a hotspot for the disease.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has established teams in Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Nigeria to help local staff do fever detection and to administer questionnaires on potential troublesome contacts. The agency also is helping to establish sites at airports for further testing and/or treatment.

Liberia and Sierra Leone are the hardest hit by this Ebola outbreak. This is undoubtedly partly because of the weak infrastructures of two countries emerging from long conflicts. However, post-conflict countries also have significant segments of the population who don't trust the central government. The unfortunate mishandling by the Liberian government of an attempted quarantine in the capital demonstrates why trust has been so difficult to come by.

The Liberian government established barriers to block off the West Point slum area after a holding center for Ebola victims was ransacked and contaminated materials were taken. This quarantine was done without informing its 80,000 inhabitants or consulting with health care workers. Not only did this prevent people from pursuing their livelihoods or bringing in much-needed supplies, this move created great suspicions over the motives of the Liberian government. This suspicion was heightened when the official in charge of the area was called to a meeting and was seen leaving just as everyone else was trapped behind barriers.

The furor over this quarantine forced the government to abandon it 10 days into its planned 21-day term. Liberian officials assure us they have learned from their mistakes, that the quarantine and has alerted Liberians to the reality of the Ebola epidemic. The human rights of victims and those who live in proximity to them must not be sacrificed by the emergency situation Ebola presents.

Despite the fact that the drug ZMapp appears to have saved the lives of Americans Nancy Writebol and Dr. Kent Brantly, one of the witnesses from yesterday, there are no proven, readily available treatments for Ebola. The death rate for this disease, once more than 90%, is now down to 53% despite the number of cases growing exponentially.

In Africa, a few patients apparently have been successfully treated with ZMapp, and some others have been saved using other treatment methods, especially when the disease was identified early. Yet there is not now, nor will there be in the short term, large quantities of this medicine or any others. There are several Ebola therapeutics under development, but if this outbreak cannot be brought under control soon, even the most optimistic timetable for the testing and production

of these drugs will not be sufficient to meet the ever-expanding need.

ZMapp was used with the informed consent of those to whom it was given. But how can we guarantee that the many Ebola victims whose most likely salvation would be to use an experimental drug truly understand the risks of using a drug that has not been fully tested and vetted by the authorities in the country in which it is developed? No drug is 100% effective, so what will other victims think if some people die despite taking experimental treatments? We must protect the rights of those willing to take a chance on unproven treatment when they have no other alternatives.

Lack of faith in national and international systems fighting Ebola also has impeded the replacement of the many African health care workers who have died from this disease. For example, even before this Ebola outbreak, Liberia had fewer than two doctors for every 100,000 people. As of late August, 164 Liberian health care workers had contracted Ebola, and 78 had died.

African health care workers face an epidemic that threatens to defy control. The lack of diagnostic techniques and insufficient supplies of safety equipment have put these health care workers at extreme risk. These health workers know that the lack of treatment centers and medicines means that those on the front lines of this epidemic are most at risk. Some have asked for insurance for their families should they succumb to Ebola and certain evacuation for treatment outside the hot zone. These heroes deserve all the support we can muster.

Ebola not only challenges the collective ability of the world community to meet the demands it poses, it threatens the progress made over the last decade by African countries in overcoming conflict and improving economic development. Even after this outbreak is finally brought under control, its damage will be seen in lowered gross domestic product and diminished foreign investment.

So we must be prepared to create effective strategies to help affected African nations recover. A large part of any successful strategy will feature efforts to recreate and dramatically expand health care systems in West African and other countries on the continent. This epidemic has shown that we must not be complacent about weak governance or health care systems. To that end, Ranking Member BASS and I will soon introduce a bill to address the emergency and ongoing needs in the fight to contain the Ebola epidemic in West Africa.

We live in a world that is increasingly interconnected, and Ebola has demonstrated that our neighbor's problems can soon become our problems.

HONORING COLONEL CATHLEEN HARMS' SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Colonel Cathleen Harms of Great Neck, New York, who on July 31, 2014 ended 38 years of military service, including 31 years of commissioned service and rejoins the Retired Reserves. Colonel Harms is also a retired Lieutenant in the New York City Police Department.

Colonel Harms began her military career as a dental hygienist. Her enlisted career with the Army National Guard spanned from March 12, 1976 until May 18, 1983. She began her career in the New York Army National Guard in 1976 when she received her Associate of Applied Science degree from the State University of New York at Farmingdale. In addition to serving as a dental hygienist she also served as a Platoon Sergeant in the 824th Medical Detachment.

She then earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Public Health from Saint Joseph's College, Brooklyn, NY and Saint John's University, Jamaica, NY, being cross-enrolled in both schools for ROTC purposes. She was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve on May 19, 1983, earning the honor of Distinguished Military Graduate.

After commissioning, Colonel Harms completed the Army Medical Department Officer Basic Course. Her first assignment in the Medical Service Corps was as Administrative Officer, 824th Medical Detachment, New York Army National Guard, from May 1983 until May 1989. During this tour she attended the Army Medical Department Theater Medical Operation Course in 1985, was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant on May 18, 1986, and promoted again to the rank of Captain on May 19, 1987. Her next assignment was as the Medical Regulating Officer, for the 244th Medical Group, New York Army National Guard from 1990 until 1993. During this time she served in both a National Guard Status and a Title 10 Active Duty Status and attended the Army Medical Department Officer Advanced Course and the Command and General Staff College Mobilization and Deployment Planning Course.

Colonel Harms' next assignment was as the Personnel Officer for the 244th Medical Group of the New York Army National Guard from September 1993 until June 1994, during which time she completed the Patient Administration Course as the Honor Graduate. She then served in the 244th as Patient Administration Officer from July 1994 until July 1997, and graduated from the Command and General Staff Course in 1995. In 1997 she completed the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute's (DEOMI) Equal Opportunity Advisor's Course in which she made the Commandant's list for academic achievement.

Her next assignment was as Detachment Commander, 53rd Troop Command New York Army National Guard from August 1997 until December 2000. She was promoted to Major, Army National Guard in October 6, 1997. During this period of command she also completed the National Guard Bureau Military Discrimination Complaint Investigator Course in 1998.

Colonel Harms' following assignment was as Equal Opportunity Advisor, 53rd Troop Command, New York Army National Guard, from January 2000 until August 2004. In 2001 she completed the DEOMI Mediation Course and in 2004 she completed the Army National Guard Facilitator Course. She was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the National Guard on April 8, 2003.

Colonel Harms returned to Active Duty in Title 10 status in August 2004 to the Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants, Guantanamo Bay and Washington, D.C. She served in multiple billets including: Lead Recorder, Chief of Staff, Deputy Branch Chief, Tiger Team, Operations Officer, Special Liaison to Department of State, and Guantanamo Review Task Force Member. She was promoted to the rank of Colonel in the Army National Guard on May 12, 2008. During this assignment, in 2008, she also completed a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College.

She next served at the Periodic Review Secretariat in Arlington, Virginia beginning in April 2012, where she served as the Deputy Director for Operations. She entered the Retired Reserves on July 31, 2013, but continued to serve on Retiree Recall orders until May 2014.

Colonel Harms' final uniformed assignment was at the Warrior Transition Unit at Fort Belvoir, VA, from June 2014 until July 2014.

Cathleen Harms also had a distinguished career in public service as a New York City Police Officer. She retired as a Lieutenant in the New York City Police Department. During her NYPD career, she held the ranks of Police Officer, Detective, Sergeant and Lieutenant. Her positions included Patrol Officer, Patrol Supervisor, Detective Investigator, Supervisor of Narcotics Investigations and Operations, Platoon Commander, and Integrity Control Lieutenant. She was trained and experienced in performing internal and external investigations, conducting interviews and interrogations, preparing and reviewing reports and investigative findings, conducting and supervising search warrants, developing and managing confidential informants, and reviewing and managing overtime budgets.

The distinctive accomplishments of Colonel Harms culminate a long and distinguished career in the service of her community and country and reflect great credit upon herself, the United States Army, and the Department of Defense.

Her Defense Superior Service Medal citation is attached to this submission.

DEFENSE SUPERIOR SERVICE MEDAL TO COLONEL CATHLEEN A. HARMS

Colonel Cathleen A. Harms, United States Army, distinguished herself by exceptionally superior service while serving in various positions of increased responsibility, culminating as Deputy Director for Operations, Periodic Review Secretariat (PRS), Arlington, VA, from August 2004 through May 2013. Under her expert guidance, over 1,150 cases were prepared for processes that determined enemy combatant status, the transfer, continued detention or release of detainees held at U.S. Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. She managed the sensitive interface with foreign governments on their nationals' status and handled numerous requests from Congress, non-governmental organizations and the media. Colonel Harms participated in the Presidential Task Force under Executive Order 13492, which comprehensively reviewed 240 detainee cases. She was vital in the planning and execution of the transition from the Office for Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants to the PRS per Executive Order 13567. Her outstanding leadership resulted in major contributions to national security and the success of the PRS and OARDEC missions in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. The distinctive accomplishments of Colonel Harms culminated a long and distinguished

career in the service of her country and reflect great credit upon herself, the United States Army, and the Department of Defense.

CONGRATULATING THE TOWN OF COLLIERVILLE, ''AMERICA'S BEST MAIN STREET''

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to congratulate the Town of Collierville, TN on winning Parade Magazine's ''America's Best Main Street'' contest. Over 2,000 main streets were nominated and ultimately trimmed down to the best 16 representatives. The finalists faced off in a bracket-styled competition that demonstrated not only Collierville's beauty and livability, but also the dedication and pride of the citizens of the Town of Collierville.

The history of Collierville dates back to 1836, when Jessie Collier divided his farm into lots and posted an advertisement that lots were for sale in the Town of Collier. Originally incorporated in 1850, Collierville was the scene of a bloody Civil War battle the featured famed Union General William T. Sherman. Following war and reconstruction, Collierville was re-incorporated in 1870 with a picturesque downtown square with the town's businesses surrounding it. The Square's iconic gazebo today serves as the focal point of annual fairs, festivals, and political activities with the ever-changing colors of the season the backdrop. The Town of Collierville's Historic Town Square doubles as the business and social center of the town, playing host to a wide array of small businesses and local restaurants that exemplify what small-town America is all about.

From inception to war, from cotton to dairy, from the industrial revolution to information age, the Town of Collierville has maintained its southern tradition and charm. The voters of Parade Magazine could not have made a better choice and I am indeed privileged to represent the Town of Collierville. On behalf of Tennessee's 8th Congressional District, I congratulate the Town of Collierville on winning Parade Magazine's ''America's Best Main Street'' contest.

HIGHLIGHTING THE VALUE OF TOURISM THROUGH LITERATURE

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two outstanding English professors for their innovative contributions toward promoting tourism through literature.

First, Professor Mary S. Palmer's short story ''Raisin' Cain'' recently won the Southeastern Literary Tourism Initiative Tourism Writing Contest Award.

Professor Palmer's story highlighted the family-friendly nature of Mobile's Mardi Gras and was published online at the Southeastern Literary Tourism Initiative's website. The story includes photos and tourism links at the end so readers can learn how to visit the real Mardi Gras parades and other nearby Mobile attractions included in the inspiring story.

I also want to recognize Dr. Sue Walker who currently teaches tourism writing to several of her English classes at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, Alabama.

Dr. Walker is using the examples of tourism writing from this initiative to challenge her students to compose original short works of literature that encourage their readers to visit the actual places included in the stories.

Mr. Speaker, on Alabama's Gulf Coast, we know just how important tourism is to our local economies. I proudly support any effort to encourage tourism in our region, and I especially applaud innovative methods in the classroom, like tourism writing. Professor Palmer and Dr. Walker have found a unique way to highlight the heritage and culture of South Alabama while providing an enriching experience for their students.

I hope my colleagues in the House will invite their state's writers and teachers to take a look at what is going on in Mobile and consider ways to incorporate these types of college courses into their curriculum, and in turn, highlight their state's unique tourism attractions.

I will be honored to present Professor Palmer with the 2014 SELTI Tourism Fiction Award on October 15 at the Mobile Carnival Museum, and I am excited to highlight these types of innovative teaching methods.

A DAY TO HONOR ''ROSIE THE RIVETER''

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my friend and colleague GEORGE MILLER, to honor the important contributions of women on the Home Front during World War II.

During World War II, 6 million women entered the workforce nationwide, increasing the female percentage in the workforce from 27 percent to 37 percent. Women replaced men in many traditionally male jobs as men enlisted in active military service. They worked as riveters, welders, electricians, and draftsmen, among others.

Working women during World War II set the stage for working women today. African American women overcame long-held policies of discrimination and made significant contributions to the war effort by working in the shipyards and in supporting the Home Front. Federal, state, and local public and private agencies coordinated efforts to develop child care programs for working mothers.

Today, the image of ''Rosie the Riveter'' and the phrase ''We Can Do It'' have come to symbolize women's empowerment.

On October 24, 2000, the Rosie the Riveter-World War II Home Front National Historical Park Establishment Act of 2000 was enacted into law. As we approach the anniversary of that date, we ask that you take time on that day to honor the important contributions of women on the Home Front during World War II.

HONORING THE CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the City of Thousand Oaks as it celebrates 50 years as a thriving and prosperous municipality in Ventura County, California. I would like to congratulate the city, along with its residents, on this momentous milestone.

The City of Thousand Oaks was incorporated on October 7th, 1964, and was named for the beautiful and bountiful oak trees that are the hallmark and symbol of the city to this day. In the early years of its incorporation, nearly 20,000 people lived within the 14.28 square miles that was Thousand Oaks.

Since its incorporation, Thousand Oaks has developed into a flourishing community, growing to 56 square miles with over 127,000 residents. This successful expansion is due to collaborative partnerships among city administrators and involved citizens working towards a vision to create a family-oriented community.

Additionally, city officials have done an outstanding job to maintain the healthy growth of this community, while conserving and integrating the natural beauty that surrounds Thousand Oaks through its development. Over the last 50 years, more than 15,000 square acres of land have been designated as ''Open Space,'' including more than 75 miles of trails that have been protected to ensure that residents of the city today can enjoy the same beauty that the Chumash Native Americans experienced hundreds of years ago.

While this natural acreage gives our community the best of nature, another source of pride is the Civic Arts Plaza, which is a jewel of cultural arts. Thousand Oaks has become a beacon for our region featuring world-class entertainment, musicals, concerts, children's shows, ballets, and much more. In addition, some of the city's most impressive accomplishments have come in the realm of infrastructure improvements, which have significantly enhanced the quality of life and ensured the mobility of its residents and businesses.

Over the last five decades, the City of Thousand Oaks has grown into an exceptional and premiere community that has been recognized for being one of the most desirable places in all of California to live, work, recreate, and raise a family. It is my sincere pleasure to congratulate the City of Thousand Oaks on their 50th anniversary!

RECOGNIZING REVEREND DR. JAMES CHERRY, SR. OF AENON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to the life and ministry of the Reverend Dr. James Cherry, Sr. Reverend Cherry is the long-serving, revered and accomplished pastor of the highly regarded

Aenon Missionary Baptist Church in Rochester, New York.

Throughout his thirty-four year tenure as pastor of Aenon Missionary Baptist Church, Reverend Cherry has earned the love and respect of Aenon congregants and countless others throughout the United States and abroad. His teaching and preaching have enabled innumerable people to lift themselves from the depths of despair, given them hope for a brighter future and the determination to reach their full potential in life. His outstanding ministry can be credited in great part for the unprecedented growth of the Aenon Missionary Baptist Church.

His compassionate spirit and boundless love for humanity have guided Aenon to reach far beyond its four walls and into the darker places of our society. With his guidance, the church established ministries such as Dorcas's Closet, Monks Bread, and the Urban Farm Stand to address the basic needs of people in the southwest area of Rochester, New York. Through his work with the New York State Empire Baptist Mission of America, Reverend Cherry has ministered to the needs of countless people throughout our nation and in foreign countries.

Often referred to as the ''pastor's pastor'' by his colleagues, Reverend Cherry is notable for sharing wise and profound counsel with other ministers and pastors. Not being one to promote himself or a personal agenda, he has always freely shared his wisdom; thereby aiding younger pastors to excel in ministry and more seasoned pastors to benefit from his wealth of experience and ministerial expertise.

Reverend Cherry faithfully served our nation through his service in the United States Marine Corps (1954–1957). He has faithfully served as an American Baptist pastor for 54 years and as pastor of Aenon Missionary Baptist Church for 34 years. He has received numerous accolades and many awards, including awards from the National Baptist Convention, the Great Lakes Baptist Association, the Empire State Congress of Christian Education, the Urban League, the NAACP, the YMCA and the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS.

Through his ministry and works, Reverend Cherry has proven himself to be a servant of God and a friend to all of humanity. In tribute to his lifetime of service to the Rochester, New York community and far beyond, I stand to honor him today. As Reverend Cherry enters into retirement at the end of 2014, let the record show that his legacy is one of love, compassion, empathy and great works. Today I am proud to honor the life and legacy of one of the finest residents of New York's 25th Congressional District. Mr. Speaker, the Rochester community, the State of New York and our nation are far better places because Reverend Dr. James Cherry, Sr. has walked among us.

MARKING THE PASSING OF THOMAS HALE BOGGS, JR.

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a civic-minded giant and one of our nation's leading legal minds: Thomas Hale Boggs, Jr., who passed earlier this week at the age of 73.

Thomas Boggs, Jr. belonged to a great American family—a family devoted to public policy and leadership. His father, Congressman Hale Boggs, represented the people of Louisiana in the House for almost 28 years, elected by his colleagues to become Democratic Whip and Majority Leader. When Leader Boggs tragically died, Thomas's mother Lindy won the election to fill his seat, serving for 18 years as a forceful and dynamic Congresswoman unafraid to know her own power and make her own mark. Tommy's late sister Barbara Boggs Sigmund won public office as mayor of Princeton, N.J., and his sister Cokie Roberts is one of our nation's finest journalists.

Thomas Boggs's family taught him that public service was a noble calling, leaving a sterling legacy of leadership and civic engagement that would guide and define his entire life. As an undergraduate at Georgetown University, he studied government from within the halls of Congress, working as an elevator operator in the House of Representatives. As a law student at Georgetown, he worked with the Joint Economic Committee, at one point helping to advance President Johnson's 1964 anti-poverty tour of Appalachia.

Later, he spent 15 months as Assistant to the Director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness, before leaving to pursue a life in law.

In 1966, he joined the law firm that would become Squire Patton Boggs, building a list of accomplishments that includes critical victories for American automakers and preserving thousands of American jobs. Although he lost an election for Congress in 1970, he continued his commitment to public service as part of the Presidential Commission on Executive Exchange and as a Presidential Delegate to our trade mission to China in 1979.

In recognition of his intellect and ability, The National Law Journal has named him to their list of the top 100 lawyers in the United States every year since the list's inception.

Thomas Boggs was a towering advocate for American workers and middle-class families—carrying forward the legacy of public service that his family continues to exemplify. I hope that it is a comfort to his wife, Barbara, his children, his sister Cokie, and all of his loved ones that so many people throughout the world share their grief and mourn the loss of the devoted and loving patriarch of the Boggs family during this most difficult time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, September 16, 2014, I inadvertently voted ''no'' on roll No. 503—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass: Gun Lake Trust Land Reaffirmation Act. I had meant for my vote to be recorded as ''aye''.

HONORING JAMES LINTOTT

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mr. James W. Lintott, a constituent who recently stepped down as chairman of the board for the Children's National Medical Center. Mr. Lintott has held this post since 2010 and has been a passionate advocate for access to quality health care for all children.

Jim's leadership has helped to advance pediatric health in our community and beyond. He has been actively involved with Children's National for more than 12 years and has served as a member of a number of governance committees and boards. He began his involvement as a member of Children's Hospital Foundation Board of Directors in 2002 and later served as chairman of that board.

Jim has been a champion for children by leading philanthropic giving initiatives and building awareness in the community of the importance of supporting the mission and goals of Children's National. Under his leadership, Children's National secured a gift to establish an institute for pediatric surgical innovation. This institute is advancing pediatric medicine by discovering new treatments and devices and implementing innovative approaches to improving children's health.

Lintott's efforts have helped to advance pediatric medicine and research. He is truly a passionate advocate for children's health. I would ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and thanking Jim Lintott for his leadership as chairman of the board of Children's National Medical Center.

CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN SPIRIT

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, on October 24, 2014, Honor America, Inc. will celebrate its 40th Anniversary and hold its 3rd Annual Patriot Awards Dinner at the Rialto Hilton in Melbourne, Florida. Founded in 1974 in Washington, D.C. by the Rev. Billy Graham, Bob Hope, Hobart Lewis, and J. W. Marriott, Honor America seeks to reawaken a sense of pride in American traditions, ideals, and accomplishments.

It's critical to the survival of our nation and our freedom for young people to learn about our nation's cultural heritage, our Constitution and history. That's what Honor America is all about—promoting awareness of the great blessings of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness—instilling both pride in American citizenship and respect for our flag.

To do this, Honor America sponsors the Liberty Bell Memorial Museum, the Brevard Hall of Fame, and the Melbourne Military Memorial Park in Melbourne, Florida. They also sponsor the City of Melbourne's Independence Day Parade and Veteran's Day Parade to pay homage to the many Americans who have made tremendous sacrifices protecting and defending our liberty.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Honor America for their tireless efforts to remind us all what it means to be an American and celebrate it.

HONORING BILL SCHWERI

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tireless advocate for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Mr. Bill Schweri, who is retiring from his position as the Director of Federal Relations at the University of Kentucky. As Bill retires, I want to personally thank him not only for the work he has done to better the Sixth District of Kentucky and the broader Commonwealth, but also for the relationship he has developed with me and my staff.

Bill has always been happy to spend the time to get to know my office, and we all have fond memories of working with Bill—not to mention remembrances of chatting about UK sports in the front office. Bill's ability to build lasting relationships is unmatched, and he leaves large shoes to fill.

Few people have contributed as much to our Commonwealth and UK as Bill has during his 42 years at the University including the last 20 as Director of Federal Relations. His contribution to the success of UK—from the NCI designation at the Markey Cancer Center to advances in energy research to programs in agriculture and education—speaks for itself.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and the Big Blue Nation as we honor Bill Schweri and wish him a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the President's request to train vetted, moderate Syrian rebels, as I believe it is only one step in the right direction and it's supported by military experts.

Tremendous oversight is going to be necessary in this effort. And unfortunately I fear, as do many experienced generals and military personnel, that it's part of a strategy that's insufficient to secure America's national security.

The President's stated objective is to destroy ISIL. However, I believe that this overall strategy, and the means requested, are not enough to meet this objective.

The current strategy relies on U.S. airpower in support of local forces. This is not a counterterrorism effort, and to destroy ISIL, it's necessary to have strong coordinated ground troops.

The local ground forces the President is planning to rely on appear currently unready and they will need to operate with a strong central command and control.

The President's strategy does not provide for U.S. Special Forces and the backing of our grounds troops, even though our military leaders have repeatedly suggested the exact recommendation.

Our security is too important to base military strategy on political calculations. Our strategy must be firmly rooted in what is necessary in order to complete the mission and to ensure our security. From Clausewitz to Powell, military leaders have preached the necessity of decisive force.

I served in Iraq. We heeded this wisdom and committed to win with decisive force. We acted on military reality and not political risk.

We can do this again and fulfill the American objective to destroy ISIL, but we must commit ourselves to do what is necessary. Not only what it takes, but whatever it takes.

HONORING DAVID SMITH

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize David M. Smith, President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way of Ventura County, on the occasion of his retirement from an exemplary career in dedicated public service and outstanding contributions to our community.

David Smith has had a remarkable and distinguished career as a community leader and philanthropist. His passion and dedication to the mission of United Way has fostered a thriving and prosperous environment for numerous community programs that serve the citizens of Ventura County with an array of invaluable health and human services.

In October 2001, David took on the weighty role and responsibilities as the leader of United Way of Ventura County, and served as a steward for the organization's vision and shared purpose of changing lives and shaping communities.

With over a decade of dedicated service, David has created a powerful strategy of encouraging individuals to invest in their community's needs, thereby enhancing the quality of life for all of Ventura County's residents and delivering positive community results.

In addition, David holds an impressive volunteer track record as a member of the Board of Directors of Ventura County Economic Development Association. David has also served as a board member of the Boys & Girls Club of Camarillo, the Camarillo Chamber of Commerce, Casa Pacifica, the Ventura County Taxpayers Association, and the American Cancer Society Ventura County Chapter. For his selfless service to his community, the Camarillo Chamber of Commerce honored David Smith as Man of the Year in 2010.

David Smith's lifetime career of leadership, community service, and his many accomplishments are indicative of his unwavering commitment and dedication to Ventura County. As this chapter in his career comes to an end, I want to express my sincere appreciation for David's years of honorable and selfless dedication that greatly contributed to the success of the United Way of Ventura County, and our community as a whole.

For these reasons, I commend David M. Smith and wish him the best in all of his future endeavors.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, on September 3, 1964, President Johnson signed the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) into law, establishing a dedicated and permanent means for the protection of America's irreplaceable recreational, natural, historic, cultural and outdoor resources.

The 50th anniversary is an occasion for celebration, but also a reminder that LWCF's authorizing legislation expires in within a year. As we commemorate LWCF's half-century track record of success, it is imperative to secure reauthorization of the program before that date.

LWCF is fully paid for without relying on the support of American taxpayer dollars. Every year, $900 million of the many billions of dollars the U.S. Treasury collects from offshore oil and gas drilling is deposited into the LWCF trust fund. These revenues are a promise made to the many communities across America that rely on these resource lands, and on the conservation and recreation economies they support.

This arrangement has served our nation well, helping to realize a long list of conservation successes over the past 50 years without costing taxpayers a dime. This includes creating outdoor recreation opportunities in every state and 98 percent of counties across the country—opening up key areas for hunting, fishing, and other recreational access; supporting working forests and ranches; and acquiring inholdings and protecting critical lands in national parks, national wildlife refuges, national forests, Civil War battlefields and other federal areas. From the Pacific Crest Trail to the North Cascades, the Mountains to Sound Greenway to Lake Chelan, the high quality of life and outdoor opportunities in Washington have been protected by LWCF.

Outdoor recreation activities in Washington directly support 227,000 jobs and consumers spend $22.5 billion on outdoor recreation equipment, apparel, lodging, and other services, generating $1.6 billion in state and local tax revenue. Further investments are needed to replace funds that have been redirected and to ensure that we can continue to protect our national treasures, such as the Yakima River Basin in my home state. This is an area not only used and beloved by hikers, campers, hunters, and fisherman but it also critical in providing drinking water and irrigation.

LWCF does more than simply add acreage to our public lands—it provides an entire suite of conservation tools to address national, state, local and regionally driven priorities across the country. These include working land easements that keep working forests in production and jobs in rural economies—rather than forcing family forest owners to subdivide and sell off portions of their land to developers. Additionally, these often include purchase of inholdings within the boundaries of existing public lands which make management more efficient by reducing the cost of fencing, boundary surveying, firefighting and other costs and ensuring access for land management.

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary, the best way to honor the Land and Water Conservation Fund is to make sure Congress provides the necessary funding levels so it can continue its history of success for our great nation.

HONORING JIM REES

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim Rees, who passed away on September 9, 2014, at his home in Markham, Virginia.

Jim served as president of George Washington's Mount Vernon estate for two decades, from 1994 to 2013. I had the privilege of working closely with Jim over the years on many important issues, especially working to improve historical literacy among young Americans. Jim was a tireless advocate of George Washington's legacy, his estate at Mount Vernon and the leadership virtues of our nation's indispensable founding father. Because of his work building Mount Vernon's endowment and revitalizing interest in the estate, Jim was called ''an indispensable man to Mount Vernon in his time'' by Barbara Lucas, regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, who spoke to the Washington Post about Rees' legacy.

Jim was beloved not only by the board of the Ladies' Association, staff and volunteers but also by all those who share his commitment to preserving the legacy of the Father of our Country. His passing is a loss to the Mount Vernon community and indeed the nation. I respectfully submit Jim Rees' obituary from The Washington Post and ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jim's life and achievements.

[Sept. 13, 2014]

JAMES C. REES, 62, LONGTIME PRESIDENT OF GEORGE WASHINGTON'S MOUNT VERNON, DIES

(By Emily Langer)

James C. Rees, who endeavored to keep George Washington first in the hearts of his countrymen, and particularly in the hearts of his country's tourists, as president for nearly two decades of the founding father's Mount Vernon estate, died Sept. 9 at his home in Markham, Va. He was 62.

The cause was multiple system atrophy, a neurological disorder, said his husband, Kirk Blandford.

Mr. Rees spent nearly his entire career at Mount Vernon, the stately home 15 miles outside the District in Virginia, where George Washington lived for decades and where he was buried after his death in 1799.

After working in the development office and as the estate's associate director, Mr. Rees became in 1994 Mount Vernon's executive director, a title later changed to president. He moved into a home on the grounds overlooking the Potomac River and became, he said, the public relations agent for the nation's first president.

The nonprofit Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, which has independently owned and maintained the property since 1860, credited Mr. Rees with leading fundraising initiatives that brought more than $250 million to the estate. During his nearly three decades with the institution, its endowment grew from $4 million to more than $100 million, according to the group.

''It has been said that George Washington was the 'indispensable man,' '' observed Barbara B. Lucas, the regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, adding that Mr. Rees ''likewise was an indispensable man to Mount Vernon in his time.''

Mr. Rees's tenure as president coincided with what he and other George Washington enthusiasts feared was a growing ignorance about American history, particularly among the young. Once, Mr. Rees encountered a group of students and began joking with them—''you know, playing off some of the Washington myths,'' he told the Weekly Standard.

''I said, 'Well, it's a good thing this isn't a cherry tree, or it might be in danger—you never know who might come chop it down.' And there was no reaction. Nothing. So I said, 'But I guess we could always use the wood to make some teeth.' Nothing. Blank stares.''

Mr. Rees led a years-long mission to enliven the visitor experience at Mount Vernon and to invigorate the image of the president who lived there. Washington, Mr. Rees remarked, seemed to be locked in the national imagination as the rather dour-looking gentlemen on the $1 bill.

''Washington was athletic, adventurous and risk-taking, known to be one of the finest horsemen of his day and willing to meet challenges head-on,'' Mr. Rees once told the New York Times. ''Some have called him the nation's first action hero.''

At the Ford Orientation Center, a building opened in 2006 with sponsorship from the Ford Motor Co., visitors watch a film described as an ''action-adventure'' movie about Washington's military exploits and personal life.

The Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center, which also opened at Mount Vernon in 2006, includes theaters, interactive displays and galleries with artifacts from Washington's life, including the bedstead he used during the Revolutionary War, his sword and, perhaps best known, his dentures.

The teeth in particular represented a departure from what had previously been the organization's conservative presentation of the former president.

''We used to be so discreet that we didn't want to display Washington's dentures,'' Mr. Rees told the Times. ''When we finally broke down and showed them, they turned out to be a sensation. That taught us something.''

Mr. Rees also oversaw the restoration and reconstruction of Mount Vernon's whiskey distillery and gristmill. One of his last undertakings was fundraising for the $106 million Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington, which opened in 2013, the year after Mr. Rees retired.

James Conway Rees IV was born May 5, 1952, in Richmond. The history textbooks he used as a youngster, he often said with chagrin, devoted significantly more space to Washington than can be found in books used today.

He was a 1974 English graduate of the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg and received a master's degree in public administration from George Washington University in 1978. Before joining Mount Vernon in 1983, he did development work for William & Mary and for the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Mr. Rees often reflected on the challenges of promoting Washington in the modern age.

''I suppose it has to do with lots of things,'' he once told the Weekly Standard. ''The rise of social history—filling up history with all kinds of people who'd been ignored before means there's less room for old heroes. And I suppose it has to do with the end of the great man theory of history, too.''

''But there's something else that worries me,'' he continued. ''The qualities Washington possessed just aren't as appreciated as they were. Honesty. Good judgment. Modesty—my God, who in late-20th-century America gets credit for being modest anymore?''

In 2007, Mr. Rees published a book, ''George Washington's Leadership Lessons: What the Father of Our Country Can Teach Us About Effective Leadership and Character.''

Survivors include Kirk Blandford, his partner of 29 years, whom he married last year, of Markham; and a brother.

On one occasion, Mr. Rees was called upon to correct an oversight by Washington, who had borrowed from the New York Society Library ''The Law of Nations,'' Emer de Vattel's 18th-century political treatise, and failed to return it.

By the time the matter came to Mr. Rees's attention, the item was more than two centuries overdue. He returned a copy to its rightful owner.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I support the core pillars of the President's plan to fight ISIS—the use of American surveillance, intelligence assets and air power to support the ground operations of the Iraqi army and Kurdish fighters in Iraq, and to strike ISIS military equipment, troop concentrations, and command and control in Syria. I also believe we should supply weapons to those groups in Syria, such as the Syrian Kurds, who have consistently fought ISIS, and whose priority is to defeat ISIS. I welcome the opportunity to work with my colleagues to revise the existing 2001 Authorization to Use Military Force to more clearly support these objectives, but to also ensure that U.S. ground forces are not engaged in combat in Iraq or Syria.

My one concern with the Administration's plan relates to the proposal to arm the so-called ''moderate'' Syrian opposition. I believe that it is a well-intentioned proposal that will have unintended negative consequences that will not serve our ultimate goal of defeating ISIS.

First, the primary objective of these Sunni Islamist fighters is the defeat of Assad and his Alawite dominated regime—not the defeat of ISIS. Since the start of the war there have been shifting alliances among these Sunni Islamist forces that include the al-Qaeda affiliate, Jabhat al-Nusra, different elements of the Free Syrian Army, the Islamist Front, Ahrar al-Sham and ISIS, among others. Their common cause and overriding objective is defeating Assad. Indeed, the commander of the Syria Revolutionaries' Front, Jamal Maarouf, one of the most militarily proficient commanders of the FSA, recently said that, ''It's clear that I'm not fighting against al-Qaeda. This is a problem outside of Syria's border, so it's not our problem. I don't have a problem with anyone who fights against the regime inside Syria.''

While there is no doubt that Assad is a brutal dictator, he does not pose the same threat to the United States as ISIS, and his forces have recently been battling ISIS. At this point, arming fighters whose primary purpose is to

weaken Assad has one unintended result—strengthening ISIS. Indeed, I fear that the arms we provide to the so-called Syrian opposition are more likely to end up in ISIS hands than to be used against ISIS terrorists.

There is one group within Syria that has been battling ISIS from the start, and that is the Syrian Kurds. We should provide material support to these Kurdish fighters in Syria.

We should also continue our efforts to get the Sunni tribesmen in Iraq and Syria to take up the fight against ISIS. The President and his team deserve great credit for helping to push former Prime Minister Maliki from power. He ruled Iraq, not as a nationalist Iraqi leader, but as a Shia strongman. That sectarian approach alienated the Sunni population in Iraq, and made them more open to tolerating the rise of ISIS.

With the emergence of a more inclusive Iraqi government, we must work with all parties to assure Sunni tribesman that their interests are better served by a united Iraq than by ISIS. That is why the President's emphasis on a political component to this strategy is so important.

IN RECOGNITION OF JERRY DEAL

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jerry Deal who is retiring after serving for eight years on the Burlingame City Council, the last four as Vice Mayor, and for 13 years on the Planning Commission, three times as the Chair. His work on the Planning Commission earned him the nickname ''Father of Design Review.'' Jerry's commitment to his beloved home community and public service has benefitted the city of Burlingame and the quality of life of its residents.

As an architect, Jerry has used his training and skills to inform many of his public policy decisions. He was instrumental in the transformation of Burlingame Avenue and the building of the new Safeway, roof garden, pocket park and retail and office spaces. As a business owner himself and a member of the Burlingame Economic Development Committee, Jerry helped foster a business-friendly environment. His pragmatism and humor, essential to any good architect, have allowed him to be effective in leading the public and his colleagues.

Due in part to Jerry's leadership, the library was saved and Burlingame still maintains its own police department. Jerry is also a tireless advocate for children, promoting and protecting our schools and developing additional recreational fields.

Jerry's passion for community service began with a seat on the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Repertory Company, and as a board member of the free Shakespeare in the Park festival. During his time on the Burlingame City Council he was involved in a long list of issues and committees. In addition to the already-mentioned Economic Development Committee, Jerry served as a liaison between the city and the Burlingame Chamber of Commerce. He has one of the better attendance records at Chamber functions, and he listened closely when the Chamber made important suggestions to improve the quality of life in Burlingame. He was also a member of the Fire Advanced Life Support (ALS) Joint Powers Authority, a public—private partnership launched in 1977 to provide improved emergency medical care to Burlingame citizens.

It isn't just the citizens of Burlingame who trust Jerry Deal to be fair and insightful. Jerry was elected by San Mateo County's 20 mayors to serve on the SamTrans Board of Directors overseeing fixed-route and para-transit bus services in San Mateo County. The county's mayors also elected him to serve as Vice Chair of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board which owns and operates Caltrain. The Caltrain Board of Directors appointed Jerry as its representative on the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA), the body responsible for overseeing the new Transbay Transit Center, a rail extension for Caltrain and High-Speed Rail and adjacent transit-oriented developments in downtown San Francisco. As you can surmise from this list, Jerry is smart, self-effacing, and is passionate about improving the quality of life for all Bay Area residents directly impacted by city planning, housing and transportation.

Jerry's expertise, enthusiasm and effectiveness have left an indelible mark on the city of Burlingame which he has called home for over 35 years. He and his wife JoAnn Johnson-Deal, a teacher at Franklin Elementary School, have five children and ten grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Jerry Deal, the Vice Mayor of Burlingame, a proud resident and a dear friend, for over two decades of outstanding public service. He will be leaving us shortly to move to Oregon, but his legacy will live on in the beauty of Burlingame, in its architecture, in its family-focused activities and lifestyle, and in the example of fairness that Jerry exhibited during his time in public office. We will say farewell to a friend of decades who has etched his mark on decades yet to come.

HONORING JON C. FOSTER

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Jon C. Foster, a distinguished and exemplary Firefighter for Fire Station 74, San Nicolas Island, for the Federal Fire Department Ventura County, on the occasion of his retirement from a remarkable career of over 35 years of dedicated service to our community and our country.

Firefighter Foster has had an outstanding and admirable career, which began when he enlisted in the United States Air Force as a Firefighter in 1976. He quickly rose to the ranks of Staff Sergeant and Crew Chief before the end of his enlistment in 1982. Firefighter Foster continued his commitment and service to the community by working at the Construction Battalion Center, where he served as a Firefighter for the United States Coast Guard and worked with the CBC Fire Department.

Firefighter Foster was transferred to Point Mugu Fire Department, where he served for two years before being assigned to San Nicolas Outlying Field. Firefighter Foster has shown his impeccable dedication to Ventura County by serving for the last 25 years at Fire Station 74, San Nicolas Island. His unwavering service to Ventura County has been invaluable to the safety of this community.

With over three and a half decades of exceptional work dedicated to the Department of Defense, Fire and Emergency Services, Firefighter Foster has set a superior standard of performance for those who serve with him. His service has truly lived up to the meaning of the Department of Defense, Fire and Emergency Services' motto, ''Protecting Those Who Defend America.''

Firefighter Foster's lifetime career of leadership and his many accomplishments are indicative of his steadfast commitment and dedication to our community. As this chapter in his career comes to an end, I want to express my sincere appreciation for Firefighter Foster's years of honorable and selfless dedication that greatly contributed to the success of the Federal Fire Department Ventura County.

For these reasons, I commend Firefighter Jon C. Foster and wish him the best in all of his future endeavors.

NATIONAL DAY OF TAIWAN

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise regarding the continuing maritime disputes in the waters of the East China Sea, particularly surrounding a group of particular islands. Known as the Senkaku Islands to Japan, the Diaoyutai Islands in Taiwan, and the Diaoyu Islands in China, these islands are the focal point of the many disputes over the waters of the East China and South China seas.

Although tensions remain, Taiwan has emerged as a pro-active voice urging countries to work together to insure prosperity and security for all. Japan, China, and Taiwan all have claims to islands in the East China Sea, and the resulting tensions—particularly between China and Japan—threaten our political, economic, and security interests in the region.

Taiwan's President, Ma Ying-jeou, is determined to peacefully resolve this problem by working to build a trusting relationship with the countries involved. In 2012 President Ma proposed the East China Sea Peace Initiative, which demonstrates Taiwan's genuine interest in finding a permanent solution that benefits all stakeholders. The general response to the initiative has been positive in this country, and I believe it holds much promise. I am hopeful that regional tensions can be lessened because of the constructive steps taken by Taiwan.

Taiwan has proven time and again to be a friend working to ensure the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific. With the National Day of Taiwan fast approaching on October 10, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Taiwan for their friendship, thank President Ma for his contribution towards regional peace, and to wish all of Taiwan's people a wonderful and most happy National Day.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AXIS COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC IN PLEASANTON

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the construction of a new community health clinic in Pleasanton, which is set to break ground in October. Axis Community Health is the sole provider of health services for indigent and low income families in Dublin, Pleasanton, and Livermore.

For over 42 years, Axis has ensured access to primary and preventative care to residents of the Tri-Valley. The rapid growth of the area's population coupled with changes in family income and changes made by the Affordable Care Act have left the Tri-Valley in need of additional facilities to accommodate residents in need of accessible health services.

Fourteen thousand residents rely on Axis Community Health and it is projected that by 2015, 20,000 residents will turn to Axis for medical and behavioral health services. The new clinic, slated to open next summer, will be critical to answering the growing needs of the community.

The new 24,000 square foot clinic will house 27 exam rooms, seven mental health counseling rooms, a health education classroom, an on-site patient pharmacy and a laboratory draw station.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the expansion of the Axis Community Health Center and honoring its commitment to ensuring that every Tri-Valley resident, regardless of income, can achieve and maintain good health.

SAFE PLAY ACT

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the first Children's Cardiomyopathy Awareness Month this month.

The Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation, or CCF, is a non-profit group dedicated to raising awareness for the risk of sudden cardiac arrest in the young and helping to prevent tragic deaths.

The CCF works to raise awareness for serious cardiac conditions and provides resources and supports to families struggling with the impossible reality of discovering that their young children have critical conditions. CCF's work to bring attention to this issue and encourage better detection, prevention, and treatment for patients is important, and I thank them for these efforts. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating this organization's lifesaving work.

Today, I invite my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5324, the Supporting Athletes, Families and Educators to Protect the Lives of Athletic Young Act, known as the SAFE PLAY Act. This legislation will provide school systems with resources to raise awareness for youth athlete safety, encourage the development of best practices to prevent, report, and address injuries, and educate teachers, students, and coaches on the risks of cardiomyopathy and other critical cardiac conditions. It will also allow students to learn CPR and how to use an automated external defibrillator, or AED, to help prevent death in the event of sudden cardiac arrest. This legislation will increase school safety and help reduce the number of deaths from this condition on school property.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT JESSEY J. BACA

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Master Sergeant Jessey J. Baca, a dedicated service member, proud family man and loyal civil servant who is entering a well-deserved retirement.

Jessey's burning passion for his country is a distinctive characteristic that he has embodied throughout his life. On October 1, 1977, just a year before graduating high school in Los Lunas, New Mexico, Jessey enlisted in the United States Navy delayed entry program.

Jessey went on to serve 4 years in the Navy aboard the USS *Coral Sea* CV 43 with Squadron VA 27 out of Naval Air Station Lemoore, California. In 1983, Jessey joined the New Mexico Air National Guard as an Electronics Technician in the Avionics department to work on A–7s and F–16 fighters. In total Jessey would spend over 37 years in military service and 32 years in federal service to the United States of America, seeing to our interests across the globe, from Belgium to Chile, France to Iceland, and halfway around the world to China.

But it was Jessey's service in Iraq that would ultimately alter the course of his life. When Jessey returned to the United States, he was confronted with a multitude of ailments: everything from cancer, to chronic bronchiolitis, chemical induced asthma, brain lesions, TBI, PTSD and a host of other health complications. There was strong reason to believe that this was caused by exposure to burn pits in Iraq.

As Jessey explained:

> ''Contractors were burning all the waste. Anything from body parts to metal and everything in between. Computer parts, batteries, whatever could go in there were burned and it would burn 24–7.''

In unprecedented fashion, Jessey spearheaded a movement to create a national registry for veterans affected by bum pits during their service. Senator TOM UDALL of New Mexico, after meeting with Jessey, decidedly introduced the Open Burn Pit Registry Act of 2011 (S. 1798) with Senator BOB CORKER of Tennessee.

On January 10, 2013, Jessey's vision became a reality when President Obama signed into law legislation creating a national bum pit registry. The truth is that Jessey's life's work is a testament to true patriotism; not only did he fight and serve bravely on behalf of the American people, he spoke up for his fellow service members and successfully created lasting protections for current, and future veterans returning home.

As Jessey enters his retirement, he looks forward to celebrating loving memories and time with his wife, and high school sweetheart, Maria Margaret Baca, his two girls Victoria Baca-Garcia, and Racheal Elizabeth Baca-Sweeney, and three grandchildren Ireland Ajai Lowe, Logan Kai Sweeney, and Zachary Kaikoa Garcia. Jessey's esteemed character, defined by selflessness, enthusiasm, and love of life are felt by all who know him. As he enters retirement I hope he continues to inspire future generations to give back as much as he has to our wonderful country.

TRIBUTE TO MG (RET) JOE ROBLES

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank an important leader in the San Antonio community, MG (Ret) Joe Robles. Joe will retire at the end of this year after an admirable career as a military officer, war hero, philanthropist, and the CEO and President of USAA. He will be profoundly missed by the employees at USAA, but his retirement will no doubt be felt by the greater San Antonio community and beyond.

Joe was the eldest of nine children born in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. His father, a waiter at the time, was recruited to work in a steel mill in Ohio—just as World War II ended and America was reindustrializing. When Joe was three years old, he came to the U.S. to reunite with his father who had saved enough money to bring his family to Ohio. For the next 35 years, his father worked at the steel mill and part time as a carpenter and plumber to make ends meet.

Joe learned the value of hard work early in life. At age 11, he began working as a stock boy and cashier at the local grocery store. As a teenager, he did yard work in the summers and helped his father on plumbing and construction jobs. It was this hard work that motivated Joe to pursue higher education. While in high school, Joe was awarded a medical school scholarship sponsored by the local medical society. The scholarship would pay for his education under the condition of returning to his hometown to practice medicine. He had to first earn an undergraduate degree and be accepted to medical school on his own. Joe graduated from high school in 1964 and worked that summer painting a house. The job paid enough to cover his first year of tuition at Lorain County Community College. Soon thereafter, Joe got married and took a full time job at a NASA nuclear plant.

In 1966, Joe was drafted into the United States Army. By any measure, Joe's military service was stellar. Joe served as the Chief of the Program and Budget office at the U.S. Army Headquarters, the Division Artillery commander of the 1st Infantry Division (Mech) at Fort Riley, Kansas; and the Army Planner and Director for Operations and Support at Department of the Army Headquarters.

As assistant division commander of the 1st Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, Texas, he prepared and deployed the division for Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm. He also

served as the director of the Army budget and as commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division (Mech) at Fort Riley, Kansas—the legendary ''Big Red One.''

Joe has earned the Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.

Joe joined USAA in 1994 after retiring from the U.S. Army. He assumed the position of President and CEO in 2007 after serving as the CFO for several years. Under his leadership as CEO, USAA has thrived. Despite the economic slump Joe steered USAA to earn the highest possible ratings for financial strength from Moody's, A.M. Best, and Standard & Poor's.

Committed to advocating for military families, Joe has guided USAA to a leadership role in hiring veterans and military spouses and offering them careers in the private sector. Joe was invited to the White House and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to be recognized for USAA's efforts in this area and demonstrating their commitment by ensuring that veterans and military spouses were 30 percent of USAA's new hires in 2013.

All of these achievements are astounding by themselves, but Joe also became a dedicated and active member of his community. Joe is the Chairman of the CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health System and of the Pl6Plus Council of Greater Bexar County Foundation. He also serves on the American Red Cross Board of Governors and on the boards of directors of The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas—San Antonio Branch, DTE Energy, the CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Children's Hospital Foundation, and San Antonio's Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation, as well as the Advisory Board of the Kay Bailey Hutchison Center for Latin America Law at the University of Texas.

In 2009, The Christian Science Monitor named Joe the ''No. 1 Veteran in Business.'' That same year, American Banker named him ''Innovator of the Year.'' In 2012, Robles was honored as ''Executive of the Year'' by Arizona State University and, in 2013, Bank Innovation named him one of the ''10 Most Innovative CEOs in Banking in the U.S.''

In 2010, Joe led the San Antonio and Bexar County United Way campaign to a record result, and in 2012, he was tapped by my brother, then-San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro, to co-chair the city's Brainpower Initiative, which led to the Pre-K 4 SA program to fund preschool education for thousands of San Antonio's children.

Joe has left an indelible mark on the military, USAA, and the San Antonio community. He will be sorely missed for his leadership, sound judgment, and commitment to the community. But what those closest to him will miss most are his immense compassion and genuine care for all those around him. Joe's character is, indeed, his hallmark. Congratulations, Joe Robles, on your successful career, incredible accomplishments—but most of all—your lasting impact on all those you have led and worked with along the way! As a native of San Antonio—I hope and expect I will see much more of you in the years to come.

HONORING CHARLES GARNATI FOR HIS 30 YEARS OF SERVICE AS WILLIAMSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Charles Garnati, who retired this month after 30 years as State's Attorney for Williamson County, Illinois.

Charles Garnati has actually served in the Williamson County State's Attorney's office for parts of five decades. He worked in the office for a brief time in the 1970s and then was elected to his first term as State's Attorney in 1984. He would serve continuously as State's Attorney until retiring this month due to health reasons. At his retirement, Garnati was the longest continuously serving state's attorney in the State of Illinois.

During his career as State's Attorney, Garnati has prosecuted perpetrators of the most heinous crimes, including 30 murder trials. He was able to get first degree murder convictions in 29 of those 30 trials. Garnati is quick to praise his legal staff in the State's Attorney's office as well as the law enforcement agencies within his jurisdiction for the success rate of his office.

Garnati always approached his job as both making those who commit crimes pay for their actions and also to provide justice to the victims of those crimes. Particularly in murder cases, he was keenly aware of the pain suffered by the families of victims.

Garnati accepted as a personal challenge the prosecution of those who harmed children. As part of that crusade, he helped found two programs for children, the Williamson County Child Advocacy Center and the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Williamson County program. His annual golf scramble has raised more than $350,000 for these programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Charles Garnati well and thanking him for a lifetime of service to the people of Southern Illinois.

REGARDING H. RES. 707

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a cosponsor in support of H. Res. 707, a resolution condemning all forms of anti-Semitism. I also rise to spotlight the troubling and rising tide of hate crimes against Jews that has recently begun sweeping the globe. There have been violent attacks against Jews in the Middle East, death threats in Latin America, synagogues fire-bombed in Europe and the desecration of the property of Jews in North Africa.

World leaders have spoken out against these acts of violence and condemned those responsible. The resolution I helped to introduce expresses that same sentiment by unequivocally condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and urging the secretary of state to maintain as a foreign policy priority of the United States the fight against anti-Semitism in all of its forms.

The resolution also recognizes that condemnation alone will do little without the added threat of strong and effective laws to back it up. The resolution urges governments around the world to ensure that adequate laws are in place to monitor and punish those responsible for anti-Semitic violence and hate crimes.

Today I stand with my colleagues on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives in solidarity with all those around the world who will not permit these hate crimes to pass without comment and who believe that acts of religiously and ethnically motivated violence against one of us is an act perpetrated against all of us.

HONORING THE PLEASANT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Pleasant Valley Historical Society as it celebrates 50 years as an exceptional organization that has been dedicated to promoting community pride, encouraging historical interest, and preserving and presenting the history of the Pleasant Valley.

The Pleasant Valley Historical Society was founded in 1964, when a small group of community members, including the Honorable Stanley J. Daily, Mayor Emeritus of Camarillo, Ms. Pat Meredith, and Mr. Jack Fulkerson, established the organization with the intent to preserve the history and artifacts of the region, which is comprised of the areas of Camarillo, Pleasant Valley, Somis, and Santa Rosa.

The diverse people and cultures that have encompassed Pleasant Valley have contributed to making the area a unique and special place. From the time of the Chumash that resided in the region to the Spanish and Mexican settlers to the Americanos who settled there when the newly formed State of California emerged, the Pleasant Valley has a rich heritage and history.

Throughout the past five decades, the Pleasant Valley Historical Society has attracted hundreds of local residents and out of state visitors to enjoy and learn about the heritage of the Pleasant Valley. In 1985, the Museum and Botanical Gardens were established to showcase native plant species and educate visitors about the history of the land.

The Pleasant Valley Historical Society also holds annual celebrations recognizing valued longtime residents of Pleasant Valley and honoring these volunteers as pillars of the community; bestowing the title of Don and Doña upon them for their civic service and philanthropy . In addition, the Pleasant Valley Historical Society holds numerous events on local history that foster a sense of community within the region which is valued by all who have interacted with the organization.

For fifty years, the Pleasant Valley Historical Society has promoted and celebrated the history and culture of the Pleasant Valley area. It

is with great enthusiasm that I offer the Pleasant Valley Historical Society my sincere congratulations in reaching this significant milestone, and I am pleased to join them in celebrating the 50th anniversary of their establishment.

TURKEY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my grave concern for Turkey's actions, or should I say lack thereof, vis-a-vis regional security in the Middle East.

As ISIS sweeps across Iraq and Syria, we know many foreign fighters have joined their ranks. But what I find incredibly disturbing is that Turkey, a NATO ally, is one of the most active recruitment sources for ISIS. According to reports, as many as 1,000 Turks have joined the ranks of ISIS.

Turkey must do more to stop its citizens from joining ISIS, and a good starting point would be to shut down the recruitment operation that has thus far been ignored.

Also problematic are the dozens of oil fields and refineries that ISIS now controls across Iraq and Syria. Control of this oil has given ISIS a steady flow of funds placed around $1–$2 million per day on the black market. Turkey again needs to step up and do more to curb the flow of this oil through its territory and put a stop to ISIS's smuggling network.

I would also like to express my concern for the erosion of civil liberties and rule of law in Turkey. Intimidation of the press, private businesses, and other civil society actors has been reported. This, along with abuses of religious freedom and surface-level reforms, has made clear that Turkey's democracy is not moving in the right direction.

It's time for the Turkish government to take a stand. It's time to lift restrictions on the media and religion, among other key sectors of society. And it's time to put a stop to ISIS's financial and personnel networks that flow through Turkey.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MEDICARE RIGHTS CENTER FOR 25 YEARS OF QUALITY SERVICE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, 25 years ago, the Medicare Rights Center was created. Since then, seniors, people with disabilities, their friends and family members, and policymakers have benefitted from the Center's expertise.

Since its founding in 1989, the Medicare Rights Center has provided critical advice to individuals who want to find out about Medicare's benefits, learn about enrollment and eligibility, and get help in resolving any problems that they may face. My constituents—and constituents around the country—have called the Medicare Rights Center's hotline and received help—whether from the Center's excellent staff or from one of its many well-trained volunteer counselors.

The Medicare Rights Centers' newsletters—''Dear Marci,'' ''Medicare Watch,'' and ''Inside Medicare Rights''—are invaluable. ''Dear Marci'' is a great tool for individuals who want clear and user-friendly information about how they can get the most from their Medicare benefits, avoid problems, get help and voice their views. Other publications and special reports provide those of us in Congress with critical information about the specifics of the law and its implementation. Because the Medicare Rights Center sees the actual, on-the-ground impacts of Medicare policies, they help us determine the actual effects of current policies and identify specific improvements that can be made.

Medicare Rights Center president Joe Baker and federal policy adviser Stacy Sanders are frequently found on Capitol Hill, testifying and responding to information requests from Congressional offices. The Seniors Task Force, which I co-chair, has been privileged to have Medicare Rights Center representatives join us to brief members and staff about Medicare trends, policies and impacts.

I want to congratulate and thank Diane Archer, the founder of the Medicare Rights Center, and all the past and current staff, volunteers and board members for the work that you have done to provide quality, affordable care for seniors, people with disabilities and all Americans.

Congratulations on your first 25 years of service to America, and I wish you many more productive years in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND AND THE WILDERNESS ACT BEING SIGNED INTO LAW

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, September marks the 50th anniversary of both the creation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Wilderness Act being signed into law. I rise in celebration of these two milestones, as they have resulted in the preservation of our nation's most treasured resources.

For 50 years, LWCF has remained the nation's premier conservation and recreation support program. While authorized by Congress, the program is not funded by taxpayer dollars, making it a responsible, practical method to protect our nation's natural landscape and beauty.

The parks, trails, forests, wildlife refuges, battlefields, historic sites, and working lands sustained by LWCF funding support an outdoor recreation and tourism sector that contributes a total of $1.06 trillion annually to the American economy. This program supports 9.4 million jobs that are vital to our nation's recovery.

Additionally, since President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Wilderness Act into law, Congress has added over 100 million acres to the unique land preservation system. This landmark conservation bill created a way for Americans to protect their cherished wild lands for future generations.

Polling has found that a strong majority of the American people believe that Congress should continue to honor its commitment to both the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Wilderness Act. I am proud to stand with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to preserve and protect these programs.

OBSERVER STATUS FOR TAIWAN AT THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, greater, more meaningful participation for Taiwan in international organizations is based on the need for the international community to marshal all of its expertise in meeting today's global challenges. For example, in a world trying to contain what is a grave Ebola epidemic, it would make no sense for a nation with Taiwan's resources and expertise to be completely shut out of the deliberations of the World Health Organization. It took the SARS crisis for Taiwan to achieve observer status, but its participation should be maximized as much as possible, given that global health crises may grow more frequent with increased globalization.

Additionally, while I welcome the invitation that was extended to Taiwan by the leadership of the International Civil Aviation Organization to attend last September's assembly, Taiwan should at the very least have an ongoing seat at the table. The number of air travelers has grown, the threat of terrorism has not dissipated, and yet Taiwan is unable to receive the real-time safety information made available to all ICAO members.

These are just two examples of how the world does not benefit from Taiwan's isolation from the technical and expert deliberations of international organizations. There are others. Working to assist Taiwan to gain entry as an observer into the ICAO, just as we did in the case of the World Health Assembly and as we must do on other fronts, is the right thing to do for Taiwan, for the United States, and for the world. I urge my colleagues to redouble our efforts on this front.

HONORING NANCY ANN MCCALLISTER

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of New Mexico resident Nancy Ann McCallister, who passed away on August 16, 2014.

Nancy was a lifelong resident of New Mexico, with family ties to some of New Mexico's oldest families. She was a descendant of Don Juan Vigil y Montes de Santa Anna, and Michel des Marais, who would later become one of the founders of the city of Las Vegas in 1835. To this day Nancy's family continues to live in New Mexico, preserving the rich cultural heritage of their ancestors.

For Nancy, there was nothing more important than her loving family, friends and helping those in need. Her love extended far beyond her eight children to her eighteen grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. She was a loving mother and nurturing caretaker.

Nancy loved gatherings with family and friends, and like a true New Mexican, enchiladas were mandatory. As her kids will tell you, she loved to entertain dozens of people and nothing brought her more delight and pleasure than making them smile. She would often tell her favorite story about training a young William G. ''Bing'' Grady when she worked at Albuquerque National Bank in the 1950s. Mr. Grady would go on to become president of the bank.

Nancy was a great listener and many people came to her for advice and wisdom. She was inclusive and never judgmental. Whether it was raising her kids or helping individuals overcome the burden of alcoholism, she always embraced the opportunity to help someone by teaching them with words of wisdom, a helping hand and a guiding heart. This kindheartedness and understanding made Nancy an exceptional person, cherished by her family and respected as a role model for all her kids.

A lifelong New Mexican with deep family roots in our state, Nancy represents the best of our state. The qualities she exemplified—love, compassion and empathy—are the qualities New Mexico strives toward each and every day. Our state is richer and fuller because Nancy taught us to love more, not less; to be selfless, not selfish, and to always remember that it is the people around us who make life worth living.

PROTECTING AMERICAN SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS FROM RUSSIAN EXPROPRIATION

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as we and our allies deal with the numerous problems caused by Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin, we should not lose sight of the 10-year legal battle against Putin's illegal expropriation of Yukos Oil Company. After Yukos was privatized and stock was sold to investors in the United States and Europe, Putin manufactured a spurious tax claim against Yukos and manipulated the Russian legal system to seize the company's assets, most of which were turned over to Rosneft, a Putin-allied oil company.

For 10 years, representatives of the 55,000 Yukos shareholders have pursued judgments against the Russian Federation and compensation for their financial losses. In July, 2014, this massive legal effort culminated in two judgments in European courts in favor of the claimants and against the Russian government.

In the first case, the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague ruled that the Russian government must pay $51.6 billion to the largest Yukos shareholder, GML, Ltd, for what the court found was Russia's illegal confiscation of Yukos.

In the second case, the European Court of Human Rights ruled that the Russian government must pay $2.5 billion in partial compensation to the Yukos shareholders who were registered owners of the company at the time of the illegal tax proceedings used to forcibly bankrupt Yukos.

In both cases, the Russian government has an opportunity to appeal the rulings. Moreover, Russia could simply refuse to comply with the compensation orders. However, the two court rulings, if upheld, hold the possibility that the Russian government will be compelled to make some compensation, through seizure of Russian assets that come within the jurisdiction of the European authorities.

Under Vladimir Putin, the Russian government unfortunately has taken major steps backwards and now must be considered a rogue regime. Perhaps the court actions in Europe in the Yukos case will contribute to the international effort to turn Russia back to a path of international cooperation and constructive behavior.

TRIBAL GENERAL WELFARE EXCLUSION ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to clarify a number of interpretive issues with regard to H.R. 3043 and the IRS guidance, Rev. Proc. 2014–35, that it generally codifies.

In passing this legislation, Congress expects IRS to apply its current guidance and any future guidance that it might issue to implement H.R. 3043 in a manner that does not impose significant administrative burdens on either a Nation or its members in administering the safe harbor programs. Thus, for example, we expect that a Nation may establish a program meeting the safe harbor program standards for the benefit of all of its members relying on certification and recoupment procedures.

Further, in applying the current guidance for prior periods, Congress expects that the IRS will not challenge arrangements that are consistent with the spirit of the guidance in terms of what payments are eligible and without regard to specific documentation and similar requirements imposed by the guidance.

Finally, with respect to the provision in H.R. 3043 suspending current audits and examinations, Congress intends that it apply to all payments and benefits from a tribal government to its members for their general welfare and further, that a tribal government may, at its option, waive suspension of its examination.

INSURANCE CAPITAL STANDARDS CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I oppose The Insurance Capital Standards Clarification Act of 2014 (H.R. 5461). While I support efforts to provide flexibility under the Dodd-Frank Act's Collins amendment by explicitly stating that regulators are not required to apply minimum leverage capital and risk-based capital requirements to firms with state-regulated insurance operations, this bill does more than that. It contains The Mortgage Choice Act of 2013, (H.R. 3211).

Mr. Speaker, as I stated during the hearing and the mark up on The Mortgage Choice Act of 2013 (H.R. 3211), there are serious concerns about steering consumers into buying title insurance with hidden commissions and inflated costs.

I bought two homes in my life. Like most homebuyers, I was asked to sign a bunch of papers with lots of fees such as origination charges, appraisal fees, scoring fees, recording charges, tax service fee and title insurance. Like most consumers, I chose my title insurance provider based on referral: I did not comparison shop.

For most of us, title insurance is the most expensive of the closing cost fees—sometimes running in the thousands of dollars. These fees are poorly understood by homebuyers. This can lead to paying higher fees than is necessary or appropriate.

When Congress passed the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, we required the newly created Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to do a better job at protecting consumers when buying a home.

We know that the housing finance system had too much predatory and discriminatory lending. African Americans and Latinos were frequently charged much higher interest rates than they qualified for. Homeowners were refinanced into high fee and interest rates they could not afford. The result was more than five million foreclosures and a colossal loss of wealth.

In response to the new law, the CFPB wrote rules to protect people buying homes from products which would strip their wealth. One of those rules defined a Qualified Mortgage (QM) standard which was established in Dodd-Frank. As part of that QM standard, the CFPB established a ''points and fees'' bright line limit for mortgages that qualified under the Ability to Repay provision.

The CFPB established a limit on ''points and fees''—which account for a loan's origination costs—that exceed 3 percent of the loan amount—although it can be up to 8 percent for lower cost homes. Because of concerns that the affiliated title insurance system was leading to higher costs for borrowers in a market based on reverse competition, the CFPB wisely chose to require title insurance charges from affiliated title agents be within the points and fees cap.

H.R. 3211 reverses the CFPB's decision.

By excluding affiliated title insurance firms from within the points and fees cap, H.R. 3211 restores an incentive to overcharge homebuyers.

We know how hard it is to get people into homes. Homebuyers need to save thousands of dollars for a downpayment. So why should we make it easier to let them get overcharged as much as a thousand or more dollars on title insurance? Some say that as much as half or more of a title insurance premium goes to the referral agent. Why would we want to preserve this practice of overpricing title insurance to fund referral commissions?

At the Financial Services hearing that included this bill, I requested that we hear from

independent land title agents as well as from groups like the Consumer Federation of America, the Center for Responsible Lending, Americans for Financial Reform and its 100 affiliates and the AFL–CIO.

I requested that the National Association of Independent Land Title Agents be invited to testify. I have heard concerns directly from title agents in my state that some referral sources ask to share ownership of their business. Since title insurance is based on referrals, when realtors, homebuilders and mortgage brokers refuse to provide referrals to a title agent firm, the firm may not be able to survive financially. Unfortunately, these independent unaffiliated title agents were not invited to testify nor was there another hearing on the bill.

Many organizations opposed the bill including the AFL–CIO, Alliance for a Just Society, Americans for Financial Reform, Center for Economic Justice, Center for Responsible Lending, Connecticut Fair Housing Center, Consumer Action, Consumer Federation of America, Consumers Union, Empire Justice Center, Home Defenders League, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, NAACP, National Association of Consumer Advocates, National Association of Independent Land Title Agents, National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low income clients), National Council of La Raza, National Fair Housing Alliance, New Economic Project, Public Citizen, Woodstock Institute and Center for Responsible Lending.

These concerns about hidden referral commissions are not hypothetical. Last month, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) fined RealtySouth, the largest real estate firm in Alabama for violations of the Real Estate Settlement and Practices Act (RESPA). RealtySouth improperly steered consumers to its affiliated firm, TitleSouth LLC. In addition, The CFPB has taken action against Borders & Borders PLC in Kentucky for funneling kickbacks to shell companies. In June, the CFPB fined Stonebridge Title Services in New Jersey for paying illegal kickbacks to referral sources.

Some who support H.R. 3211 say there are some fixed costs in lending that could result in lower valued mortgages to need to pay loans higher than the Qualified Mortgage guideline of points and fees established by smaller loans. However, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau already provided for flexible definitions based upon the amount of a borrower's mortgage:

3 percentage cap on a loan balance at $100,000 or greater, 5 percentage cap on a loan balance from $20,000.00 to $60,000, or 8 percentage cap on loan balances of less than $12,500.

Since the average mortgage origination fees are below one percent according to the Center for Responsible Lending, the caps set by the QM are appropriate. I have not seen any compelling evidence that shows that lenders will not make loans if the title premiums charged by their affiliates are included in the points and fees cap. Lenders are free to make loans outside the ability to repay rules as well.

I have also heard the proponents of H.R. 3211 arguing that the availability of affiliate service providers helps reduce the overall cost of obtaining a mortgage loan. I question their evidence. The 2010 Harris Interactive study paid by the National Association of Realtors is suspect. In that study, more than 70% of buyers "did not know" what an affiliate service provider provided or what benefit it allegedly gave.

By contrast, in 2013, The National Association of Independent Land Title Agents (NAILTA) commissioned the first-ever national settlement preference survey of American real estate consumers. More than 900 consumers participated in the nationwide survey. The results include:

93% of American real estate consumers surveyed said it was important that title insurance agents remain a neutral third party in the performance of title insurance-related services.

62% of American real estate consumers surveyed said that a title agency cannot remain objective if it is partially owned by a bank, real estate firm, mortgage company or homebuilder.

Only 1% of American real estate consumers surveyed prefer a "one stop shop".

For all the efficiencies that proponents assert existed prior to this new rule that provided a disincentive to refer homebuyers to controlled/affiliated title firms, settlement costs—exclusive of inflation—continue to rise. I believe the CFPB's rule could actually lower title insurance premiums and increase homeownership for Americans.

I have concerns about a market where people assert that half or more the cost of the product is a referral fee unlinked to the product itself Consumers and independent title insurance agents say that title insurance premiums can provide remuneration to the referral source based on the capture rate such as lower desk rental fees, bonuses, gifts or higher commissions. This should not be permitted.

I urge members to stand with homebuyers who want to understand all the fees they are charged.

I urge members to support a market free of pressures for referral commissions.

HONORING MEL B. O'REILLY

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mel B. O'Reilly for his dedicated work as a lawyer in New Mexico and tireless service to the Democratic Party of New Mexico.

From an early age Mel was a committed family member and disciplined individual. At the ripe age of 12, Mel's father fell ill which meant working extra shifts in the family restaurant and bar.

The extra hours he spent supporting his family meant less time for other activities and put a strain on Mel's attendance at morning chapel services. The parochial school's counselor, a monsignor, took notice and chastised Mel in front of his peers, called him a "barmaid" and threatened to expel him. Mel stood up to the monsignor and said: "There's no need to expel me, I'll quit school. I've got to go to work."

This hardship did not stop Mel's drive to succeed. He continued both working in the bar and studying, and during his senior year of high school, at 15 years old, Mel was ranked at the top of his class.

Still, none of colleges Mel applied to accepted him; he would later find out that the monsignor wrote to every school and told them to reject him. It was not until Mel took a trip with some friends to Long Island that Mel met a recruiter from St. Michael's College in Santa Fe, NM. That recruiter saw a bright young man in Mel, and St. Michael's College welcomed him with open arms, forever changing his life.

Mel would go on to graduate from St. Michael's College, and afterward from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 1971. That same year, Mel married Monica McCormick, daughter of Don G. McCormick, and moved to Carlsbad to join the late Mr. McCormick's law firm.

A few years later, Mel and Monica moved to Ruidoso where they raised twins, Colm and Dylan, and their youngest son, Brendan. Mel eventually opened his own law firm in Ruidoso in the late 70s. Mel practiced in all areas of law while in Ruidoso and developed an expertise in banking, commercial, corporate, real estate, and probate law.

In 1989, Mel and the family moved to Albuquerque where he set up his private practice working on everything from personal injury and wrongful death to contract and collection cases. It was in Albuquerque where Mel volunteered his legal services to the Democratic Party of New Mexico, and served as a longtime ward chairman and Democratic Party supporter. He served many roles, including Chair of the Democratic Party of New Mexico's Resolutions Committee, the Rules Committee, and the Platform and By-Laws Committee and respective committees for the Democratic Party of Bernalillo County.

A successful lawyer, community icon, and loving father—Mel is a talented man of courage and integrity. His character, love of life, enthusiasm and selflessness are felt by all who know him. As Mel enters retirement and reflects on his life and career, his proudest accomplishment is his family. He is very proud that he and his wife Monica raised three successful children: Dylan of Farmington and Brendan of Albuquerque who are both lawyers, and Colm who is an electrical engineer and renewable energy consultant living abroad.

I wish Mel all the best as he looks forward to traveling with Monica, diving with Colm, and spending time with Dylan and Brendan in his retirement. His achievements and accomplishments are truly remarkable. I join his family and friends in celebrating the contributions he made, throughout his life, to his family, his community, and the great State of New Mexico.

IN RECOGNITION OF SISTER SHIRLEY SAUNDERS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sister Shirley Ann Saunders as she celebrates her 25th anniversary as First Lady of North Stelton A.M.E. Church in Piscataway, NJ. Sister Shirley's service to the congregation and the Piscataway community will be honored as North Stelton A.M.E.'s Women's Day Celebration and is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

The wife of Pastor Kenneth L. Saunders, Sr., Sister Shirley has been an active member

of her faith for 37 years. She began her service to the church as a pastor's spouse and as the Youth Choir Director and the Young People's Division Director at Bright's Temple in Bermuda.

Currently, Sister Shirley serves as the Office Administrator of North Stelton A.M.E. Church, the Advisor for the Women's Ministry and the Anna Howard Missionary School. She is also the founder of the Shirley A. Saunders Praise Angels Liturgical Dance Ministry, which is named in her honor.

In addition to her roles within the North Stelton A.M.E. Church, Sister Shirley serves on the Board of Directors of the North Stelton Economic Development Corporation, as Vice President of KLS Positive Image, Inc. and as Executive Director of the Nubian Sisters for Christ Ministry, which she also founded.

Prior to her service in the church, Sister Shirley worked for Columbia Broadcasting Systems (CBS) in New York City and the College of Medicine and Dentistry Dental School in Newark. She is a graduate of Jersey City's Lincoln High School and Taylor Business Institute in New York City.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Sister Shirley Saunders on her 25 years of service to North Stelton A.M.E. Church.

RECOGNIZING DR. WILLIAM LAWSON

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. William Lawson for his work as the Dean of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science at Howard University. Dr. Lawson has published over eighty-five articles, books, and other publications involving mental illness and its relationship to psychopharmacology, substance abuse and racial and ethnic issues, and is also an outspoken advocate for access to services for the severely mentally ill.

Dr. Lawson received his bachelor's degree from Howard University, master's from the University of Virginia, Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of New Hampshire and his M.D. from the University of Chicago, completing his residency at Stanford University Medical Center.

He has been named one of ''America's Leading Black Doctors'' by Black Enterprise Magazine, was the Andrea Delgado Honoree and Lecturer for the Black Psychiatrists of America, received the Jeanne Spurlock Award, E.Y. Williams Clinical Scholar Distinction Award from the Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Section of the National Medical Association, a Multicultural Workplace Award from the Veterans Administration for his outstanding contribution to the advancement of diversity and multicultural understanding, recognized as a national mentor by the National Alliance of the Mentally Ill, numerous awards for excellence in teaching, and state, federal, and foundation support for pharmacological research new and effective treatments.

Dr. Lawson is boarded in Psychiatry and Neurology with added qualifications in Drug and Alcohol Addictions. He is also a fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, member of the Scientific Advisory Committee, National Depression and Manic Depressive Society, and on the boards of the DC Mental Health Association for the DC Alliance for the Mentally Ill. He is currently directing a $6.5 million contract with the National Institute of Mental Health Intramural Program to research Mood and Anxiety Disorders in African Americans and other minorities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. William Lawson for his extraordinary works in the field of Psychiatry.

IN TRIBUTE TO MARILYN BUEL

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a friend, Marilyn Buel of Essex, Connecticut.

When I was a freshman state legislator in Hartford a long time ago, Governor Bill O'Neill's Chief of Staff, Chad McCullom, called me in for a meeting. McCullom was an Irish politician straight out of central casting—a cigar-chomping, hard-bitten veteran. It was a contentious meeting, but after we worked out the issue, we shook hands and he said to me, ''the thing about this business, unlike other walks of life, is that you really get a chance to see inside of people. Sometimes what you see is not very pretty, and sometimes it can be quite inspiring.''

I recount this story because over the last 12 years, I had a chance to see inside Marilyn Buel due to our political struggles together. And what I saw was beautiful and exquisite.

Twice, Marilyn stood beside me when I ran as a challenger for the United States Congress. Running as a challenger for Congress is probably one of the lowest percentage gigs you can imagine. This felt especially true when I ran the second time. It was hard to convince friends and family that I even had a chance. I remember one couple sent me a mass card when I announced, and it included a prayer to St. Jude. As the Roman Catholics in this body can attest, St. Jude is the patron saint of lost causes—which did not give me a great warm feeling about people's confidence in my ability to win this race.

When I called Marilyn Buel though, her first reaction was, ''what took you so long?'' And from that point on, she immediately got to work for the next 2 years—working tirelessly on what turned out to be the closest race for Congress in the last 20 years. Marilyn was passionate about the cause and focused on making her greatest impact. In the Town of Essex where I ran and lost in 2002, the losing margin was 716 votes. In 2006, the year we won the total district by 83 votes, my losing margin in Essex was only nine. In a race that was decided by 83 votes, picking up a 707 vote swing from one race to another was a major deciding factor in my victory. Marilyn helped open the door for me in 2006, which I will never forget as long as I live.

The one time in office Marilyn called me about a vote, she asked me to cosponsor a bill which would provide for more visas to Iraqi interpreters who, as the US troops were being drawn down at the end of the conflict, were being left behind. What was so telling about her request is that there was probably no one I knew who was more passionately opposed to President Bush's decision to take us into the war in Iraq. Nonetheless, her opposition to the war did not blind her to the human consequences of people who were selflessly trying to help our troops communicate in a foreign environment.

Elie Wiesel famously said, ''The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference.'' During my time in elected office, I have had the privilege of meeting scores of political activists dedicated to changing our nation for the better. In my experience, however, no one embodies or personifies Wiesel's quote better than Marilyn Buel. She was always trying to improve her community, state, and nation, and never expected anything in return—except to be a part of the solution to our challenges, rather than complaining or being negative. I was privileged to have the benefit of her support and will never forget it as long as I live.

We lost Marilyn in August after a long and brave battle with cancer. On behalf of this entire House and my colleagues, I want to extend my deepest condolences to Dick, Elizabeth and her family for their loss. Connecticut will never be the same without Marilyn Buel.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF JAMES STEM

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. DENHAM to recognize Mr. James Stem to congratulate him as he celebrates 48 years of service to America's unions and railroads. James will be retiring as the national legislative director at the United Transportation Union (UTU). James' extraordinary career and service to our country deserve to be honored.

James was born on June 19, 1948, in Raleigh, North Carolina. His career in the railroad industry started early at the age of 18 when he became a trainman for the Seaboard Air Line Railroad and a member of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. James' interest in the union movement began early on in his career, and he quickly became active in Local 1129 in Raleigh.

By 1973, James worked part-time as a special UTU organizer, and two years later, was elected to be the secretary-treasurer of the Local 1129. He was also elected as a local chairperson and legislative representative. Because of his extensive background at the UTU, James served as delegate at five UTU international conventions from 1979 to 1995.

In 1984, James was elected as the North Carolina state legislative director. In 1998, with the necessary experience and knowledge, James was appointed the alternate national legislative director. He was then re-elected to that position at the UTU conventions in 1999, 2003, and 2007, and since 2009, James has served as the national legislative director.

Throughout his career, James held many positions including: trainman, switchman, hostler helper, hostler, fireman, and locomotive engineer. Additionally, he is a member of the original Positive Train Control Working Group

which is sponsored by the Federal Railroad Administration.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. DENHAM and I ask our colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize Mr. James A. Stem. The contributions he made to the United Transportation Union and the railroad industry deserve to be commended.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 150th Anniversary of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Redwood City, California. This congregation cherishes its diversity and welcomes anyone who wants to join its spiritual journey.

Father Giles Alexander Easton founded the church in 1864 a few months after he led the first Episcopal service in Redwood City in a room at the old county courthouse. He named the congregation after St. Peter's Church in Smyrna, Delaware, where he had been baptized and confirmed.

St. Peter's was the second church in Redwood City to organize and construct a church building. In 1867, the "Little Red Church" was built and became a landmark for six decades.

In the 20th century, as the population in Redwood City increased, the parish outgrew its building and moved to its current location at 178 Clinton Street. In 1925, the congregation built a parish hall that served as the church and a meeting space. In 1952, the sanctuary, offices and classrooms were added as the baby boom reached its peak. While many of the baby boomers are thinking about retirement now, the young generations continue to utilize St. Peter's buildings and grounds. The church houses a Montessori preschool, the Ragazzi Boys Choir and its own youth group.

Over the last 150 years Redwood City has changed dramatically. The railroad transformed a small logging port into a suburb, and the explosive growth of Silicon Valley turned the suburb into the hometown of many technology companies and their employees. This explosive growth has brought wealth to many residents, but it has also left some of them behind. Many families struggle with skyrocketing housing prices and rents, a high cost of living and job insecurity. One thing that has not changed in Redwood City is that the doors of St. Peter's Church are open to everyone.

The parish is proud to include people from all walks of life and of all ages. It is also very active in mentoring young people to give back to the community. St. Peter's has delivered hundreds of backpacks and uniforms to local schools, has served many meals and filled many "Hope Bags" for the homeless.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives rise with me to acknowledge the good that St. Peter's Episcopal Church has done over the last 150 years for its parishioners and the community at large. May it continue to share its welcoming spirit for at least another 150 years.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRIENDSHIP INDUSTRIES, INC.

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, Friendship Industries, Inc. in Harrisonburg, Virginia has served the Commonwealth of Virginia well by offering employment and training opportunities for individuals with disabilities. With a vision of providing "work opportunities to ensure immediate and full employment for all persons with disabilities" who come to them for assistance, Friendship Industries has fostered a community that seeks to value all individuals, regardless of the challenges they may face.

Friendship Industries, founded in 1964, became one of the first social enterprises in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. What first began as the Linville-Edom Sheltered Workshop for post-high school aged males has grown and flourished into a manufacturing company that has earned both private and public contracts. Through all this growth and change, Friendship Industries has retained its social mission of developing and maintaining employment and training opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

I applaud Friendship Industries for its contributions to our community. For 50 years now, the business has provided work opportunities for individuals living with disabilities, embracing the sentiment that "work offers community and belonging." It is an honorable goal to extend community and belonging to all people, and it is my great pleasure to congratulate them and celebrate the work they've done to achieve that goal.

Friendship Industries, Inc. will commemorate their 50th anniversary on October 7, 2014. I am pleased to recognize them here today in the United States House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING 2014 MISSOURIAN AWARD RECIPIENTS JIM GIGLIO, CLIF SMART, AND TOM STRONG

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jim Giglio, Clif Smart, and Tom Strong on receiving the 2014 Missourian Award.

The Missourian Award recognizes Missourians who have positively impacted their communities, state, or nation through contributions in civics, arts, business, or politics.

It is important that we strive to better the community we live in and it is apparent that these three men from Missouri's 7th Congressional District have continually done that.

Jim Giglio served as an officer in the U.S. Army and taught at Missouri State University for 39 years. He has produced eight books, including one of my favorites 'Call Me Tom: The Life of Thomas F. Eagleton,' along with the best seller out of the series on the study of John F. Kennedy in the American Presidency Series.

Since Clif Smart joined the Missouri State University community in 2007, he has not stopped working to better the school. When he became president in 2012, he immediately started to make new changes that would benefit the college and its students. Under President Smart, Missouri State University has met all five of its performance measures established by the Missouri Coordination Board of Higher Education and oversaw many improvements to the campus.

Tom Strong founded Strong, Garner, Bauer P.C. in 1976 and is admitted to practice law in front of the Supreme Court of the United States. The Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys awards the Thomas G. Strong Trial Attorney Award in his name to the attorney who is a great example of what a trial lawyer should be. He also authored a book that I thoroughly enjoyed titled 'Strong Advocate: The Life of a Trial Lawyer.'

I am proud of the initiative these three individuals have taken to make the great state of Missouri the best it can be. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this tremendous honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF JEANNE FOX

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeanne Fox on her retirement from the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. Commissioner Fox is a dedicated public servant whose numerous achievements should be celebrated.

Commissioner Fox has been an outstanding advocate for environmental causes. She served as President of the Board of Public Utilities from 2002 until 2010 and served two terms as Commissioner. Prior to her positions at the Board, Commissioner Fox served as Regional Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and as Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy. During her tenure as President of the Board of Public Utilities, the Board received several environmental awards, including the Golden Meter Award for Best Statewide Net Metering Program in the U.S. and the Network for New Energy Choices Award.

Additionally, Commissioner Fox has also been an active member of a number of environmental organizations and commissions. She served on the Board of Directors of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative from 2003 until 2010, was President of the Mid-Atlantic Conference of Regulatory Utilities Commissioners and was a member of the Advisory Council to the Board of Directors of the Electric Power Research Institute, among others.

Commissioner Fox is a graduate of Rutgers University, earning her Bachelor's Degree from Douglass College and Juris Doctor from Rutgers University School of Law.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Jeanne Fox on her retirement. Her commitment to public service and the betterment of our communities is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK HALL

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jack Hall, who passed away on August 20, 2014 at the age of 57 after a short battle with cancer. Jack made a positive difference in the lives of countless individuals, and he will undoubtedly be missed by many.

In 1957, Jack was born to Bill and Maureen in Cork, Ireland. When Jack was a year old, his family immigrated to the United States. After living in Los Angeles and Firebaugh, Jack's family settled in Fresno, California where he graduated from Bullard High School in 1975.

After graduating from high school, Jack worked with his father for a farming operation in Firebaugh. He then worked at an accountancy firm before serving as a fiscal analyst for the State Center Community College District. In 1999, Jack received his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from California State University, Fresno.

Jack's career in politics began in 2000 when he was hired to serve as the Director of the Central Valley and Agricultural Liaison for Governor Gray Davis. During his tenure with the Governor's office, Jack helped to create the ''Buy California'' marketing program which later became known as the ''Californian Grown'' initiative.

When Governor Davis left office, Jack served as my first District Director. During his time, he was instrumental in establishing the offices in California's 20th Congressional District. He was an exemplary employee who truly cared about the San Joaquin Valley and our entire nation.

Upon his departure from my office, Jack served as the Southern California Regional Coordinator for the Alliance for a Better California. In addition, he served as the Statewide Political Director for the California Faculty Association. Jack also served on the Big Fresno Fair board, and he created his own firm, Central Valley Strategies.

In January 2010, Jack began working as a regional Director of Governmental Affairs for Comcast Cable. He served as Chairman of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. Jack was well respected by community leaders, his colleagues, and many friends.

More important than his career in politics, Jack's family meant everything to him. He was a devoted husband to his wife, Christina, with whom he had two children: Liam and Rachel. He was a dedicated father who always took the time to attend his children's athletic events from their days in youth leagues through their collegiate careers. He is survived by his wife and children, as well as his mother, Maureen, his siblings: Patricia, Anne, Kevin, Tom, Bill, and Vince, and many loving nieces, nephews, cousins, and in-laws.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Jack Hall. His service to our community and fun-loving spirit will always be remembered.

GEORGIA INDUSTRIES FOR THE BLIND

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, as we prepare to observe National Disability Employment Month this October, I am honored to recognize Georgia Industries for the Blind (GIB). GIB works in partnership with the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency to generate employment opportunities throughout Georgia in manufacturing and services for people who are blind. It is appropriate, at this, time to reflect on and celebrate their achievements.

There remains a significant gap in employment for those with disabilities. Today, nearly seventy percent of workforce-eligible blind individuals remain unemployed.

GIB has helped bridge the employment gap for blind individuals in Georgia since it began in 1949 by providing good jobs in manufacturing and service industries. They currently have four centers in Georgia that employ nearly 200 people, most of whom are blind, and generate over $12 million in annual sales. Furthermore, GIB was presented with the Commissioner's Cup Safety Award for 2013, a distinction considered to be the top workplace safety award in the State of Georgia.

GIB demonstrates the importance of having an inclusive workforce. Their business success is not only measured in sales and awards, but also in changed lives by affording opportunities to those with disabilities. It is important for us to raise awareness regarding disability employment and the inherent value that employing those with disabilities brings to the workplace.

Mr. Speaker, please join me, on behalf of Georgia's Eighth Congressional District, in recognizing GIB for its strong work and contributions to Georgia.

WISHING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA A HAPPY DOUBLE TEN

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Republic of China, commonly called Taiwan, on its upcoming National Day of the Republic of China on October 10, 2014.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, which has facilitated a special relationship between the United States and Taiwan. Since 1979, we have enjoyed close security cooperation, culture exchange and trade flows. The economies of the U.S. and Taiwan are tightly linked, and Taiwan has been an important trading partner to the United States.

I would also like to recognize the accomplishments of President Ma Ying-jeou in contributing to peace and security in the region. During his presidency, Taiwan and Mainland China have had constructive dialogue between their leaders. I hope that this dialogue will continue.

As a member of the Taiwan Caucus, I have had the opportunity to learn much more about the amazing country that is Taiwan. As a beacon of freedom and democracy in the global community, I look forward to continuing to work with Taiwan to strengthen our friendship and alliance.

I wish the people of Taiwan a happy Double Ten, and I yield back the balance of my time.

IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL PARENTS CORPS ACT OF 2014

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the National Parents Corps Act of 2014. I am proud to author this legislation which intends to combat youth violence and substance abuse in our country's schools.

The National Parents Corps Act aims to continue the successful National Parents Corps program first initiated in 2003. The bill revitalizes a program which trains parent leaders to collaborate with schools, students, and the community in order to proactively work together in deterring and reducing alcohol and drug abuse, bullying, gang involvement, and other dangerous activities.

The program targets middle school students and creates a collaborative network to recognize and respond to dangerous trends in the most susceptible school-age population—middle school. Professionally-trained parent leaders will build critical networks between students, parents, teachers, administrators, local law enforcement, and the community. They will develop prevention programs, share scientific research, best practices, and create spaces of open dialogue and targeted action.

Mr. Speaker, I have always stood for investing in children and for peaceful communities, which is why I am reintroducing this legislation. No child should live his or her life in fear or marked by drugs and violence. This bill responds to a clear need, with a targeted and effective approach, and I hope all of my colleagues will join this common-sense effort to support healthy, safe, schools.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO JAZZ OF GERI ALLEN

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, jazz artist Geri Allen will be honored this year by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) at the Jazz Forum and Concert during the 44th Annual Legislative Conference (ALC). Ms. Allen is an internationally renowned pianist, composer, and educator, who will also be performing at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, in Washington, D.C. Ms. Allen will receive the 2014 CBCF ALC Jazz Legacy Award for her contributions to jazz and world culture.

Geri Allen was born on June 12, 1957 in Pontiac, Michigan, but she was raised in Detroit, where she attended Detroit public schools. Her early music education came at Cass Technical High School in Detroit, and

through the Jazz Development Workshop, where she was taught by Marcus Belgrave.

She then came to Washington, D.C., where she received a degree from Howard University in Jazz Studies in 1979. At Howard, she studied under composers Thomas Kerr, pianists Raymond Jackson, John Malichi, Fred Irby, Arthur Dawkins, and Komla Amoaku. She then left D.C. for New York City, where she learned from bop pianist Kenny Barron. She then moved on to study ethnomusicology at the University of Pittsburgh, earning her masters there. She returned to New York, where she began touring with Mary Wilson and the Supremes in 1982. She later helped charter the Black Rock Coalition and the Brooklyn M-Base movement. She would collaborate on several works with a fellow charter member of that group, Steve Coleman.

Her own albums have displayed a depth of range and skill. Her first album, The Printmakers, displays what many have called an avant-garde talent. In 1995, her album Twenty-One, won the Soul Train's Lady of Soul Award for album of the year. In 2008, Ms. Allen won a Guggenheim Fellowship in Composition, which allowed her to release her composition Refractions: Flying Toward the Sound, which celebrates the work of Cecil Taylor, McCoy Tyner, and Herbie Hancock. She is the youngest person and the only woman to receive the Danish JAZZPAR award.

In addition to the massive number of awards she has received, which are simply too numerous to mention here, Ms. Allen has also been a remarkable mentor to younger jazz musicians. One example of such efforts is found in the powerful For the Healing of the Nations, a tribute to the survivors of 9/11, which was performed with Howard University's Afro-Blue Jazz Choir. In addition to her work with her alma mater, she has been a professional educator for many years, having taught jazz at the University of Michigan, and presently at the University of Pittsburgh.

Despite this list of accomplishments, she has yet to slow down and take a break. She recently released a recording celebrating our collective home town: Grand River Crossings: Motown & Motor City Inspirations. On May 10, 2014, she received an Honorary Doctorate of Music from the Berklee College of Music.

Geri Allen is a living national jazz treasure, and I encourage my colleagues to learn more about her tremendous contributions to the most American of art forms.

RECOGNIZING SUNSHINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sunshine Elementary School's sesquicentennial.

On October 24th, Sunshine Elementary School will celebrate 150 years of providing the children of Springfield, Missouri, with an outstanding education. Sunshine Elementary has always striven to provide children with the tools and skills necessary for them to be successful in life.

Though many changes have occurred in the past 150 years, one thing has remained constant, and that is the dedication of Sunshine Elementary faculty and staff to their students. Past and current faculty and staff have contributed long hours of committed service in providing each Sunshine Elementary student with the best education possible.

Sunshine Elementary would not be nearly as successful without the help and support provided by the surrounding Springfield community. Its strong ties to the neighborhood have allowed parents and faculty to work closely together, creating an environment especially conducive to learning and success.

Sunshine Elementary started out as a one-room building 150 years ago and over the years has grown into a great elementary school for Springfield students.

I congratulate Sunshine Elementary School as the school celebrates 150 years.

LWCF AND WILDERNESS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of two of our country's most transformational conservation laws, the Wilderness Act and the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act.

Earlier this month I celebrated the Anniversary of LWCF and the Wilderness Act at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey. This area was the first wilderness established within the Department of the Interior following the passage of the Wilderness Act.

LWCF money has also contributed to the preservation of the Great Swamp, and in fact LWCF money totaling more than 400 million dollars has come to New Jersey. In other states around the country the LWCF has contributed even more.

I, along with Secretary Jewell and many members of Congress, have advocated making permanent full funding for the LWCF. We must remember that over 50 years, in only ONE year has the LWCF received the full authorized funding. The idea was to take revenues from depleted resources, in other words from off shore oil drilling and mineral extraction, and use that to preserve other resources, land.

Ecologists have made it especially clear in recent years that we really must have interlocking tracts of land, what Frederick Law Olmstead called emerald necklaces, across the country. It is not enough to protect only isolated places; that is not enough for migrating species and even plant communities, who must interact over long distances.

Wilderness is important for so many reasons. Wilderness provides more than simply beautiful vistas, it is how nature heals herself and it is critically important for human well-being. What we forget is that preserving only a few headliner areas is insufficient. And that is why Congress really must reauthorize and fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund because it is critically important to this whole picture.

One of my proudest moments in my now 16 year career in congress was in the early months in office when some of us junior members managed to revive the state side matching program, of the LWCF the landslide conservation program.

It certainly was a proud moment and since then I have led an annual effort to fund the LWCF.

This year 170 members of congress joined me in a letter to appropriators to provide funding for the LWCF. But it is not enough if we don't reauthorize it now and provide full finding.

This Congress I am also proud to be the sponsor of two wilderness bills of national importance, the Udall-Eisenhower Artic Wilderness Act, to permanently designate the Arctic Refuge Coastal Plain as wilderness, and the Red Rocks Wilderness Act, to protect as wilderness Utah's Red Rocks area.

We're going to get these bills passed one way or another, we must. It is so important, not just because of the naturalness that is preserved, but because of what it says about our country.

The Wilderness Act, when Hubert Humphrey and others introduced it, sat around on the legislative agenda for years—Congress after congress. It was the support of citizen activists that created the momentum necessary to pass The Wilderness Act. And it will be the work of activists like those with the Alaska Wilderness League, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, and the Wilderness Society that will continue to work for the passage of wilderness bills.

The Wilderness Act provides some of the strongest land protections in the world by recognizing wilderness areas as where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by humans, where humans ourselves are visitors who do not remain.

From the Great Swamp Wilderness in New Jersey to the Arctic Refuge in Alaska—wilderness is essential to safeguard our nation's most wild and beautiful areas, not simply to preserve beautiful scenery, but to give nature the necessary resilience to sustain itself, and also to give humans places to renew and master ourselves.

IN RECOGNITION OF ST. JOHN A.M.E. CHURCH'S 144TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church in Columbus, Georgia as the church's membership and leadership celebrates a remarkable 144 years. St. John A.M.E. Church will usher in this milestone with a celebration, aptly named ''Stung By The Spirit,'' and a day of service on Sunday, September 21, 2014.

St. John A.M.E. Church was founded as St. John's Chapel in 1870 and was located on Fifth Avenue in Columbus. Reverend John G. Mitchell served as the first faith leader to the founding congregation, a dynamic group of faithful and steadfast Reconstruction-era Christians who helped bring the church to life.

The church grew and evolved over the next century and on September 30, 1980, it was

placed on the list of National Historic Buildings. This honor was attributed to the church's Victorian Gothic architectural design, the melodious bell in the steeple towering over the brilliant stained glass windows, and its long and storied history.

Unfortunately, hardship struck on February 10, 1990, when a tornado swept through the community and severely damaged the church. As plans were drawn to restore the building, a second tornado created further damage to the structure on February 22, 1990. In a demonstration of compassion and unity, a great number of nearby churches opened their doors to the members of St. John. Reverend Elijah Smith, alongside other officers and the congregation, accepted the generous invitation extended to them by the Reverend Eugene Adams, Jr. from the nearby Saint James A.M.E. Church.

Eventually, the members of the St. John family made the decision to relocate and build a new church on Steam Mill Road in Columbus. The grand opening ceremony for the new location took place on September 2, 1991.

While the original location of the church is no longer in service, its members still consider that first edifice near and dear to their hearts. Thankfully, certain items, such as the stained glass windows, brass railings, and various pieces of furniture, were salvaged from the original location and artfully incorporated into the new church.

The story of St. John A.M.E. and its long history of coming together through the good and difficult times is truly an inspiring one of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful congregation of people who put all their love and trust in the Lord. Today, the church continues to flourish under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Debora F. Grant.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church on its 144 remarkable years of worship and service in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF IRONWORKERS LOCAL UNION 155

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ironworkers Local Union 155 (Local 155) organization in celebration of their 100th anniversary.

On March 11, 1914, the Local 155 came into existence. The Local 155 was founded by great visionaries who saw an opportunity to extend the services of a Local Union to the Central Valley. Starting off from humble beginnings with just a mere $28.50 in their general fund, the Local 155 has grown into a leader in the ironworker industry for not only California's Central Valley but also in parts of Nevada.

The Local 155 attributes much of their success to the founding fathers of the union. Their first president, L.R. Boltinghouse, Financial Secretary, Paul Kidd, and Recording Secretary, T.F. Harrigan all took the risk and responsibility of starting a Local Union. Their efforts paved the way for many more officers and workers to follow in their footsteps and become a part of the Local 155.

The Local 155 is a union which works to enrich the lives of residents in the Central Valley. They have proudly served the Fresno area and have made outstanding strides for the local economy. Although the Local 155 has battled some tough times, they always continue on with impressive resiliency. In addition, they have made great progress to improve the working conditions and wages for ironworkers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Ironworkers Local Union 155 in celebration of the 100th Anniversary. I would like to thank them for their service in the Central Valley and wish them many more years of success.

PERIPHERAL AUTOIMMUNE NEUROPATHIES AWARENESS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to rare and serious autoimmune neuropathies such as Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS), Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP), Multifocal Motor Neuropathy (MMN), and related conditions. These diseases cause the body's immune system to attack healthy organs and tissues. In the case of conditions like GBS, CIDP, and MMN, the immune system attacks the body's peripheral nervous system.

As we find with so many ailments, awareness, recognition, and an early and accurate diagnosis are key to mitigating the serious health consequences of peripheral autoimmune neuropathies. The earlier treatment begins, the better the prognosis for the affected individual. These conditions can be progressive, and any delays in medical intervention can result in the patient being completely immobilized and using a ventilator to breathe, with the potential for residual damage and disability. Essentially, the more damage that is done to the nervous system, the longer it takes to heal.

According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), symptoms are related to the type of affected nerve and may be seen over a period of days, weeks, or years. Muscle weakness is the most common symptom of motor nerve damage. Other symptoms may include painful cramps and uncontrolled muscle twitching visible under the skin, muscle loss, bone degeneration, and changes in the skin, hair, and nails. NIH plays a crucial role in the effort to combat these conditions, as treatment options are limited and diagnosis can be difficult. While there are many known triggers for the conditions, the underlying causes have yet to be defined. Investment in medical research and scientific innovation is needed to identify the root cause of these conditions and to improve the lives of affected individuals.

This October, the GBS/CIDP Foundation International is coordinating the 13th International Symposium on GBS, CIDP, MMN, and related conditions. This event will bring leading scientific minds, patients, and other stakeholders together with the goal of advancing our understanding of these conditions and improving care for affected individuals. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this community's ongoing effort to raise awareness and advance medical research. We extend our sincerest gratitude and strong support as these dedicated individuals come together to collectively reach toward knowledge, cures, and the promise of healthier lives for all.

RECOGNIZING ARROWHEAD BUILDING SUPPLY, INC.

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arrowhead Building Supply, Inc. on receiving the Small Business of the Year award presented by the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce.

Arrowhead Building Supply, Inc. arrived in the Branson area four years ago and has made its mission to develop relationships and trust in the community. Arrowhead prides itself on integrity, a principle that has helped it fit in well with the Branson community.

With services like same day delivery, roofing recycling bins, and job lockers, Arrowhead provides value that other suppliers simply cannot match. Arrowhead designs and builds all of its own delivery equipment, job lockers, and shingling recycling bins. Manufacturing its own products allows it to save time and service more customers in a day.

Arrowhead has gone above and beyond to become a part of the Branson community and we are lucky to have it and the outstanding services it provides to customers.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Arrowhead Building Supply, Inc. on receiving the Small Business of the Year award.

PROMOTING JOB CREATION AND REDUCING SMALL BUSINESS BURDENS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I oppose The Promoting Job Creation and Reducing Small Business Burdens Act, (H.R. 5405). This bill contains 11 separate bills some of which I support and some I oppose. This legislation contains a number of potentially significant deregulatory measures, many of which are being addressed by regulatory action by the Securities and Exchange Commission and Commodities Futures Trading Commission. These bills stop those productive efforts replacing them with sweeping deregulation which I think is worse for investors and the economy.

I specifically wish to draw attention to my concerns with The Small Company Disclosure Simplification Act (H.R. 4164)—Title VII of this bill. This bill would exempt nearly 60 percent of public companies from complying with the EXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) requirement. XBRL is an improvement the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) started in 2009 to enable more efficient investing, especially investing in smaller firms. Instead of investors, the public and regulators

reading and analyzing reams of paper filings, the market would be brought into the 21st Century with a searchable electronic database. Clearly, a searchable electronic database on companies' financial statements is much more efficient than requiring investors read reams and reams of documents.

When this bill came before the Financial Services Committee on March 14, 2014, I voted yes on this bill. I was concerned that the SEC was not paying adequate attention to ensure the accuracy of the XBRL database. Since that vote, the SEC has started enforcing the accuracy of the XBRL data format. The SEC sent out letters in July, 2014, to many firms urging they correct inaccurate reporting. The SEC action and my own research into the need for accessible corporate financial information to grow companies has made me oppose this broad exemption.

Congress should encourage, not discourage the move toward data-based financial reporting. An expansion of structured data enable investors to make better and faster decisions, especially related to smaller firms; strengthens the SEC's oversight ability and makes it easier to discover fraud and simplifies compliance responsibilities for firms.

More progress is still needed at the SEC. The agency still collects the same financial statement from each public company twice—once as a document and again as XBRL data. And last July's letters were only a start. To make disclosures more useful to investors and less burdensome to companies, the agency must continue to improve data quality and must combine the two submissions into one. The Small Company Disclosure Simplification Act would prevent the SEC from ever taking these steps. If the agency is legally required to collect only documents, not XBRL data, from a majority of public companies, it will be unable to continue, and complete, the transformation that it began in 2009.

I submit a blog post from the Data Transparency Coalition detailing the ramifications of H.R. 5405 on data transparency.

[From http://datacoalition.blogspot.com/2014/09/new-proposal-includes-xbrl-exemption.html]

NEW PROPOSAL INCLUDES XBRL EXEMPTION—AND MAJOR SETBACK FOR OPEN DATA

(Data Transparency Coalition; September 10, 2014)

The Data Transparency Coalition advocates on behalf of the private sector and the public interest for the publication of government information as standardized, machine-readable data.

UPDATE: ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2014, H.R. 5405 PASSED THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BY A VOTE OF 320 TO 102.

A major setback for open government data may be on the agenda for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Despite the opposition of the tech industry, Rep Robert Hurt's proposal to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to stop collecting financial data from most public companies has been included as part of a new legislative package—a new bill introduced on Monday, Sept. 8, by Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick and a number of other Republican members.

The new bill, H.R. 5405, brings together ten previous bills into a single one. One of those ten is Rep. Hurt's previous proposal, included in the new bill verbatim. Judging from the urgency of the current House schedule, H.R. 5405 could see action by the House of Representatives as early as next week.

Nine out of the ten bills included in H.R. 5405 have already been approved, as standalone bills, by bipartisan majorities in either the Financial Services Committee or the full House. (The Financial Services Committee passed Rep. Hurt's original bill in March 2014.) So it seems clear that the backers of H.R. 5405 want to craft a bill that will pass the House easily, without serious opposition.

H.R. 5405's introduction conveys that the bill is non-controversial by stating three innocuous purposes:

To make technical corrections to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, to enhance the ability of small and emerging growth companies to access capital through public and private markets, to reduce regulatory burdens . . .

But H.R. 5405, if approved by the House, introduced and passed in the Senate, and signed into law by President Obama, will dramatically restrict the availability of searchable corporate financial data to investors—and to the tech companies building investment tools.

Supporters of open data in financial regulatory reporting will remember that the SEC collects an open data version of each financial statement in the eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) structured data format, alongside the old-fashioned plain-text version, from every public company registered in the United States. Investors, markets, and the public can use the XBRL version of each financial statement to create a fully searchable data set of all U.S. public company databases. XBRL data supports free tools for investors like RankandFiled.com. It is also used by infomediaries like Morningstar and Thomson Reuters to enrich the information they deliver to paying clients.

Rep. Hurt's proposal, now incorporated into H.R. 5405, would direct the SEC to exempt all public companies with revenues below $250 million—a majority of public companies—from the obligation to file an open data version. Supporters of the exemption claim that XBRL-formatted financial statements cost ''tens of thousands of dollars'' to create, but Financial Executive International found a median annual cost of $2,000 for small companies (page 19) and some providers offer XBRL preparation services at even lower prices.

Supporters of the exemption had one valid point last spring: at that time, the SEC had not taken any steps to ensure the quality of the XBRL filings. Without assurance that the open data versions of financial statements were reliable, investors were reluctant to use them, and relied on the plain-text versions instead. But last summer, after a year of advocacy from open data allies in Congress, the SEC took its first public steps toward enforcing better data quality. As quality improves, investors and the tech companies serving them will make more use of the open data financial statements.

The companies themselves will benefit, too. Open, structured data delivers information more efficiently to the markets, which makes it easier for smaller companies to find eager investors and brings down their capital costs.

H.R. 5405 would cut off such progress by forcing the SEC to use documents, not open data, to collect corporate financial information.

Fans of open data should make their opposition to this portion of H.R. 5405 known.

A TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF KATHRYN CARANLIK SIMON

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a precious friend and an extraordinarily accomplished and loving woman, Kathryn Caranlik Simon, who died on September 17, 2014, at the age of 62.

A native of San Francisco and raised in South San Francisco, Kathy owned her own public affairs consulting business through which she worked as a community relations strategist, building and winning public support and approval of several high-profile projects. She played an instrumental role in several prominent San Francisco Peninsula development projects, including the Bay Meadows residential and retail complex in San Mateo, the IKEA store in East Palo Alto and the substantial renovation of Sequoia Hospital in Redwood City.

A graduate of Skyline College in San Bruno and San Jose State University, where she obtained a Bachelor's degree in public relations, Kathy Simon began her career at Ampex in Redwood City, worked at Shaklee Corp. in Emeryville, and for local public relations agencies before launching her own public affairs consulting business, Simon Communications.

Through her firm she partnered with other leading consultants specializing in strategic communications with residents to win support and approval for many of the Peninsula's high-profile, and often controversial, projects. She also was a key campaign advisor and communications strategist for local elected officials.

Diagnosed with breast cancer in 1991, Kathy was among the organizers of the Community Breast Health Project, a Palo Alto-based organization dedicated to providing information, treatment options and mammograms to breast cancer patients. The group recently expanded its charter to other cancers and was recently renamed Bay Area Cancer Connections.

Active in the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Cross in Belmont, Ms. Simon was a member of the Board of Directors of Philoptochos, a women's organization that engages in community-based charitable works.

A resident of Redwood City for more than three decades, Ms. Simon is survived by her lifelong love, her husband, Mark, an executive with a local transit agency; her sons, David of New York City and Alex of Redwood City; her daughter-in-law, Jeanette O'Donoghue Simon; two granddaughters, Dylan Rose Simon and Sloane Kathryn Simon; two sisters, Elaine Adams of Santa Cruz and Beverly Heppler of Concord; and many nieces and nephews.

Kathy Simon's beloved husband Mark perfectly captured the essence of Kathy in his description of her as a woman of extraordinary courage, with an unstinting heart of gold and a fierce and proud love for her family and friends. I consider myself deeply privileged to have known Kathy and to have called her my friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our most sincere condolences to the Simon family. Kathy Simon was a special person who has been taken from us too soon, but her life was a gift to each person who had

the privilege to know her. Our community and our country were blessed and strengthened by her time with us.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ED RONTELL

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Eddie Rontell, who passed away on August 20, 2014, at the age of 88. Ed's family and friends as well as community members throughout Fresno will miss him dearly as he dedicated much of his life to the revitalization and wellbeing of the city.

Born in Fresno, California, Ed was the son of Italian immigrants and grew up during the Great Depression. Forced to drop out of Washington Union High School upon his father's death, Ed worked a number of jobs including time spent as a farm laborer and a fireman. Eventually, Ed founded an Auto Shop which he used to launch his lifelong career as a car dealer.

Ed was an honest businessman who often earned the loyalty of his customers for generations. Ed used the money he earned to help those in need. He was an anonymous donor to hundreds of charities throughout the state. Additionally, Ed spent much of his own free time volunteering with local non-profits including the Northern California Cancer Program, the Fresno Metropolitan Museum development board, the Fresno Community Hospital board, the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, the San Joaquin College of Law board, the Fresno Downtown Club, the UC Valley Medical Education Foundation, CaP CURE Prostate Cancer Foundation, and the Rotary Club of Fresno.

Ed was a friend of the late Bishop Steinbock and played a major role in the renovation of St. John's Cathedral. It was a project that Ed, a faithful Catholic who attended mass every morning, was very proud of.

Ed was also a devoted family man. He was a devoted husband to his wife, Margie; a proud father to his five children, Cathie, Eddie, Steve, Marilyn, and Carol; and a loving grandfather to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to honor the life of Ed Rontell. He will be greatly missed, but his dedication to those around him will never be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING DIANE REHM

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Diane Rehm, who this week is observing 35 years in the District of Columbia at the public radio station, WAMU, where she has provided outstanding service to listeners in the District of Columbia, the national capital region, and the nation.

For more than three decades, Diane has been among the nation's most prominent radio hosts. Her reputation for welcoming all sides of every issue has allowed her to attract some of the nation's most influential guests and made her program one of the most popular in radio.

Diane Rehm, a native Washingtonian, began her career as an assistant producer at WAMU before becoming an award-winning journalist. In 1979, Diane became the host of WAMU's local morning talk show, ''Kaleidoscope.'' She grew the show until it was inevitably renamed ''The Diane Rehm Show,'' today with nearly 2.6 million weekly listeners across the country.

Among Diane's many accomplishments are her National Humanities Medal awarded by President Obama, and her George Foster Personal Peabody Award, one of the oldest and most prestigious awards in broadcasting. Diane is also a celebrated writer, authoring three best-selling autobiographical books: Finding My Voice, Toward Commitment: A Dialogue about Marriage, and Life With Maxi.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that most Members of Congress are familiar with Diane's excellence from hearing her program here in the nation's capital or at home. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Diane Rehm for 35 years of extraordinary contributions to the nation with ''The Diane Rehm Show'' and to wish her many more years of broadcast history.

RECOGNIZING THE CRISIS CENTER

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Crisis Center on receiving the Charity of the Year award presented by the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Crisis Center was first established in 1990 for the purpose of providing safe shelter, support, and advocacy for victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. Since its establishment, the Crisis Center has grown to be able to accommodate up to 40 women and children at one time.

The Crisis Center provides a large number of invaluable services to victims such as support groups, counseling, case management, crisis intervention, court advocacy and a 24-hour crisis hotline. It is the only non-profit in the area that provides such services, and all free of charge. The Crisis Center shelters an average of 300 women, men and children each year, and also provides services to 700 non-resident women, men and children.

As a member of the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and its Board of Directors for the past 15 years, the Crisis Center has become involved with many other organizations that share its vision for providing a community based response to eliminating domestic and sexual abuse.

The services provided by the Crisis Center have greatly helped to make Branson a safer and happier community over the past 24 years.

I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Crisis Center on receiving the Charity of the Year award.

RECOGNIZING ''ONE GRATEFUL MINUTE''

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of ''One Grateful Minute'', which will be observed at noon on September 21, 2014, for a period of sixty seconds in conjunction with World Gratitude Day and the United Nations World Peace Day.

With all that is going on in our world it is important for us to take this one minute out of our day to reflect and express gratitude for all that we have. This global initiative will allow us to all come together in shared gratitude and appreciation for all that is good in our lives.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize the ''One Grateful Minute'' initiative on September 21, and the positive impact that gratitude can have on our lives.

BOYS TOWN CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2866, The Boys Town Centennial Commemorative Coin Act. This legislation will create a coin to honor Boys Town's longstanding commitment to the needs of at-risk children and struggling families in communities across America.

Driven by the belief that every child deserves the opportunity to succeed, Boys Town serves children of every race, color, and religion. In my district, South Florida Boys Town provides incredible opportunities to help children achieve success and pursue their dreams.

I am pleased to honor Boys Town and I urge my colleagues to vote for this legislation and I yield back my time.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TIBURCIO VASQUEZ GRAND OPENING IN SAN LEANDRO

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the construction of Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center's (TVHC) state-of-the-art community health center in San Leandro. September 20, 2014, marks the grand opening of this new facility and the center's first health fair.

For over 41 years since its founding in 1971, TVHC has delivered culturally and linguistically appropriate health care services to residents of southern Alameda County. The need is undeniable, and in 2011, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated that over 195,000 Alameda County residents were uninsured.

The unincorporated areas of Ashland and Cherryland, where the new TVHC facility

stands, has the lowest life expectancy rate and the highest rates of teen pregnancy, diabetes, stroke and cancer in Alameda County.

The new TVHC facility answers the evident need for affordable medical and social services in the area. TVHC is now uniquely positioned to ensure every resident has access to quality service, advocacy, and community empowerment.

The new health center continues the TVHC tradition of delivering free and low-cost care with the dignity and respect that every patient deserves. The two-story, 20,000 square foot healthcare facility is equipped to serve 7,200 new patients and will employ 81 professional and administrative staff. This all-inclusive site will serve patients in family practice, women's health and pediatric specialties, dental and health education services.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me celebrating the grand opening of this new community health center, and honoring Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center for promoting good health and well-being in our communities.

RECOGNIZING CHATEAU ON THE LAKE RESORT

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chateau on the Lake Resort on receiving the Ozark Mountain Hospitality award presented by the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce.

Chateau on the Lake prides itself on its outstanding customer service. Its client-based business philosophy has continually ensured that its customers always have the best experience possible during their stay. The Chateau takes the approach that the customer knows what they want and should receive nothing less.

The Chateau, also known as the ''Castle in the Ozarks,'' offers 301 beautifully appointed guest rooms and 57 spacious hotel suites with a focus on comfort and luxury. Nestled on Table Rock Lake, one can truly let one's cares melt away at this resort.

Chateau on the Lake has shown the community the true spirit of hospitality, and that spirit is exhibited in its employees' drive to meet the needs of its customers.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chateau on the Lake on receiving the Ozark Mountain Hospitality award.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND AND THE WILDERNESS ACT

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the 50th anniversary of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Wilderness Act. This landmark legislation established a dedicated and permanent funding source for the conservation and protection of America's irreplaceable recreational, natural, historic, and cultural landmarks.

All told, New Mexico has received over $230 million from the LWCF to preserve areas that support our outdoor recreational economy and public well-being. In my district, important sites such as Petroglyphs National Monument and the Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge—the first refuge in the Southwest to serve an urban area—will be protected for generations to come thanks to the LWCF.

The LWCF has created outdoor recreation opportunities in every state and 98 percent of counties across the country, yet there are so many other natural and historic wonders that deserve protection.

The best way we can honor the LWCF's half century of success is to reauthorize the fund before it expires next year. We owe it to our children and our children's children to ensure LWCF has the opportunity to celebrate many more anniversaries.

RECOGNIZING 50 YEARS OF THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1964 was established to assist federal, state and local governments in their efforts to create and sustain public outdoor recreation facilities.

LWCF success stories have taken place in every state in the Nation. My home state of Maine alone has received $40 million in grants for federal grant program projects since 1965. The program has helped preserve some of Maine's most treasured spaces—including the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge, Acadia National Park, the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site, and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail—as well as many more nationwide.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I will continue to fight for the full funding of the LWCF so that it can continue the great work it has been doing for the past 50 years. And I raise my voice along with those of others who are calling for a reauthorization of this important legislation.

Again, my sincere thanks go to the thousands of people across the country who work to make the LWCF a success. It is my honor to congratulate them and the LWCF program on this important milestone.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TOM BECKHAM

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Marion Burkett Beckham III, also known as Tom Beckham. Tom passed away on July 19, 2014, after a long bout with cancer.

Tom served his country honorably during the Vietnam War with the United States Marine Corps from 1965 to 1969. During his service, Tom earned the Presidential Unit Citation, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with 2 stars, the Vietnam Campaign Medal with device, and the Rifle Marksman Badge.

Tom was born in Clovis, California, on February 11, 1947. He was raised in the foothill area above Millerton Lake and graduated from Sierra High School.

A long time musician and singer, he entertained people over a span of 40 years. He played in bands, duos, and single engagements throughout the Central Valley and up and down the State of California, as well as Nevada, Alaska and other Western States. Tom was also well known as an instrument repairman for many years.

Tom spent many years raising show quality poultry that were endangered species or on the Breeds Conservancies Watch List. In addition, he was always happy to help 4–H and FFA students with their poultry projects.

Tom will be remembered for his strong determination, jovial ways, and a unique sense of humor. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Joy; son, Brad Beckham; step daughter, Pamela Piek; 10 grandchildren and step grandchildren; and his brother, Forest Beckham.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to honor the life of Tom Beckham. His presence will undoubtedly be missed, but the impact he made on our country and the community will never be forgotten.

HONORING REX TILLERSON

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rex Tillerson. As the former President of the Boy Scouts of America and the current Chief Executive Officer of Exxon Mobil, Mr. Tillerson has touched countless lives and impacted them in a positive way. A Native of Wichita Falls, Texas, Mr. Tillerson attended the University of Texas at Austin and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering.

He is one of the nation's most successful business leaders, but has always recognized the importance of charitable giving and community development. Mr. Tillerson's contributions to Texas and the country as a whole cannot be ignored. He served as the past national president of the Boy Scouts of America and is a former director of the United Negro College Fund. In those roles he influenced countless lives and provided a positive example for our nation's youths to follow. Under his leadership, Exxon Mobil has contributed greatly to K–12 STEM outreach programs, engaging students from all backgrounds in the STEM disciplines. Mr. Tillerson understands the importance of providing students with math and science skills, ultimately preparing them

for competition in a 21st century global economy.

I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating Rex Tillerson's accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC BROADCASTING AND THE AMERICAN GRADUATE INITIATIVE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize support for public broadcasting and the American Graduate initiative in advance of American Graduate Day on September 27th.

Each year nearly one million students fail to graduate on time, and public media is working with partners across the nation to reach a goal of a 90 percent high school graduation rate by the year 2020. With the help of the American Graduate initiative and the many other institutions and initiatives grappling with this issue, remarkable progress toward this goal has been made in recent years. American Graduate Day puts faces on the dropout numbers and increases understanding of the risks and solutions through national and local content, covering all facets of the dropout issue for broadcast, web and mobile platforms.

An October 2013 study conducted by the Everyone Graduates Center at Johns Hopkins School of Education finds that the American Graduate initiative has succeeded in building community capacity to meet the national priority of ending America's high school dropout crisis. More than 80 public radio and television stations in over 30 states have joined forces with over 1000 partners and at-risk schools to shed light on the problem and share solutions. The dropout rate in the tri-state area is alarming, and I see students in my district struggling to complete their education every day; I support this important initiative that delivers real impact in our fight to end this dropout crisis.

RECOGNIZING MR. MICHAEL ELLENBOGEN AND WORLD ALZHEIMER'S DAY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of World Alzheimer's Day, my constituent, Michael Ellenbogen, wrote a touching excerpt detailing his experience with early onset Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's disease is a progressive, degenerative disorder that attacks the brain's nerve cells, or neurons, resulting in loss of memory thinking and language skills, and behavioral changes.

Alzheimer's disease is the most expensive disease in America, and is the only one of the top ten causes of death in America that can't be prevented, cured, or even slowed. It is important to work with brave people like Michael to raise awareness and take action on this issue as a legislative body. Please see Michael's touching words below:

It's been over a year since my last writing and since that time I have declined even more. As you see, this disease is slowly robbing me of all of my skill sets and it is becoming so much harder to be a positive person in our society. I cannot even enjoy the hobbies I once loved. This is by far the worst way one can die. I cannot imagine the toll it's taking on my wife because it's like a never ending grieving process and one cannot even see the end in sight, just the horror that's coming.

Dementia, including Alzheimer's is the most expensive disease we face. It is costing us more than heart disease and cancer. I believe it to be the third cause of death in the United States. Breast cancer, heart disease and HIV have all made tremendous progress since the federal government made significant investments into research. Comparable investments must be made for Dementia so we can accomplish the same successes, while saving millions of lives and trillions of dollars.

Senator Pat Toomey recently stated at a Finance Committee Hearing that circumstances have changed historically, and as such we should be changing the way we fund this disease. I have been saying this for years.

Please make my life count and make it worthwhile for me in having this disease. I believe we could be at the tipping point. Make the hard choices; increase funding for Alzheimer's disease and reallocate existing funding sources. Do everything necessary to ensure that Alzheimer's disease gets the exposure, commitment and funding necessary to change the course of the disease.

Regards, Michael Ellenbogen.

Michael Ellenbogen—Advocate for all of those living with dementia, who can no longer speak, write, or have passed.

PEOPLE'S CLIMATE MARCH

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday will mark history as more New Yorkers than ever before come together to demonstrate their commitment to solving the climate change crisis. During the ''People's Climate March'', New Yorkers from all walks of life will march through Manhattan in support of a more sustainable future. I am proud to be joining this effort. UPROSE, a grassroots environmental justice organization in my district, is one of the lead organizers in New York City. UPROSE has a long record of working on environmental issues locally and globally through community empowerment and fostering future environmental leaders. I am proud to join with them in Sunday's march.

The backdrop for the New York event will be the United Nations Summit on Climate Change, where representatives from around the globe will convene to discuss this matter. Locally, this timely event will underscore the importance of working now to preserve our planet for future generations. However, this will be a global event with actions taking place throughout the world.

From London to Rio to Johannesburg to New Dehli, people everywhere will speak with one collective voice in calling for environmental justice, an economy that works for people and the planet, clean air and good jobs. I urge all my colleagues to join in these collective actions and show their support for protecting our planet.

RECOGNIZING HERMINE REIRING

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize Hermine Reiring in celebration of her 100th birthday. Hermine is part of ''America's Greatest Generation,'' and this amazing milestone deserves to be honored.

Hermine was born on August 4, 1914, in Hammond, Indiana. During World War II, Hermine joined the U.S. Army and served three years in the Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service). She worked as a storekeeper in a hangar.

In 1945, Hermine married Leonard Reiring, and they built their lives together in California. They lived in San Diego and Burbank before settling in Madera in 1964. Hermine and Leonard raised three children together, and today, Hermine has eight grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Each day, Hermine's family has the pleasure of learning from a woman who has many special memories and life experiences to share.

The City of Madera has benefitted greatly from Hermine's efforts and service to the community. In addition to working at the Madera County Administrator's office, Hermine was also a member of the Women's Improvement Group, the Historical Society, and she volunteered as a docent for the county library. Staying active in the community is important to Hermine as she still loves to participate in bake sales and volunteer at her church.

Hermine's generation set an example for the coming together and establishing of our country in the 20th century. We have all been very fortunate to live and build from the investments and many sacrifices made by Hermine and others from her generation.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to honor Hermine Reiring as she celebrates this very exciting time in her life. Her service to the Madera community and the entire nation deserves to be commended.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY E. SINOPOLI

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mary Sinopoli, who passed away on August 30, 2014, at the age of 93. Mary was a respected member of the Fresno community who will be greatly missed by residents throughout the Central Valley.

On December 7, 1920, Mary was born at her grandparents home on the corner of Stanislaus and F streets. She was the first child of Americo and Concetta Frediani. She attended Orange Center Elementary School, and Washington Union and Fresno Tech high schools.

Mary married George Sinopoli on May 11, 1941. They were happily married for 65 years until George's passing in 2006. Mary was a dedicated wife and a loving mother. She was

a homemaker and took care of her family Mary had a knack for sewing, making all of her and her daughter's clothing as well as ties for George.

Besides her family, Mary's devotion was to the Fresno Veterans Hospital. She volunteered at the hospital for 60 years and gave over 30,000 hours of service. She was a 63-year life time member of the American Legion Auxiliary and served as their State Hospital Representative to the Veterans Hospital for 40 years. She served as president in the Auxiliary at the Unit and District level.

Mary will be greatly missed by her daughter, Gloria Jean Sinopoli; son, Sam Sinopoli; grandchildren, Anthony, Michael, Julia and Lauren; her sister, Palmira Smith and her husband Don; brother, Americo Frediani Jr. and his wife, Patricia; sister-in-law, Louise Petrucelli, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to honor the life of Mary Sinopoli, a standup American citizen. Her presence will undoubtedly be missed, but the impact she made on our community will never be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER FERNANDO SANCHEZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Fernando Sanchez for his 40 years of dedicated service to law enforcement and for his commitment to Webb County and the state of Texas.

Officer Sanchez is a remarkable and highly respected citizen who has dedicated his career to the safety of his community. First serving in 1974, Officer Sanchez worked as a detention officer for Webb County. He then attended Laredo Jr. College, where he worked diligently toward his Basic Texas Peace Officer's Certification which he received in the fall of 1975.

It was then that Officer Sanchez was transferred to the Civil Division, where he began his service as a Bailiff of the first County Court at Law under Judge Antonio Zardenetta. When Judge Zardenetta was elected to the 111th Judicial District Court, Officer Sanchez was appointed as the bailiff of the court from 1979 to 1982. In 1982, he relocated to Victoria, Texas, where he served as a Sergeant in the Sheriff's Department before returning to Laredo to continue his service to the 111th Judicial District Court as a Bailiff.

After serving as the Bailiff for the 111th Court for a combined fourteen years, Officer Sanchez worked as an investigator for the Webb County Attorney's Office from 1997 to 2004. In 2005 he was appointed as Chief Deputy for the Webb County Sheriff's Department, and within the same year was promoted to Senior Lieutenant until 2008. In August of 2009, Officer Sanchez was hired as a criminal investigator for the Webb County Public Defender's Office. He was then appointed the Bailiff and Interpreter for the 406th Judicial District Court under Judge Oscar J. Hale, Jr. from August of 2010 until his retirement in August of this year.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored and pleased to have had this time to recognize Officer Fernando Sanchez not only on his career, but on his loyal service to his community. His willingness to work in various roles where he is most needed is admirable, and has helped to create a better Laredo and Webb County. I thank you for your time.

RUSSIA'S CONTINUING DISREGARD FOR THE RULE OF LAW

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to my colleagues' attention a September 8, 2014 article by David Clark, printed in the Huffington Post UK, entitled, ''The Unacceptable Face of Putinism''. In this troubling article, Mr. Clark comments on Russia's continued efforts to ignore, and in fact undermine, the rule of law. At the heart of this most recent demonstration is Putin crony, Igor Sechin, a former KGB operative-turned-Rosneft CEO, who, reportedly, upon losing an arbitration case at The Hague under the Energy Charter Treaty and being required to pay $50 billion in compensation to the majority shareholder of YUKOS Oil, threatened the plaintiff, Mr. Leonid Nevzlin.

The lawsuit stems from the Kremlin's act of taking over YUKOS Oil and imprisoning the company's top executives. As we watch Russia violate Ukraine's sovereignty through its annexation of Crimea and flout the international community's warnings about their actions in Eastern Ukraine, it is important to note that President Putin's government continues to violate the rule of law and must be held accountable. Russia must be required to live up to their international obligations, which includes compliance with rulings by The Hague as prescribed in the Energy Charter Treaty. The international community must ensure that Russia is held accountable for their actions and meets their responsibilities under the law. I hope my colleagues will take the time to read this article.

[From the Huffington Post, UK, Sept. 8, 2014]

THE UNACCEPTABLE FACE OF PUTINISM

(By David Clark)

There isn't a better weathervane of Kremlin opinion than Igor Sechin. The 53 year old former KGB operative has been Vladimir Putin's most loyal and influential lieutenant since they worked together for the Mayor of St. Petersburg in the 1990s. Officially he has served as Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration, Deputy Prime Minister and now Chairman of Rosneft, the state oil company. Unofficially he has long been leader of the Kremlin's hardline siloviki faction; the group of senior intelligence and security officers who provide the muscle that makes Putin's leadership possible. So when Sechin publicly threatens the life of an exiled Russian businessman, as he did recently, it's worth paying attention. Russia's behaviour could be about to take another turn for the worse.

Sechin's outburst came at the end of a bad period for Russia. Already facing escalating international sanctions and a setback to its covert military intervention in Eastern Ukraine, an international tribunal in The Hague at the end of July found the Russian government guilty of illegally expropriating Yukos Oil a decade ago and ordered it to compensate the company's former majority shareholders to the tune of $50bn. This was a particularly bitter blow to Sechin who has been accused of personally orchestrated the destruction of Yukos and who's company, Rosneft, subsequently acquired its main production assets. Indeed, Rosneft stands to lose directly if its assets outside Russia are seized to facilitate payment of the award. Incensed by the loss of face and the possible loss of business, Sechin raged about the unfairness of the ruling before turing his remarks directly to Leonid Nevzlin, the largest former shareholder. Nevzlin, he warned, ''should take care of himself.''

It's hard to interpret this as anything other than a direct physical threat. Given Sechin's status and connections, it certainly deserves to be treated as more than a throwaway remark. Putin's Russia has a long history of using targeted assassination as a tool of policy, both inside Russia and abroad. Outside Russia the targets have usually been armed Chechen separatists. Investigating authorities in both Qatar and Turkey have accused the Russian intelligence agencies of murdering Chechen exiles on their territory.

Russia is hardly alone in carrying out the targeted assassination of those it deems to be terrorists. But it is also now one of the few countries that appears ready to use the same method against non-violent opponents. Rather than a shocking exception, the 2006 murder in London of former Russian intelligence officer Alexander Litvinenko may prove to be an ominous foretaste of what the Kremlin is capable of. Now the subject of a public inquiry, British officials long ago concluded that there was Russian state involvement in the crime.

Yet even in the Litvinenko case the motive was related to national security, or at least the Kremlin's interpretation of it. If Leonid Nevzlin has now been added to a hit list it marks a further escalation of Moscow's willingness to resort to violence beyond its border. After all, the offence that seems to have made him a target was to do nothing more than exercise his legal rights in a court of law.

In the context of the ongoing violence in Eastern Ukraine, it might be tempting for Western governments to treat Sechin's indiscretion as a matter of comparatively little importance. That would be a mistake. If Russia is allowed, in effect, to announce its willingness to resort to state terrorism, there is no way of knowing what consequences may follow. The Kremlin is strongly suspected of involvement in the dioxin poisoning that almost killed Victor Yushchenko shortly before he became President of Ukraine in 2004. Without a clear signal of international condemnation it might consider doing something similar today to President Poroshenko or Prime Minister Yatsenyuk. The message therefore needs to be sent that murder for political ends would put Russia outside the community of civilised nations.

The first step should be for the European Union to follow U.S. policy in putting Igor Sechin on the sanctions list of individuals subject to travel bans and asset freezes. The U.S. included Sechin on its list because of the immense influence he has exerted during Russia's lurch towards authoritarian nationalism. Perversely, the EU chose to exclude him from its own list for precisely the same reason. He is considered too important to be signalled out for punishment because of his involvement in the strategically vital energy sector where Europe's dependence on Russian imports has all but paralysed its capacity to act. That will need to change if the EU wants to challenge the impunity of the Russian elite.

A second step should be for Western governments to issue a formal démarche and put Russia's leaders on notice that the country will be designated a state sponsor of terrorism if any attempt is made to follow through on the threat against Nevzlin or anyone else legitimately standing up to the Kremlin. Difficult as this may be, the lessons of the recent past have to be learned. Every time the West has shied away from tough action in the face of Russian lawlessness the result has been to encourage its leaders to greater and more dangerous policy excess. It's time to draw a line.

TRIBUTE TO ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL OF CHARLESTON, S.C.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a church that has been a beacon of hope and a helping people and helping hand to people in Charleston, South Carolina since the 1800's. In 1839, St. John's Chapel opened its doors to welcome people to a spiritual environment and I join them today in celebrating a monumental milestone.

On October 11th St. John's will begin celebrating their 175th anniversary of creating spiritual, social and economic opportunity and advancement for families residing on Charleston's eastside and communities across the peninsula. Their activities include the re-dedication of their historically significant building and its service to the honor and glory of God.

The Charleston community has always seen this Chapel as a place of religious refuge. Their mission is to seek and encourage members to be participants in society through collaboration and empowerment. They attempt to do this in a setting where diversity is cultivated and celebrated. They also try to create an environment and community that are conducive to peaceful interactions of its residents by strengthening ethics and morality, reducing poverty and injustice and promoting community involvement.

The Reverend Dr. Dallas H. Wilson, Jr., Vicar, has served St. John's Chapel and the Charleston community with grace and dignity. He and his staff have spent their tenure at St. John's continuing to grow its mission and pursue goals through scripture, Sacraments and service through uncomplicated worship and wholesome community activities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in congratulating St. John's Chapel for its 175 years of compassionate service to the Eastside and Charleston communities. As the church grows, I look forward to the services they will offer to the people of that area. I also hope they continue their mission furthering the cultivation of diversity. I offer best wishes and Godspeed on the occasion of this celebration, and hope they will continue their good work for many years to come.

SUTTER DAVIS HOSPITAL'S 2013 BALDRIGE NATIONAL QUALITY AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Sutter Davis Hospital (SDH) was one of three organizations in the country to receive the 2013 Baldrige National Quality Award, the nation's highest Presidential honor for performance excellence through innovation, improvement, and visionary leadership; and

Whereas, Sutter Davis Hospital was selected from a field of 22 applicants that were rigorously evaluated by an independent board of examiners in seven areas defined by the Baldrige Criteria: leadership; strategic planning; customer focus; measurement, analysis and knowledge management; workforce focus; operations focus; and results. An organization may compete for the award in one of six categories: manufacturing, service, small business, health care, education and nonprofit; and

Whereas, Since 1988, only 102 Baldrige awards have been presented to 96 organizations. To date, more than 1,500 U.S. organizations have applied for the Baldrige Award, and internationally, the program has served as a model for nearly 100 excellence programs; and

Whereas, Thousands of organizations worldwide use the Baldrige Criteria to guide their operations, improve performance and achieve sustainable results. This improvement and innovation framework offers organizations an integrated approach to key management areas. The criteria are regularly updated to reflect the leading edge of validated management practice; and

Whereas, Sutter Davis Hospital has been on a long quality journey to excellence and over the years has made significant improvements. This journey has placed SDH among the best hospitals in the nation, and has now distinguished SDH as a Baldrige winner as a result of the work accomplished by all employees, physicians and volunteers working together; and

Whereas, Sutter Davis Hospital is dedicated to a patient care mission, which aims to enhance the health and well-being of people in the communities it serves, through a not-for-profit commitment to compassion and excellence in health care services; and

Whereas, The community of Davis, and Yolo County as a whole, is proud of Sutter Davis Hospital for serving as a national role model for small hospitals and leading the transformation of health care to achieve the highest levels of quality, accessibility, and affordability; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI expresses his sincere appreciation and gratitude for the vision, leadership and organization shown by Janet Wagner, CEO, and her team of employees, physicians and volunteers at Sutter Davis Hospital, for bringing a national presidential honor to Yolo County, providing quality care to all patients and serving as a steadfast community partner.

TAIWAN'S 103RD NATIONAL DAY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as we join in congratulating our friends in Taiwan on the occasion of their 103rd National Day, I think the best way to celebrate the tremendous progress Taiwan has achieved over the past decades, and its contributions to the world, is through the continuation of our efforts to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations.

Twenty years ago, in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review, the Clinton Administration declared that it would support such participation, a pledge which successive Administrations have upheld.

Ten years ago, the House passed legislation in support of Taiwan's efforts to gain observer status in the World Health Organization. Last year, this House passed bipartisan legislation to secure observer status for Taiwan at the International Civil Aviation Organization, or ICAO.

Taiwan has enjoyed observer status at the World Health Assembly every year since 2009, and was invited last year to be a guest at the ICAO triennial Assembly by the ICAO Council President.

As Taiwan is a key security and trading partner of this country, it is vital for the House to continue its support of Taiwan by bolstering its standing and meaningful participation in international bodies. Taiwan is a democracy of 23 million people who are highly educated, and highly skilled. It is to the benefit of all the world's peoples that experts from Taiwan engage with their colleagues in the international forums that seek to tackle the challenges of the 21st century.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support Taiwan and its people on this issue, and on the other issues vital to our shared values, security, and prosperity. Meanwhile, I also wish the people of Taiwan a happy Double Ten Day and continued success and prosperity.

RECOGNIZING MRS. VIRGINIA CANNINGTON FOR 31 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement from the civil service with the United States Government, I want to recognize Mrs. Virginia (Ginger) Cannington for her 31 years of continuous service to our country. In her most recent position, Mrs. Cannington was an analyst for Medical Officer Special Programs in the Office of the Command Surgeon, Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, where she served as the single point of contact for commissioning medical professionals into the Air Force Reserve.

Mrs. Cannington began her career with the United States Government in 1983 working for

the Internal Revenue Service in Shreveport, Louisiana. After 17 months, she transferred to the Army Corps of Engineers in Bossier City. She then began working for the 47th Fighter Squadron in October of 1985 on Barksdale AFB, Louisiana—which began her association with the Air Force. Mrs. Cannington would later join her husband with his Air Force assignments and work at 509th Tactical Missile Wing in RAF Greenhom Common, England; the 410th Transportation Squadron at K.I. Sawyer AFB, Michigan; the 480th Intelligence Group at Langley AFB, Virginia; culminating her career at the Medical Directorate for the Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, GA.

During her tenure, Mrs. Cannington was awarded the Air Combat Command Transportation Professional of the Year, Air Intelligence Agency Junior Professional of the Year, National Air Intelligence Professional of the Year, and a National Reserve Recruiting Award for Support Personnel several times. As an analyst at the Air Force Reserve Medical Directorate, she processed 2,811 commissioning packages. Her role was crucial in ensuring there were enough healthcare professionals for those wounded in battle, a mission at which she excelled.

Mrs. Cannington could not have made such a tremendous impact within the Air Force without the love and unfailing support of her family, specifically her husband of 44 years, retired Chief Master Sergeant William Cannington; her children—Jennifer and her husband Bob; Josh; and Matt and his partner Gregg; her sister Cathy and her husband Dave as well as Melody and her husband Thor. She also contributes her success to her mother, Virginia Walker and her mother-in-law Ann Cannington.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Mrs. Virginia Cannington for her outstanding service to both the United States Air Force and our great Nation. We wish her and her family the best of luck as she transitions into retirement. Mrs. Cannington is a true professional and a credit to herself, her family, and the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING CVS HEALTH FOR RECEIVING THE PREVENT CANCER FOUNDATION'S CANCER AWARENESS AWARD

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today CVS Health received the Excellence in Cancer Awareness Award at the Twenty-Second Annual Action for Cancer Awareness Awards Luncheon. The annual award was given by the Congressional Families Cancer Prevention Program of the Prevent Cancer Foundation to CVS Health for their commitment to health by taking tobacco products off their shelves. Dr. Andrew Sussman accepted the award on behalf of CVS Health and I want to commend him, and CVS Health, for their commitment to prevent cancer and improving the health of every American by removing tobacco from their stores.

PREVENT CANCER FOUNDATION

AWARD ACCEPTANCE/RECOGNITION RECEIPT REMARKS FOR CVS HEALTH—ANDREW J. SUSSMAN, MD, PRESIDENT CVS/MINUTECLINIC, SVP AND ASSOCIATE CMO, CVS HEALTH

Thank you very much. I'm very happy to be able to join you all today and am honored to accept this wonderful recognition on behalf of CVS Health.

As you may have heard, we recently marked an important milestone in the history of our company. We officially changed our corporate name to CVS Health.

We made this change to reflect our broader health care commitment.

And along with the start of CVS Health, we also ended the sale of all cigarettes and tobacco products at CVS/pharmacy nationwide.

By removing these items from our store shelves, we believe we can make a difference in the health of all Americans.

In fact, there's evidence that removing tobacco products from retailers with pharmacies may lead to substantially lower rates of smoking with implications for reducing tobacco-related deaths.

A recent CVS Health study found that there was up to a 13 percent reduction in purchasers of tobacco products in Boston and San Francisco AFTER policies eliminating the sale of tobacco products at retailers with pharmacies were put in place.

If retailers with pharmacies across the country were to forego sales of tobacco products, the result could be up to 60,000 fewer tobacco-related deaths annually.

Along with removing tobacco-related products from our stores, we also launched a national smoking cessation campaign to help millions of Americans to quit smoking.

We know that 7 in 10 people who smoke want to quit.

We also know that for most people it will take several tries before they are successful.

That's why, with help from national experts, we designed the CVS Health smoking cessation program.

We've combined the efforts of CVS/pharmacy, CVS/minuteclinic and CVS/caremark to come up with a comprehensive program that will help smokers to quit.

The program is made of up four components—Readiness assessment, Education, Medication Support, and Coaching.

For example, at our 925 walk-in medical clinics called CVS/minuteclinic, our ''Start to Stop'' program puts all four of these support components into action.

Our Nurse Practitioners begin with an assessment to create a customized treatment plan.

They then provide ongoing education and support to meet the individual needs of smokers who are trying to quit.

Our team also provides an overview of medication options and, if appropriate, can prescribe medication.

And finally, our Nurse Practitioners provide face-to-face personalized coaching to help patients keep the momentum going and avoid relapse.

This is another example of how CVS/minuteclinic is expanding access to walk-in health care seven days a week, as part of the changing health care landscape.

MinuteClinic is also affiliated with 41 major health systems around the country—and growing—affiliations that include integration of electronic medical records, physician medical director collaboration, and collaboration on wellness programs such as smoking cessation.

As we have placed a growing emphasis on our purpose as a health care organization, we've been truly humbled by the outpouring of encouragement and support we've received since announcing the removal of cigarettes and tobacco products from our stores.

It's come from all corners . . . from our customers and colleagues, public health advocates, elected officials and the media.

And we are particularly thankful for today's recognition from the Prevent Cancer Foundation—a group that has been truly at the forefront of cancer prevention since it was founded, nearly 30 years ago.

I hope through our efforts, along with the work of groups like yours, we can help more Americans embark on their path to better health.

Thank you again for this wonderful honor.

DO-NOTHING CONGRESS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the hardworking men and women of Houston and Harris County, who go to work every day without complaint and the failure of this Congress to do its job and pass pressing legislation that the good people of the 29th District of Texas and Americans throughout our country are relying on.

The 113th Congress, which is scheduled to end in less than 4 months, has passed only 142 laws to date. And 34 of those were ceremonial.

Last Congress had passed 151 laws by the same date.

The ''Do-Nothing Congress'' of 1947 and 1948 that President Harry Truman famously campaigned against passed 906 public laws. That is not even including the 458 private laws that were passed or the modern conveniences that we have today that should enable us to do more for the American people.

Over the past 20 months, our chamber has failed to bring to the floor critical legislation that would extend emergency unemployment insurance, cutting off benefits for 4 million Americans, raise the minimum wage for the 10 million-plus Americans who work full-time and live below the poverty line, or ensure equal pay for equal work for working men and women in our country.

Mr. Speaker, if this Congress ends without this chamber even bringing these bills for a floor vote, historians will have no choice but to rewrite the textbook and name us the true ''Do-Nothing Congress.''

TO ALLOW RAILROAD EMPLOYEES TO REMAIN ON DUTY AS NECESSARY TO CLEAR A BLOCKAGE OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AT GRADE CROSSINGS

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today, along with Representative SENSENBRENNER and Representative DUFFY, I am introducing common sense legislation that would provide flexibility for train crews to remain on duty past their maximum hours of service, when feasible to the extent necessary, in order to clear a blockage of vehicular traffic at grade crossings.

My district and the state of Wisconsin have seen a surge in traffic on our rail lines. This

is great, but it has also caused a logjam of trains waiting on rail lines and blocking crossings, sometimes for hours on end. It was reported that last week near the small community of Byron in my district, a train blocked a state highway for five hours and could not move the fifty feet to clear the crossing because the crew had reached its maximum hours of service. A new crew was required before the train could be moved.

I recognize that the rail system is very complex and there are many factors that go into trains being held and crossings being blocked. But I still struggle with the fact that motorists, including emergency services, were forced to wait five hours for a train to move fifty feet. Part of the benefit in moving goods by rail is to relieve congestion on the roads, not increase it. The goal of this legislation is to provide a common sense solution to scenarios such as the instance in Byron.

While I realize these are the waning days of the 113th Congress, I hope that by at least introducing this legislation now, it will continue a discussion here in Congress and with the rail industry and rail labor on this common sense solution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on September 15, 2014, I missed one recorded vote on the House "floor." Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 497.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HBCU HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to reauthorize the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Historic Preservation Program. I have always studied history, and taught it at the high school level. Throughout my tenure in Congress, I have worked to support historic preservation efforts which preserve and protect our nation's treasured institutions. The bill I am introducing today would continue a tremendously successful program which has been widely supported by many of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle.

HBCUs represent a unique and critical aspect of African American history in the United States. Many of these institutions are over 100 years old, but this history lives on today as these colleges and universities continue to thrive. In 1996, $29 million was originally provided in grants to preserve historic sites on HBCU campuses. In 1998, at the request of the Congressional Black Caucus, the GAO conducted a study to identify and project the cost of preserving and protecting threatened historic buildings and sites on the more that 100 HBCU campuses in the United States. The GAO identified 712 historic sites which would require $755 million to successfully preserve. Truly the costs of this project are challenging, but we have made progress. Responding to the GAO study, in 2002, Congress authorized an additional $60 million for six years.

I have seen the results firsthand. Several historic buildings at Allen, Claflin, and South Carolina State Universities, and Voorhees and Benedict Colleges in my district have been successfully restored. These structures are icons on their respective campuses and in their communities. They are living testaments to African American and South Carolina history. Arnett Hall at Allen University was designed by an African American architect and built by the students themselves in 1891. If this building were lost, that link to the past would be severed, never to be revived again. Through a grant from this program, it has been stabilized, restored and is being preserved. These results are not limited to South Carolina. Since its origin in 1996, 59 institutions have benefited in 20 different states.

While there are many success stories, the need is still great. Sites identified by the GAO are still threatened and are continuing to deteriorate. The authorization for this program has expired, and it has not received appropriations since the Recovery Act in 2009. Congress must not abandon the progress we have made. This bill would reauthorize the program for ten years at the same funding level. It will not by itself reach the total funding needed for every threatened site, but it will revive this initiative and continue to make progress preserving these historic campuses. I have been privileged to receive strong support from my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus and many other members of both parties for these efforts, and I look forward to working with all of them to extend this vital program and preserve our Nation's history.

CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING OF THE BRIDGESTONE AMERICAS BIORUBBER PROCESS RESEARCH CENTER IN MESA, AZ

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the grand opening of the Bridgestone Americas Biorubber Process Research Center in Mesa, Arizona on September 22, 2014.

I'm honored to represent this facility, which will serve as a research and development center for advancing the use of the desert-based Guayule plant—native to the Southwestern United States—as an alternative natural rubber source for Bridgestone products.

This research will help further the development of a more diverse domestic, sustainable and renewable source for natural rubber that will decrease the reliance on rubber trees.

The Biorubber facility will be supplied with guayule from the nearby Bridgestone Guayule Agro Operations Farm in Eloy, AZ which is expected to submit its first sample for research for evaluation by mid-year 2015.

The Biorubber facility will provide significant economic benefits to my district with 40 high-skilled research and technician jobs, in addition to the almost 500 Bridgestone employees already in the state.

The opening of this facility further underscores Bridgestone's ongoing commitment to technological and environmental innovation, and adds to its reputation as a leader in corporate environmental sustainability.

Again, I would like to congratulate Bridgestone Americas on the grand opening of its new Biorubber Process Research Center.

I am proud that Bridgestone is an integral part of our community, and I'm pleased to commemorate this significant development in Arizona's 5th District.

SISTERS OF MERCY CELEBRATE 120 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a momentous occasion—the 120 years of service the Sisters of Mercy have graciously provided the City of Laredo, Texas. For over a century, these Sisters have faithfully contributed to the health and wellbeing of the residents within my hometown.

Three Sisters arrived in Laredo in 1894 with the mission of building the city's first hospital. They came from Dublin, Ireland, and less than one month after their arrival, they accomplished their goal and opened a medical facility with six rooms and twelve beds. Though they were not formally trained in nursing, they committed to learning in order to serve the needy of Laredo. As the population and health care needs grew, Sisters of Mercy expanded to new buildings to care for as many Laredoans as possible.

Over the last 120 years, nearly 120 Sisters have faithfully served in Laredo, many of whom served for decades at a time. There are presently five sisters who serve the Laredo community: Sister Maria Luisa Vera, who recently celebrated her 50th jubilee and is President of Mercy Ministries; Sister Rosemary Welsh, who has served Laredo for 22 years and is the Executive Director at Casa de Misericordia and the Director of Outreach Services at Mercy Clinic; Sister Olivia Obregon, who has served for a total of 33 years in various nursing supervisory positions; Sister Kathleen Tinnel, who has served Laredo for 12 years both as a pediatric nurse and a minister; and the newest Sister—Sister Beth Yoest—who is on the faculty at St. Peter Memorial School.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize the Sisters of Mercy for commendably caring for the citizens of Laredo throughout the past 120 years. I thank you for this time.

SUPPORTING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today with the people of the Republic of

China (Taiwan) as they celebrate their upcoming National Day on October 10th.

I visited Taiwan as a state legislator and often welcome its representatives to Las Vegas and to my Washington, DC office. With the expansion of the Visa Waiver Program to include Taiwan, we hope to continue to welcome more Taiwanese tourists and business travelers to Las Vegas.

Nevada's First Congressional District is home to a vibrant Taiwanese American Community that enhances our local culture.

I am proud to consider myself a friend of Taiwan. The relationship between our two nations has been strong over the past century. This mutually beneficial partnership relationship has strengthened and enriched our economic, political, and cultural ties.

It should be fostered and promoted in the coming years.

I congratulate the people of Taiwan on the occasion of their National Day and join them in their celebration.

TRIBUTE TO FLATWOODS RED HAT TULIPS

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Flatwoods Red Hat Tulips, a local chapter of the National Red Hat Society, an organization of women who provide community service in the town of Flatwoods and throughout Braxton County, West Virginia.

The Flatwoods Red Hat Tulips were founded in 2005 and have spent the past nine years organizing events and volunteering to make their community a better place to live, work, and raise a family. The impact of these women has been felt by an array of causes, including well known groups such as The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, March of Dimes, Bikers for Babies, and The American Heart Association. In addition, the ladies have held fundraisers for local organizations like the Braxton County Animal Shelter and the local Lions Club, which helps provide eye exams and glasses to children. Every year in May, the ladies host a candlelight service at the local Hospice Memorial to honor members of the community who have passed away.

Just next month, the Flatwoods Red Hat Tulips will host an event benefitting the local animal shelter's Capture, Neuter, and Release Program, which aims at combating the stray dog and cat problem in the community. They remain an active group through the year and meet regularly at different restaurants in the area and can often be found visiting the Braxton County Senior Center in Sutton.

The Flatwoods Red Hat Tulips are led by Queen Mum Judy Norvell and Vice Queen Joyce Black.

Mr. Speaker, Flatwoods, Braxton County, and indeed the State of West Virginia, owe the Flatwoods Red Hat Tulips many thanks for their hard work and dedication to the community and their neighbors. I am honored to represent such a distinguished group of women in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO EDUARDO EURNEKIAN

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Eduardo Eurnekian, a truly remarkable man.

As Chairman of the International Raoul Wallenberg Foundation (IRWF), Mr. Eurnekian has made a significant contribution to preserving and promoting the extraordinary legacy of Raoul Wallenberg, the WWII Swedish diplomat who is credited with saving scores of Jews in Budapest from the horrors of the Holocaust. Raoul Wallenberg disappeared on January 17, 1945 when he went to meet with members of the Soviet Army to discuss the future of the Jewish refugees in Hungary. Imprisoned by the Stalinist regime along with his loyal driver, Vilmos Langfelder, his fate and whereabouts, now 70 years later, remain shrouded in mystery.

In 1981, our nation honored Raoul Wallenberg by making him an Honorary Citizen of the United States, only the second person to be so honored (following Winston Churchill). More recently, on July 9, 2014, the U.S. Congress presented him the Congressional Gold Medal in recognition of his humanitarian service.

Under the leadership of Mr. Eurnekian and in collaboration with IRWF founder Baruch Tenembaum (who was honored by this House on September 10, 2003), the IRWF has worked tirelessly to preserve and promote the legacy of the hero who became a victim himself. It has been reaching out to tens of thousands of young people around the world, instilling Raoul's spirit of civic courage and solidarity in their hearts and minds.

Just recently, Mr. Eurnekian spearheaded the events celebrating the award of the Congressional Gold Medal to Raoul Wallenberg. Dozens of Members of Congress had the opportunity to learn about the IRWF and to pay tribute to its outstanding work at a luncheon ceremony prior to the moving award presentation in the Capitol Rotunda. Mr. Eurnekian was there presented with the ''Guardian of the Rescuer's Legacy,'' a magnificent statue symbolizing peace and solidarity that was created by the renowned artist Frank Meisler.

In an effort to raise global awareness of Raoul Wallenberg, and to pay tribute to world leaders who treasure the values of the Swedish hero, Mr. Eurnekian and Mr. Tenembaum have bestowed the Raoul Wallenberg Centennial Medal upon many distinguished individuals throughout the world. These include the former British PM Gordon Brown, the former President of Slovakia Ivo Gasparovic, the President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso, the former Secretary of Pope John XXIII Cardinal Loris Capovilla, the legendary British savior Sir Nicholas Winton, the President of the Hellenic Republic Karolos Papoulias, the Former Minister of Justice of Canada and long-time Wallenberg supporter and prominent human rights activist Professor Irwin Cotler.

The IRWF strives to raise awareness of Raoul Wallenberg's legacy and fate, urging international leaders to raise their voices. President Obama did so in his video address of April 19, 2012 entitled ''Remembering and Honoring Courage.'' Similarly, former Australian PM Julia Gillard paid tribute in a video address devoted to the Swedish diplomat.

Under Mr. Eurnekian's leadership, the IRWF has not shied away from difficult legal challenges. On August 5, 2014, after a protracted five-year-long battle, the Argentinean Supreme Court overturned a lower court judgment in favor of the grandson of an Argentinean diplomat, Luis Hernan Irigoyen, who had been stationed at the Argentine Embassy in Berlin during the Nazi regime. After the IRWF accused the diplomat of letting Argentine Jews die, the diplomat's grandson sued IRWF for damages. The high court decided that the IRWF will not have to idemnify the diplomat's grandson and that ''even the harshest criticism has Constitutional Protection.'' Years before this unprecedented ruling, following a campaign by the IRWF, the then-Foreign Minister of Argentina, Mr. Rafael Bielsa, ordered the removal of a plaque that was placed inside the Argentine Chancellery in homage to 12 Argentine diplomats (Irigoyen was among them) that allegedly worked in favor of persecuted Jews. The IRWF proved that this honor was undeserved.

Mr. Eurnekian is an internationally recognized entrepreneur. He is CEO and President of Corporacion America, whose diverse holdings include management of more than 50 airports, infrastructure development, mining, financial services, energy, agricultural, wine and nano-technology and microchip production. He serves as First Vice-President of the Argentinean Chamber of Commerce and is a Member of the Executive Board of the International Chamber of Commerce.

His work has earned him a variety of prestigious awards and prizes, including the following: ''Businessman of the Year'' from (Argentina 1995); ''Leonardo Award'' from the Italian Government (1999); ''Man of the Year'' from the Armenian General Benevolent Union (2010); ''Knight of Holy Etchmiadzin Order'' from the Catholicos of all Armenians, His Holiness Karekin II (2011); ''Certificate of Appreciation'' from UNDP for his role as an ''advocate for sustainable development'' in Armenia (2012); ''Business for Peace Award'' from the Oslo Business for Peace Foundation (2012); ''Businessman of the Year'' from CAMACOL—Latin Chambers of Commerce and Industry (2012); and ''Businessman of the Year—Services Category'' from the Argentine Businessmen Association (2012). In spite of his many commitments, Mr. Eurnekian did not hesitate for a single moment when offered the challenge to lead the IRWF—and he has led with tireless commitment, passion and ingenuity.

Now 82 years old, Eduardo Eurnekian continues his activism with passion and vigor. Although he has never received any compensation for his work on behalf of the IRWF, he has generously contributed his own funds to the mission of this important organization, whose membership includes more than 300 heads of state, Nobel Prize laureates and accomplished individuals from all walks of life. Indeed, the former Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Jorge Mario Bergoglio, joined its ranks many years ago, and the IRWF is honored to include him, now known as Pope Francis, in its membership.

Together with Baruch Tenembaum and in the spirit of the IRWF, Mr. Eurnekian is now working to create an Armenian cultural center

in Yerevan, which will highlight the unparalleled contribution of the Armenian diaspora to the world during the last century in the fields of arts, science, culture, social welfare and business.

I am honored to pay tribute and express my gratitude and appreciation to Eduardo Eurnekian, and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on his outstanding achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF CPL. VINCENT MANNION-BRODEUR

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Dedication of Cpl. Vincent Mannion-Brodeur Patient Room at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital.

This newly-dedicated patient room, located in one of the leading rehabilitation hospitals in the country, recognizes Cpl. Mannion-Brodeur and his valiant service in the United States Army. While serving in Iraq in 2007 with the 82nd Airborne, Cpl. Mannion-Brodeur was critically injured by an insurgent trap. After surviving forty operations and a year-long coma, Cpl. Mannion-Brodeur became an inspiration for people throughout the country and an example of what it means to serve one's country. His noble actions and enduring strength have deemed him a Purple Heart and Bronze Star Recipient and have earned him the gratitude of an entire nation. With the assistance of his parents, Cpl. Mannion-Brodeur is now at the point in his recovery where he is able to motivate and speak to Walter Reed patients as well as work with other injured soldiers throughout their own recovery process.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pride to honor and thank Cpl. Vincent Mannion-Brodeur for his invaluable service in the United States Army and to recognize the dedication of the Cpl. Vincent Mannion-Brodeur Patient Room at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognition of Cpl. Mannion-Brodeur and his distinguished service in our Armed Services.

RECOGNIZING TWENTY-TWO FAMILY-OWNED FARMS FOR ONE HUNDRED FIFTY YEARS OR MORE OF FARMING IN MINNESOTA

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize twenty-two family-owned farms for reaching the milestone of family farming for one hundred fifty years or more. Throughout our state's history, Minnesota farmers have not only fed the citizens of our great nation, but they help to provide the world with food. These Minnesota families have stood the test of time and passed their farm from generation to generation; sharing their values of hard work, determination, and love of the land. Each family has its own story to tell about the trials and joys of farming, and no matter what those stories are, they can be proud of the heritage of farming that they have passed as parents to their children over and over again.

These are the twenty-two farm families from Minnesota's Sixth Congressional who have been recognized for their family-owned farms of one hundred fifty years or more.

From Benton County: James E. Donovan (Foley); Glenn Seppelt Family (Foley).

From Carver County: Dale Wildung (Cologne); Earl Schmidt Family (Cologne); Dorothy Light (Delano); Rodney Jaus (Hamburg); Meldon Melcher Family (Norwood/Young America); Gerald Schimmelpfennig Family (Norwood/Young America); Eugene Kamann (Norwood/Young America); John H. Eklund (Watertown); James Hendricks Family (Watertown).

From Sherburne County: Shady Nook Farm/Neal Weis Family (St Cloud).

From Stearns County: Ken Zumwalde (Cold Spring); Torberg/Prill Family (Richmond); Joyce Hansen (Rockville); Robert A. Moeller (St Cloud); David J Morreim (St Cloud); Jerome D. Schroeder (St Joseph).

From Wright County: Richard Lindenfelser (Albertville); William Weldele (Buffalo); Florence Roth (Delano); Lawren Horsch Family (Delano).

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body join with me in honoring these twenty-two family owned farms and their owners who represent a great piece of Minnesota's rich history and heritage.

TO RECOGNIZE ALEXANDER HUMMEL AND THE KEYSTONE IRON WARRIORS

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Alexander Hummel, an inspiring, impressive 9-year-old from Pennsylvania who founded the Keystone Iron Warriors organization to help our veterans. Alexander is passionately dedicated to serving the needs of veterans and active duty personnel. He also dreams of becoming a U.S. Marine.

The Keystone Iron Warriors works to provide support and resources to veterans and their families who deal with the physical and mental trauma of returning from combat. The Iron Warriors rely on community support, generous donations, and the unified goal of giving back to those who have selflessly served our country. Community contributions go to providing service canines, transportation, and assistance with medical bills to alleviate some of the challenges that face our veterans. Alexander's Iron Warriors also provide friendship and comradery for those who have returned home. None of it would have happened without Alexander's leadership and generosity.

Mr. Speaker, I honor Alexander Hummel and the Keystone Iron Warriors for their dedication to serving and honoring our Nation's heroes. I applaud this young man's strength and thank him for the invaluable work he continues to do for our veterans.

HONORING DAVID C. LEYENDECKER

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of the late David C. Leyendecker of Laredo, Texas—a well-known citizen and a champion of education, veterans, and his community.

Mr. Leyendecker truly embodied the virtue of service in his everyday life. His dedication to his community is evident from the multitude of organizations in which he both led and participated. Mr. Leyendecker served as the Rotary District governor, the president of the Laredo Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Border Olympics of Laredo. He also was the past president of the Blessed Sacrament School Board, and remained an active member until his passing. Mr. Leyendecker served as a commander of the Laredo Marine Corp League 895, and also was the first chapter president of the Korean War Veterans Association 1950 Chapter 209. His unrelenting dedication to education and the military is a testament to his memory and a shining example to us all.

Mr. Leyendecker is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Nancy Knight Leyendecker; children, Nancy Goodman and her husband Andre; Patricia Martinez and her husband David; grandchildren, David Ford Goodman, Andre "Trey" Goodman and his wife Victoria, David Martinez, Jr., Jennifer Martinez and Teresa Martinez; and great granddaughter Kennedy Elizabeth Goodman. He is further survived by numerous nieces, nephews, other loved relatives and friends. His family and friends will cherish the values and faith that Mr. Leyendecker instilled in them, and will greatly miss his presence.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the opportunity to recognize the late David C. Leyendecker. His hard work and spirit have truly impacted many lives and our community. I thank you for this time.

RECOGNIZING DENNIS J. TAITANO ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 32 YEARS OF DEDICATED FEDERAL CIVILIAN SERVICE

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Dennis J. Taitano on his retirement from the U.S. Department of the Navy after 32 years of federal civilian service. Mr. Taitano retired as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Financial Services.

Mr. Taitano was born and raised in Guam. He attended George Washington High School from 1975–1976 before pursuing higher education in the states. He holds a bachelor's degree in business management and economics from the University of Maryland and a master's degree in public financial management from the American University. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Senior Executive Service Candidate

Development Program, which he completed in 1999.

Throughout his professional career, Mr. Taitano has worked tirelessly to improve financial practices and procedures at the organizations he has led. He held numerous financial management positions with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Department of the Navy (DON). He previously served as the Director of the USDA Farm Service Agency's Office of Budget and Finance, Chief Financial Officer of the FSA, and Chief Financial Officer of the USDA Foreign Agriculture Service. He has also served as the Comptroller of the DON Naval Sea Systems Command's Naval Ordinance Center and as a Special Advisor for Defense Reform within the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

In 2009, Mr. Taitano was appointed the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Financial Operations with the DON's Office of the Assistant Secretary (Financial Management & Comptroller). In this capacity he was responsible for overseeing the DON's $170 billion operating budget and exercised financial oversight for the DON's 830,000 military and civilian personnel, including over 400 support contractors.

Mr. Taitano is the recipient of the 2009 Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Service. He has also received two DON Meritorious Civilian Service Medals, multiple USDA Farm Service Agency Administrator Honor Awards, and the USDA CFO Summit Award for the Budget and Performance Management System.

On behalf of the people of Guam and a grateful nation, I commend Mr. Dennis Taitano for his many years of dedicated service to our country. I wish him the best in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILDERNESS ACT

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

President Johnson signed the Wilderness Act in 1964 to permanently protect some of America's most beautiful wild places. The Act has so far protected 757 wilderness areas, accounting for a total of 109 million acres.

The National Wilderness Preservation System—comprised of four federal agencies—was established to monitor and protect these untrammeled spaces. In Pennsylvania alone, the NWPS has designated more than 9,000 acres of wilderness, including the Allegheny Islands and the Hickory Creek wilderness areas. These protected lands are void of construction, roads and permanent structures. Wilderness lands are also void of any logging and mining activities.

The NWPS not only protects the resident wildlife and natural ecosystems, but it also supports outdoor recreation activities and jobs. Wilderness areas provide tremendous opportunities for hiking, camping and fishing. Yet we are just visitors to these lands.

Mr. Speaker, the Wilderness Act and the National Wilderness Preservation System have helped to protect our nation's last remaining unspoiled lands and waters for the past 50 years. I celebrate the Wilderness Act and look forward to the excellent work the NWPS will continue to do in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF OAKLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONER MATTIE McKINNEY HATCHETT FOR HER DECADES OF SERVICE TO THE PONTIAC COMMUNITY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend, Oakland County Commissioner Mattie McKinney Hatchett, as she prepares to step down from the commission at the end of her term.

When her tenure ends in December, Commissioner Hatchett will have completed more than a decade of service to the people of Pontiac as their elected representative to the Oakland County Board of Commissioners and will end the most recent chapter in her more than five decades of public service to the City of Pontiac. In 1963, Commissioner Hatchett began serving her community as an employee and volunteer in the Pontiac Public School District. As an education professional, Commissioner Hatchett has been involved in Pontiac Public Schools for more than fifty years and currently serves as a Trustee on the Pontiac Board of Education. During her time in Pontiac Public Schools she has held a variety of positions from teacher to elementary school principal, and several high-ranking administrative roles.

Through Commissioner Hatchett's many public service endeavors in the Pontiac community, she has become a leader, mentor and passionate advocate for her constituents, friends, and neighbors. Her extensive work in the community includes service as the Chairperson of the Pontiac General Hospital Building Authority, an Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency Counselor for Youth Corp., Deputy Mayor of the City of Pontiac, and as a member of the Golden Opportunity Club. She has also been a member of many national organizations like the National Congress of Black Women and the National Baptist Congress.

In her most recent role as Oakland County Commissioner, Commissioner Hatchett has continued to be a staunch advocate for the Pontiac community. She has worked tirelessly to ensure that the voices of her constituents are heard and has been involved in finding solutions to the issues affecting them. She has been an active member of the National Association of Counties and, in 2011, was named the first African-American Woman to serve as President of the Michigan Association of Counties.

As an elected representative, I have been honored to serve the residents of Pontiac in my time as a Michigan State Senator and Member of Congress, and I have been so fortunate to have Commissioner Hatchett as a local leader with whom I have been able to work to address many issues affecting our constituents. Commissioner Hatchett's leadership has earned her countless awards and recognition from local community organizations—she has been honored as the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. Woman of the Year, a 2014 Wonder Woman Award recipient and the 2013 IMAGE AWARD recipients from Northern Oakland County NAACP. In recognition of the profound impact Commissioner Hatchett has made on the Pontiac community, in 2008, First Lady Michelle Obama acknowledged her as the "Mother of Pontiac".

Mr. Speaker, the people of Pontiac have been so fortunate to have a passionate advocate and leader as their voice to Oakland County for the last twelve years. Commissioner Mattie McKinney Hatchett's commitment to public service and decades of engagement with Pontiac residents to find solutions for the issues affecting their city and Oakland County are an example of the important work done by our locally elected officials. I know Commissioner Hatchett's voice on the Oakland County Commission will be greatly missed by her peers and by her constituents and wish her well as she begins a new chapter in her service to the people of Pontiac.

CPB'S "AMERICAN GRADUATE: LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN"

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday marks the 3rd annual "American Graduate Day," a live, public broadcasting event highlighting those working to keep America's students on the path to graduation.

Our local public broadcasting station's reporting is only the beginning of the work they do.

The American Graduate initiative, made possible with seed money from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, is the perfect example of this.

The initiative is a long-term effort by our public broadcasters to shed light on America's dropout crisis. But these efforts don't stop in the newsroom.

It's followed by local stations joining forces with over 1,000 partners and at-risk schools in their communities to find ways of meeting the initiatives goal: A 90 percent high school graduation rate in the U.S. by the year 2020.

This effort couldn't be more critical.

Each year, nearly one million students fail to graduate on time. The U.S., which once had some of the highest graduation rates of any developed country, now ranks 22nd out of 27 developed countries. That means today's generation will not be prepared for the jobs of tomorrow.

The initiative has made an impact. A study by Johns Hopkins found that American Graduate has successfully built local capacity to end the dropout crisis.

As the founder and co-chair of the Public Broadcasting Caucus, it's an honor to highlight the success of this program and the broader issue it is meaningfully addressing.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF DENNIS O. FREYTES

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize Dennis Freytes. Dennis has worked and excelled in the business, government, and non-profit sectors, and as a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army.

During his time in the Army, he was the Commander of Infantry, Special Forces, Engineer, Medical, and other units deployed worldwide on security and humanitarian missions. He served on General Staff and dealt diplomatically with over 32 countries.

Upon retiring from the Army, Dennis worked at a number of institutions and companies including BlueChip Energy/Advanced Solar Photonics, the Small Business Administration, the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research, the University of Puerto Rico, and Mathematic Policy Research.

Dennis has volunteered his time to help seniors, youth, veterans, small businesses, and state, local and national government. He is the current Vice President for the Southeast Region of the National Association for Uniformed Services. In his role as Vice President, Dennis helps to promote a strong national defense and to protect veterans' benefits. Dennis also serves as Veterans Advisor to Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs and as Chair of the Florida Civil Rights Association's Government Committee.

Dennis previously served as Trustee for Valencia Community College and sat on the Orange County Schools Search Committee. He also volunteered with the Citizens Commission for Children, Alliance for Children and Families, Seniors First, the United Way Board, YMCA Youth Achievers, and a number of other civic and social justice groups.

Dennis is the Founding Chairman of the Hispanic Achievers Grant Council. He has received numerous medals and awards for his outstanding military, professional, and volunteer service.

I am happy to recognize Dennis Freytes, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his service to the United States and contributions to the Central Florida Community.

HONORING TRUDY HEALY

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Trudy Healy; a woman of remarkable talents who has an unwavering commitment to preserving water quality in our great State of New Mexico.

From an early age, Trudy proved to be curious and passionate about her surroundings She was gifted with a virtuous heart, and immersed herself in every aspect of her community in Taos, New Mexico. Her mother, Mercedes Gonzales Valerio, was her trusted friend and confidant whom Trudy loved dearly. Trudy would tell others that her creativity stemmed from her mother, who surrounded herself with artists, instilling in her daughter a deep appreciation for art.

Her father was Juan I. Valerio, a two-term County Commissioner for Taos, and a well-respected man who was revered for his generosity and service to his community. He also proudly served as the ''acequia mayordomo'' or ''ditch boss'' and he taught his daughter how to farm, irrigate, appreciate water, and recognize the vitality it brings to a community. Trudy would carry these values with her throughout her entire life.

Trudy and her husband, Edmund Healy, would go on to found the Healy Foundation to focus on land and water issues and projects that promote healthy New Mexico communities. Through their foundation Trudy and Edmund have built partnerships with local, state and federal entities to generate funding for land and water projects in New Mexico and invested in courses at New Mexico State University for regulators and inspectors. They also contributed to the film ''The Water Haulers,'' spurring swift approval of the Navajo-Gallup water project in Congress. The project helped make clean water available to more than 240,000 residents.

In 2001, Governor Bill Richardson appointed Trudy to the Water Trust Board and was elected its Treasurer. Her involvement had an immediate effect. As the proud founder of the Acequia Project Fund for the Water Trust Fund, Trudy championed a holistic approach to water issues and fought to ensure the prosperity of underrepresented rural communities in New Mexico. Trudy understands the connection between water and people; what it means for survival, economic livelihood, and cultural heritage.

It is astonishing to think of all that Trudy has accomplished and fulfilled in her life: a horseback rider, successful art gallery owner and connoisseur, folk singer, guitar player, film writer, avid rancher, passionate water advocate, loving mother and proud wife to name a few. Her zest for life is endless and if you talked to anyone who knows her, they would tell you that water is her true passion. I look forward to continuing to work with Trudy on the important water issues facing our state and country and would like to take this moment to recognize all that she has done for New Mexico.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER PENSACOLA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 125th anniversary of the Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce. All across our Nation, local Chambers of Commerce play vital roles in supporting economic growth and development throughout their communities, and the Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce exemplifies this proud tradition.

The Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce's impressive history dates back 125 years to its first meeting on September 16, 1889, where a small group of business leaders got together at the Pensacola Opera House to form the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce. At their first meeting, they elected the Pensacola-area railroad magnate and future State Senator, William Dudley Chipley to serve as their first Chairman. The Chamber represented a wide variety of professions and local businesses, and it quickly proved its worth to the community, helping to grow the Port of Pensacola into the largest in Florida by 1900. Thanks to this prosperity and the tireless work of the Chamber, many new and important corporations were started in the Pensacola area.

By the turn of the century, the Chamber had also established a strong military affairs component, linking the Pensacola-area business community to Northwest Florida's growing military installations. In fact, the Chamber's leadership helped lobby for new defense activities during the 1898 Spanish-American War. Over the years, the Chamber has served as a key component driving Pensacola's transition from a small Navy Yard to the Cradle of Naval Aviation.

Meanwhile, during the early 20th century, the Chamber also brought together the business community and local city and county officials to help upgrade Pensacola's local infrastructure to meet the needs of a growing population and economy. Thanks to the work of the Chamber, local leaders, and the broader Pensacola community, the entire Pensacola area grew from a small town with no paved roads and few utilities to a world-class city that is home to tens of thousands of residents, countless successful businesses, and millions of visitors each year.

Over the years, the Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce has grown with the surrounding Pensacola community. From its humble beginnings 125 years ago, as a small group of civic leaders with no full-time staff, the Chamber has grown immensely and today the Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce represents more than 1,200 members working on a daily basis to help bring world-class economic development projects to benefit Northwest Florida's businesses and citizens.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress I am proud to congratulate the Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce on its incredibly successful 125-year history and look forward to another 125 years of success and prosperity.

HONORING MICHELLE SCULLY

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Michelle Scully (Educator, agriculture and economic development advocate; Lake County): Michelle has a 20-year history of service to Lake County, particularly in the areas of education, agriculture, and economic development. When Michelle and her husband relocated to Lake County as he went to work in the family's pear packing and farming businesses, she quickly immersed herself in community activities. She was appointed to an advisory board tasked with researching the divisive issue of genetically modified crops. She also served on the steering committee that developed Lake County

AgVenture, a program to educate community leaders on the importance of agriculture to Lake County. To address the issue of hunger, Michelle organized a very successful Bountiful Gift Box fundraiser for the county's Hunger Task Force. She brings creativity and solid business ideas to the table of the Regional Economic Development Committee with a style that keeps community members excited and engaged in realizing opportunities. She was a member of the Advisory Council appointed to be a driving force behind the opening of Marymount California University's Lakeside Campus and now serves as the campus's inaugural executive director.

Michelle has weathered storms, professional and personal, with infinite grace and a smile on her face. When she fell and broke her back riding her horse on their ranch, Michelle dragged herself, using only her arms, a quarter mile home where she laid on the floor until her husband arrived and insisted on taking her to the emergency room. Once home from surgery she missed just three lectures of teaching her biology class at Mendocino College, where she is still an instructor. Michelle personifies grit—she is able to work hard, overcome adversity, and bring long-term passions and community goals to fruition.

JIM OBERSTAR

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, as I get on my bike to ride home tonight I'll be smiling, thinking of Jim Oberstar.

There has never been anyone in public life who was more committed to cycling. The joys of the exercise, the power to help people enjoy the freedom, health and advantages of cycling—no one more committed to making it safe for our families.

And that's just the tiniest fraction of the Jim Oberstar story. We could spend the next two hours talking about his contributions to aviation, to a strong rail system, to making our roads and bridges safe, resources to expand infrastructure where we need, and the vision and money to maintain and improve where we need to.

Jim dedicated his life to rebuilding and renewing America. Over the last half century, his fingerprints are on all the major advances, whether he was in a staff capacity, a Committee member, in a powerful leadership position, in the Minority or in the Majority, Jim Oberstar was there, his influence felt, his advice and guidance welcomed, and he made a difference.

As rich and important were his many contributions to rebuilding and renewing America, he was far more than that. He was a kind and caring Member of this Chamber who listened to people regardless of their position in the legislative pecking order.

Jim truly was interested in what they needed, what they thought, and if there was a way that he could help them, consistent with his vision and values. Because he was a consummate legislator, often, he could do both.

Last, but by no means least, Jim Oberstar was a caring family man, driven by his principles, his faith, love for his family, and concern for everyone else's family.

To his beloved wife Jean, thank you so much for sharing this unique human being with us and being his partner helping him do so much, bring so much joy and so much . . . not just progress . . . but joy . . . a man who truly loved his work as he loved his family and he loved his country.

Yes, Jim Oberstar will be missed. But I for one will feel his presence, his commitment, his example, every day I serve in Congress and so it is for many others.

FORMER REPRESENTATIVE JIM OBERSTAR

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join in honoring our former colleague from Minnesota, Congressman Jim Oberstar.

He was a legendary figure in the House, elected in 1974 as part of the class of Democrats called the Watergate Babies that also included my colleagues from California, HENRY WAXMAN and GEORGE MILLER.

During his service in Congress, he became a well respected voice for transportation and infrastructure issues, earning him the nickname of "Mr. Transportation."

For decades he fought tirelessly to rebuild and renew our country's infrastructure and he eventually rose to chair the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Under his leadership he championed transportation, reinvigorating commerce, and good stewardship of our environment. An avid cyclist, he championed the creation of trails for hiking and cycling. Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, he can be credited with including major funding for transportation and infrastructure projects that put Americans back to work rebuilding our bridges and roads—and rebuilding our economy in the process.

I have very fond memories of Jim Obstar.

At the time Democrats were in the majority—I was Chair of the Ethics Committee—I enjoyed Jim's wise counsel and perspective on many legislative matters when we gathered with our fellow Chairs during the Leader's weekly Chair meetings.

Jim was a real expert in transportation and infrastructure but his passion was for working people. I appreciate Jim Oberstar as an amazing and multi-faceted person.

He was born into humble roots in Chisolm, Minnesota and he rose to greatness through hard work and higher education:

He earned his Bachelor of Arts from College of St. Thomas (now the University of St. Thomas) in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1956.

He earned his Master's degree in European Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium in 1957,

And he studied further at Université Laval in Sainte-Foy, Quebec, Canada and Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

Jim even spent four years as a civilian language teacher in the United StatesMarine Corps, teaching English to Haitian military personnel and French to American Marine officers and noncommissioned officers.

Jim's talents did not go unnoticed and when he served as a Congressional staffer he quickly rose to Chief of Staff for Congressman John Blatnik (D–Minnesota–8).

Later, he was elected to represent his beloved Minnesota as the Congressman from the 8th District, ultimately being reelected for 18 terms—the longest tenure in Minnesota history for a Member of Congress.

Many of us will remember Jim Oberstar as a modern renaissance man of many talents and an amazing intellect but—he never forgot his hardworking roots, or stopped fighting for the hard working people of his state and our country.

Like many of my colleagues, I join in praising Jim Oberstar and send my deepest sympathy to his wife Jean, his children and his grandchildren. We share your feelings of loss and send our sincerest gratitude to you for sharing this great man with our country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN JIM OBERSTAR

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of the former Congressman from Minnesota's 8th Congressional District, Jim Oberstar, who passed away on May 3 at the age of 79.

I had the privilege of serving with Jim Oberstar for four years, and will always remember his mastery of multiple foreign languages. It was a remarkable talent.

Jim was a dedicated representative who will be remembered for devoting 36 years of his life in service to Minnesota and the country in the U.S. Congress. We joined our hearts, efforts, and voices in the protection of the unborn and I am especially grateful for his work as the co-chairman of the House Pro-Life Caucus.

My prayers are with his family, particularly his wife Jean, and friends during this difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body join with me in honoring the life and legacy of the late Congressman Jim Oberstar. May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING THE SIXTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF JOHN AND CHRISTINA BROXSON OF GULF BREEZE, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary of John and Christina Broxson of Gulf Breeze, Florida. I am proud to honor the Broxsons and congratulate them on this remarkable milestone.

John and Christina met in 1953 at Southwestern Assemblies of God University (SAGU) in Waxahachie, Texas where John earned his Bachelor of Science degree in May 1954. They were married the following month on June 4, 1954 and spent the early years of their married life in pastoral ministry as well as missionary evangelism.

In 1959, John was appointed by Florida Governor Leroy Collins to complete his father's term as Santa Rosa County Sheriff, and in 1962, John was elected to the Florida House of Representatives. John and Christina moved to Gulf Breeze, Florida, with their family in 1964 to begin their business, John Broxson and Associates, Inc., an Independent Insurance agency and real-estate brokerage company. Committed to public service, John also served in other various roles to include, Florida State Senator and Santa Rosa County Commissioner.

Both John and Christina have lived a life of service to God and country, while raising five children: Sylvia, Bob, Cheryl, Bart, and Angela. John and Christina are loving and devoted parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is my pleasure to join John and Christina Broxson; their children; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and the entire Broxson family in celebration of their sixty years of marriage. My wife, Vicki, and I wish John and Christina many more years of happiness and all of God's blessings.

CHAIRMAN OBERSTAR

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, several years ago, they sent us to a civility conference because they didn't think that Democrats and Republicans were getting along well enough in the Congress, and I have never forgotten something our first speaker said.

David McCullough, the great historian, told a story about a Russian visitor who came up into the House gallery in 1948 and watched for a while, and then he went out and shook his head and he said, ''The House is a strange place.'' He said, ''A man stands up and says absolutely nothing, no one pays any attention, and then everyone disagrees.''

They say there is a little bit of truth in the best humor, and I guess there is some truth in that humor. But David McCullough was kind enough to go on from there and say, but if he had a chance to live his life over again and he could choose what he wanted to do, he would choose to be a member of that wild and raucous bunch known as the United States House of Representatives.

I think today, because of some of the television talk shows, that many people around the country think that we all dislike each other or that we hate each other at times, or that Democrats and Republicans just don't get along at all. But that is not true at all, and I think for the great, great majority of Members, all of us get along really well with everyone, regardless of party, and all of us consider it a great privilege and honor to serve in the United States House of Representatives.

We are losing many, many good Members from both sides of the aisle this year because of retirements, running for other offices, or for all sorts of reasons, and there are many other Members, both Democrat and Republican, who are good friends of mine who are leaving to whom I should pay tribute. But I rise tonight to pay special tribute to a very special man, and that is Congressman Jim Oberstar from Minnesota.

In my entire 22 years in this Congress, I have served on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. I had a couple of chances in my early years to move to other committees, and I think people were surprised that I didn't take either one of those offers. But I enjoyed serving on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, originally called the Public Works and Transportation Committee, in part because it was considered to be the most bipartisan, or nonpartisan, committee probably in the Congress. It was often said that there is no such thing as a Republican highway or a Democratic highway; and on many, many things people on both sides of the aisle on that committee worked together to help build America.

Certainly, Congressman Oberstar was one of the great leaders of that committee through his entire time in the Congress. Jim Oberstar served for 11 years on the committee staff, rising to the position of staff director. He then began his service in the House and continued to serve for the past 36 years.

It is an astounding figure to think that a man worked on this one committee for 47 years of his life, but he has done so with great honor and distinction. In fact, I think almost everybody knows that there is no one in the Congress and probably never has been anyone in the history of the Congress who has known transportation issues and understood them and worked on them longer and harder and with more effectiveness than Jim Oberstar has.

At one point, he was chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee. In 1994, after the election, the Republicans took control and I had the honor of becoming the chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee, and I served for 6 years in that position, which was the maximum allowable on our side.

When I took over as chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee, I had frequently heard Jim Oberstar referred to as ''Mr. Aviation.'' So I went to him and asked for his help, and he helped me and guided me and gave me advice that to this day I appreciate very much, and he did that in a very kind and humble way.

Then, of course, in the last 4 years, he reached the pinnacle and became chairman of that committee, a committee that he loves. He has been a great chairman, and I think he has tried to help everyone on both sides of the aisle.

So I just wanted to rise and pay tribute to a man that I consider to be a great American and a great Member of Congress, Congressman James Oberstar.

JIM OBERSTAR

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, what an honor it is for me to convene this special order for our friend and colleague—Minnesota's longest serving Member of Congress and my predecessor in representing our state's Eighth Congressional District. . . . A giant of a man—the truly great former Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure—Jim Oberstar.

We can all take comfort—and some pleasure as well—in knowing that Jim was well aware of the respect and esteem we ALL had for him—Republicans, Democrats, liberals and conservatives.

That was evident when he quietly entered this chamber in January of last year—for the first time as a former Congressman.

First one member spotted him—then another and another—and within a few seconds everyone was standing, cheering, and applauding spontaneously.

It was a truly unforgettable moment—a gesture I haven't seen in this historic place since Hubert Humphrey addressed a joint session of Congress shortly before he passed away some 36 years ago.

When I think of Jim Oberstar, four big words come to mind. The first word is accomplishment.

He was the son of a miner who grew up in a little House in Chisholm, Minnesota—whose career in public service and as a leader on the Transportation Committee touched every great city, every town, and every small community in our great nation . . . .

With a road—a bridge—a park—a harbor—an airport—a public building. Tens of millions of people have a better, safer quality of life thanks to Jim Oberstar.

And those accomplishments were genuinely bipartisan in nature.

As Chairman, Jim believed a good idea is a good idea regardless of who proposes it.

So Committee debates were wide open, with plenty of give and take. If you had an idea, Jim made sure it was heard and debated—and that it received an up or down vote after all was said and done.

The second big word that applies to Jim is work—hard work.

Regardless of how early you showed up—you couldn't arrive early enough to beat Jim to the office every morning. And his light was always the last one to go out after the rest of us had left for the night.

Of course, Jim didn't worry about DC traffic.

This man, who presided over hundreds of billions of dollars in transportation projects—and who understood more about the intricacies of transportation policies than most of the rest of us combined—just wove through the traffic jams riding his bike to work every morning.

And by the way, thanks to Jim's ''Safe Routes to School'' program, millions of kids are walking and biking to work every day across our nation.

The third word for Jim is intellect. To paraphrase President Kennedy—Thomas Jefferson was the smartest American to ever dine alone—except perhaps when Jim Oberstar was grabbing a bite to eat in the Rayburn cafeteria.

Jim was simply brilliant He spoke six languages fluently—from French to Creole to that strange combination of Finnish and English we call ''Range Speak'' up north on Minnesota's Iron Range.

There was no detail to small—and no vision to grand—for Jim to comprehend—and then articulate in a manner everyone else could understand as well.

Last but not least—when I think of Jim, I think of home.

Home on the range. Minnesota's Iron Range and Minnesota's Eighth District.

Jim loved our great northland—our lakes—our timberlands—our great mining industry—the port of Duluth—Superior National Forest and the beautiful Boundary Waters.

His heart was always back there—as well as here in this Chamber and in this House he loved so well.

We loved him dearly. We will miss him terribly. And we will do our best to carry on in his great work in a spirit of bipartisan respect and decency.

HONORING PENNSYLVANIA STATE TROOPER JOSEPH J. SEPP, JR.

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the exemplary service of Pennsylvania State Police Trooper Joseph J. Sepp, Jr. Trooper Sepp gave his life while defending his community on November 10, 2002.

Trooper Sepp was born on August 23, 1968 in Wilkinsburg and raised in Windber. He graduated from Windber Area High School in 1986 and the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown in 1991. He joined the Pennsylvania State Police on February 24, 1992, fulfilling his lifelong dream of serving as a State trooper.

Trooper Sepp was shot while chasing a suspect at high speed in Ebensburg. He died thirty-eight hours later on November 10, 2002. More than 1,200 law enforcement officers from across the nation attended his funeral at St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church in Windber.

Trooper Sepp is survived by his wife Jenny and their children Joey, Andy, and Amanda Jo. He is also survived by his sister Tina and parents Joseph and Lana Gay Sepp.

Mr. Speaker, we name our buildings, bridges, and monuments after those who have served and sacrificed for our community in extraordinary ways. It is fitting that the bridge carrying 17th Street over State Route 56 will now be named the Joseph Sepp Memorial Bridge.

I join all Western Pennsylvanians in honoring Joseph J. Sepp, Jr., a State trooper who gave his life to protect and serve his community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 10–20–30 ACT OF 2014

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce the 10–20–30 Act of 2014.

It is no secret that there are major disagreements among the two political parties over the role that the federal government should play in fighting poverty and confronting many other national challenges. These disagreements, put simply, come down to a question of federal resources: I believe that we should target more resources to impoverished communities than the proposed Republican budgets allocate, and I believe we can do so efficiently and effectively.

I was privileged to have the opportunity to work through some of these disagreements last year as a member of the Budget Conference Committee, and the deal that resulted, while not 100 percent of what either side wanted, was a reasonable compromise on federal spending through the end of the next fiscal year that I was proud to support.

Now that we have determined how much the federal government will spend, we must determine how to spend it most effectively. It is on this latter question—how to allocate finite federal resources to get the most "bang for the buck"—that I believe we may be able to find more common ground to make real strides in combating persistent poverty in America. The 10–20–30 Act is a bill that members of both parties should support.

Mr. Speaker, there are currently 488 persistent poverty counties in America—so defined because 20 percent of the population has lived below the poverty line for the past 30 years or more. They are diverse, including Appalachian communities in states like Kentucky and West Virginia, Native American communities in states like Alaska and South Dakota, Latino communities in states like Arizona and Texas, African American communities in states like South Carolina, Mississippi, and Alabama. They are urban communities in the Northeast, and rural in America's heartland. 139 of these counties are represented in this august body by Democrats, 331 by Republicans, and 18 are split between the two parties. Combating persistent poverty should matter to all of us, regardless of party, geography, or race.

In early 2009, when we were putting together the Recovery Act, I proposed language to require at least 10 percent of funds in the rural development account to be directed to projects in these persistent poverty counties. This requirement was enacted into law. In light of the definition of persistent poverty counties as having at least 20 percent poverty rates over 30 years, this provision became known as the 10–20–30 initiative.

This provision bore dividends, as economic development projects proliferated in persistent poverty counties across the country. The Recovery Act funded a total of 4,655 projects in persistent poverty counties, totaling nearly $1.7 billion. I saw firsthand the positive effects of these projects in South Carolina. Projects were undertaken and jobs created that would have otherwise gone lacking. Among these investments was a $5.8 million grant and $2 million loan to construct 51 miles of water lines in the Britton's Neck community in Marion County. In Lowndes County, Mississippi, $17.5 million was spent to install a water line, elevated tank, and two wastewater pump stations, providing potable water to Mississippians and creating badly needed construction jobs. The Wellborn Special Utility District in Brazos County, Texas, received a $538,000 loan to construct more than 9 miles of new water distribution lines and connect over 60 households to a new water source.

The legislation I am introducing today would expand 10–20–30 to other federal agencies. In 2011, I joined with our former Republican colleague, then-Representative Jo Ann Emerson of Missouri, to introduce an amendment to the Continuing Resolution that would have continued 10–20–30 for rural development and expanded it to 11 additional accounts throughout the federal government affecting economic development, education, job training, health, justice, the environment, and more. This bill would apply 10–20–30 to these accounts for the next 10 years.

I want to make two things clear about the 10–20–30 Act. First: It would not—I repeat, would not—add one dime to the deficit. It would simply allocate resources from funds already authorized or appropriated. Second: it would be no remedy for an inadequate budget. If we cut spending on economic development programs as much as some advocate, allocating 10 percent of this reduced amount to persistent poverty counties would be wholly insufficient to addressing the great need in these areas.

Over the past 30 years, the national economy has risen and fallen multiple times. During each economic downturn, while we have been rightly focused on getting economy as a whole back on track, we have not given adequate attention to these communities that are suffering from chronic distress and Depression-era levels of joblessness. As a result, they have suffered even in good economic times. The 10–20–30 Act of 2014 would create a mechanism to address this deprivation in times of want and in times of plenty, in times of federal investment and in times of fiscal austerity.

I published an article on 10–20–30 in the most recent issue of the Harvard Journal on Legislation. I discuss the history of our nation's efforts to address chronic poverty and more fully lay out the case for broadly implementing 10–20–30 in a bipartisan fashion. I look forward to working together to pass the 10–20–30 Act to lessen the scourge of persistent poverty in these distressed communities.

CELEBRATING THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to commemorate the National Day of the Republic of China, commonly known as Taiwan. National Day is on October 10, when the people of Taiwan will celebrate the birth of their country. I am proud to memorialize this significant milestone here in Congress in tribute to the great spirit and pride of the people of Taiwan, our close friend and ally. The alliance between Taiwan and the United States is strong but I believe it is time to take even bolder steps to improve and enrich our cooperation on a range of important issues that confront both of our nations.

Already our 12th-largest trading partner, we should be acting aggressively to enhance our economic relationship with Taiwan in ways that will benefit both our nations. A Bilateral Investment Agreement with Taiwan is long overdue and I urge the Administration to conclude negotiations in an expeditious manner so that our two nations can sign an agreement as soon as possible. In addition to bolstering Taiwan's economic strength, there is much

more the United States can do to support our democratic ally politically and militarily. We must support Taiwan's democracy and the human rights of the Taiwanese people by providing the tools and assistance necessary to resist Chinese coercion. The United States should help to modernize Taiwan's defense capabilities by building its capacity to partner with other friendly foreign militaries and through the sale of necessary defense articles. We can also support Taiwan by encouraging visits by high-level officials between our nations and supporting the meaningful participation of Taiwan in international organizations.

Along with my colleagues Representatives MARIO DIAZ-BALART, ALBIO SIRES, GERRY CONNOLLY, and JOHN CARTER, the co-Chairs of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I have introduced legislation called the Taiwan Policy Act that would accomplish these objectives, strengthening the U.S.-Taiwan relationship politically, economically, and militarily. As Taiwan's National Day approaches, let us use this auspicious occasion to find ways to improve our relations even further. Taiwan is a beacon of freedom in the Pacific and we cannot afford to support Taiwan any less than to the best of our ability. Happy Double Ten Day, Taiwan.

HONORING MS. AI-JEN POO

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ai-jen Poo to congratulate her on the 2014 MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. MacArthur "Genius" Fellows show extraordinary dedication and originality in their field, as well as exceptional promise for continuing their creative pursuits in the future. Ms. Poo demonstrated these qualities through her successful organization of domestic workers on a national and international level. She has created better working conditions for women who are often exploited, by establishing fair labor standards which were originally nonexistent.

Ms. Poo started organizing immigrant women workers in 1996. In 2000, she cofounded Domestic Workers United, the organization that has successfully advocated for passage of the state of New York's Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights in 2010. Currently, Ms. Poo is the Executive Director of the National Domestic Workers Alliance (NDWA), which arose from the first national domestic workers convention in 2007 that she helped plan. NDWA is a leading organization in building fair labor standards for the 2.5 million domestic workers in the U.S. Recently, Poo was instrumental in the Department of Labor's decision to include caregivers for the elderly and disabled in federal minimum wage and overtime protections.

Ms. Poo is also Co-Director of Caring Across Generations, a campaign that brings together caregivers and the employers into an alliance that supports immigration reform, health care, and labor policies. This confluence of interest results in better labor conditions, and greater quality care for America's aging population.

Aside from being a 2014 MacArthur Foundation fellow, Ms. Poo was previously recognized with numerous other accolades including the World Economic Forum Young Global Leader award in 2013, and the Ms. Foundation Woman of Vision Award. In 2012, she was named one of TIME Magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World.

Ms. Poo has exhibited outstanding devotion to a cause that continues to improve countless lives. I appreciate all that she has done to serve our nation, and I congratulate her for her achievement. She is more than deserving of this honor.

HONORING NICOLE MONTNA VAN VLECK

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Nicole Montna Van Vleck (Rice grower and industry leader; Sutter and Sacramento Counties): Nicole Montna Van Vleck is the managing partner of family owned and operated Montna Farms in Yuba City, a major grower of Japanese short grain specialty rice. Nicole is actively involved in all aspects of the operations from growing to drying and milling and her involvement with California agriculture is long-standing. She is a third generation Sutter County rice farmer who has been a leader in numerous associations as an advocate for the state's farmers.

For more than a decade she has served on the California Rice Commission where she currently sits on the Board of Directors and on numerous committees. She is a member of the California Rice Industry Association Board and in 2011 joined the Board of Directors for American Commodity Company. From February of 2011 to July 2013, Nicole served as co-chair for the USA Rice Federation Rice Quality Task Force and remains active. She also is active in the USA Rice Producers Group.

In the area of water, Nicole has leadership roles in the Northern California Water Association. She is Vice President of the Sutter Bypass Butte Slough Water Users Association, having been president for more than a decade. She is Treasurer of Garden Highway Mutual Water District. Outside of agriculture, Nicole is a member of the Board of Directors for River Valley Community Bank. Nicole is a graduate of the California Agricultural Leadership Program, and of the USA Rice Leadership Program. Early in her career she worked as a legislative analyst for the law firm of Morrison & Foerster before returning to the family farm in 1994. As Vice Chair of the California State Fair Agricultural Advisory Board, Nicole advocates for agricultural education programs for youth. She raised money for State Fair Scholarships and school tours of the State Fair Farm. Nicole is a respected leader and champion for women in agriculture statewide and for economic development in Sutter County.

VAWA; HISTORIC LAW CONTINUES TO HELP WOMEN AND GIRLS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, this week we mark the 20th anniversary of enactment of the Violence Against Women Act, which was signed on September 20, 1994. I supported and continue to strongly support this law. I voted to create the programs in 1994 and helped ensure enactment of the first reauthorization in 2000 by attaching it to my anti-trafficking law—the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act (PL 106–386/TVPA). I also cosponsored the 2005 reauthorization, fought to ensure these programs are fully funded to assist the maximum number of victims and voted for seven of the first seven VAWA reauthorization bills offered through 2012.

All of these efforts have helped draw national attention to the epidemic of domestic violence and invested significant resources to prevent domestic violence, assist the women and children who fall victim to it, and improve our justice system's response.

Millions of victims have been helped by VAWA, but more remains to be done.

The release of a video last week of then-Baltimore Ravens runningback Ray Rice assaulting his now wife in an elevator in Atlantic City horrified us all. I, like most Americans, was shocked and disgusted by the unacceptable brutality and violence captured on the video. But regrettably, the violence exposed does not represent a rare, isolated incident but rather an exploitation that remains all too prevalent in our modern day society.

VAWA is one component of a solution, but we must work harder and have a more robust national conversation on the culture of violence in America and how we can better protect vulnerable women and children.

Of course, acts of violence against women and children are not a uniquely American problem. Around the world, women and children are abused and assaulted, and in many places, unable to receive any form of assistance or hold perpetrators to account. In conflict zones rape is used as a weapon of war and intimidation. Modern day slavery continues as traffickers sell women as commodities. Gendercide, where babies are aborted based exclusively on their sex, is commonplace in many cultures, particularly in China.

Again, Mr. Speaker, we can, and must, do better.

In 2000, when VAWA was up for renewal and there was a concern that it may not pass, I helped secure its enactment by attaching the reauthorization bill in it entirety to my landmark TVPA. The TVPA was a significant breakthrough—for the first time we put significant U.S. resources and the real force of law towards the prosecution of those who sexually exploit and traffic women and children and significant resources towards shelters and treatment for women abused both here in the U.S. and around the world. Simultaneously we reauthorized the VAWA programs; enacted "Aimee's Law" under which any state that prematurely releases violent criminals will be forced to reimburse another state if the criminal repeats the crime; and expanded the scope of Megan's Law so that it covered college campuses.

The version of VAWA that was signed into law last year reauthorized some of these antihuman trafficking programs but unfortunately gutted the State Department's Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Office. As I stated at the time, these provisions: "represents a significant retreat in the struggle to end human trafficking."

The TIP Office is an extraordinary advocacy mechanism and has had a huge impact worldwide. In addition to 'best practices' advocacy, the office monitors labor and sex trafficking in every country of the world pursuant to minimum standards prescribed in the TVPA and makes recommendations for whether or not countries should be ranked Tier I, Tier II Watch List or Tier III. Countries with bad records and who fail to make 'serious and sustained' efforts to improve are designated Tier 3—the worst ranking—which may result in sanctions.

For over a decade the TIP Office has been the flagship in our struggle to combat the violence of human trafficking, and demoting our anti-trafficking efforts, as PL 113–4 did, was wrong and must be addressed. On behalf of the women and children who fall victim to the soulless traffickers every year, we need to ensure these efforts remain a top priority.

Accordingly, I authored, and the House passed the Human Trafficking Prioritization Act (H.R. 2283) to raise the profile and influence of the TIP Office by making it a bureau within the State Department. My bill is pending in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, the House has also passed my first of its kind anti-sex tourism bill this year, my International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Sex Trafficking (H.R. 4573)—as part of a phenomenal package of legislation that builds on our efforts to end the exploitation of and violence against women and children.

H.R. 4573 will combat child sex tourism by alerting countries of destination concerning the travel plans of convicted U.S. pedophiles. And to protect American children, the bill encourages the President to use bilateral agreements and assistance to establish reciprocal notification so that we will know when convicted child-sex offenders are planning to come to the U.S.

The legislation is named for Megan Kanka, a 7-year-old from Hamilton, NJ, who was kidnapped, raped, and brutally murdered in 1994. Megan's assailant was a convicted, repeat sex offender living across the street, unbeknownst to residents in the neighborhood. Due to public outcry in response to the tragedy and to the hard work by Megan's loving parents, Richard and Maureen Kanka, the New Jersey State Legislature passed the original Megan's Law to require public notification of convicted sex offenders living in the community. Today, all 50 States and all the territories have a "Megan's Law", an important tool in preventing more children from becoming victims.

My International Megan's Law takes the lessons we have learned on how to protect our children from known child sex predators within our borders and expands those protections globally.

The Senate, thus far, has yet to act on these important bills—as well as the many other anti-trafficking measures we've passed.

The Majority Leader has an opportunity right now to send a strong message. On the anniversary of VAWA and as we approach Domestic Violence Awareness month, I call on Majority Leader REID to bring these bills to the floor.

As the nation is focused on the NFL's response to the horrific abuse perpetrated by a few of its players, HARRY REID can set an example of how organizations can act, deliberately and aggressively, to end the culture of violence that harms women and children.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BERRYDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT IN JAY, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department in Jay, Florida, and recognize the dedication and selfless service of its members in protecting the citizens of the Northwest Florida community.

The Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department has been protecting the citizens of Northwest Florida since it was officially chartered in October 1974. The fire department started as a small operation, acquiring their first fire truck for $300, with Holley Phillips appointed as their first Fire Chief. Since its charter, the department has served as an unrivaled knowledge base of fire safety and a safeguard for the residents of Jay.

In the 40 years that the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department has been serving the community, it has grown considerably. Today, 12 honorable and distinguished volunteers selflessly serve their community as volunteer firefighters. This courageous group put their lives on the line daily to ensure the safety of their fellow Northwest Floridians by responding to thousands of calls within the community, over the years.

With community support, the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department has added to their fleet three new trucks. A tanker, a pumper, and a rescue truck have been integrated into their arsenal to combat fires in Jay and keep its citizens out of harm's way. Current Fire Chief, Jim Cagle, has been leading the department for the past 24 years. What has remained true over the 40 years is the commitment to protect Northwest Florida and ensure its residents know they are safe under the watchful eye of the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pleasure to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department. My wife Vicki joins me in thanking all of the volunteers for their faithful service and wishing them and the department continued success.

HONORING BURNS & McDONNELL

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Burns & McDonnell, an employee-owned consulting firm with locations in Downers Grove and Chicago. Burns & McDonnell, which serves my constituents in the Sixth District, has been recognized as being not only one of the best places to work in the state of Illinois, but also in the nation.

Since opening in 1994, the professionals at Burns & McDonnell have offered a full range of engineering, architecture, construction, environmental and consulting services. Their clients include government, industry, utility and institutional organizations. Burns & McDonnell have been involved with many major projects around the Chicagoland area such as the Illinois Tollway, O'Hare International Airport, and countless others.

With over 160 employees in their local offices, Burns & McDonnell ranked 14th in Fortune 100's "Best Companies to Work For" in 2014 and was named to the 2014's "Best Places to Work in Illinois" list by the Daily Herald Business Ledger, one of only sixty Illinois companies to receive this honor.

Mr. Speaker and my distinguished colleagues in the House, please join me in honoring Burns & McDonnell for their legacy of excellence. Burns & McDonnell is a company that truly cares not only for their clients, but also for their employees.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE KENNETH WILLIAM "KEN" HECHLER FOR HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, September 20th, a former Member of the House from my State of West Virginia, Dr. Ken Hechler, will celebrate his 100th birthday.

First elected to the House in 1958 and reelected to eight consecutive terms, Ken Hechler is now the longest living former Member of Congress, and remains a champion for black lung benefits for which he successfully fought during his tenure. Subsequent to his service in this body, he would continue his dedicated public service to the people of West Virginia by being elected Secretary of State for four terms.

Before serving in the House, Dr. Hechler served as a military historian, writing about major European battles, and he retired from the U.S. Army as a Major.

Dr. Hechler then worked as a speech writer in the Truman Administration. Entrusted with a Ph.D. from Columbia University, he devoted a considerable amount of his career to teaching; that included teaching in the Political Science Department at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia.

Dr. Hechler has authored nine books, including The Bridge at Remagen, West Virginia Memories of President Kennedy, and Working with Truman: A Personal Memoir of the White House Years.

In an era when this Nation seems so divided on the issues of the day, Dr. Hechler's perspective on the job of a Member of Congress is pertinent for political observers, pundits, students of government, our fellow citizens, and, particularly, Members of Congress.

In speaking about taking unpopular positions, yet being elected time and again, Dr. Hechler has said, "Well, if you do your job on other things; to most people that's more important. If you answer your mail directly and they believe you're honest in your beliefs, why, this is usually accepted even if they disagree with you."

Ken Hechler and I have been occasionally at odds, but upon one thing we have consistently agreed: Tending to the needs and interests of those we have the high honor of representing in the Congress—one call, one letter at a time—is our highest obligation.

Thank you for your many contributions to our Nation, Ken, and Happy Birthday on this centennial milestone.

RECOGNIZING SHANA RUNCK

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Shana Runck as she receives the White House Champion of Change award. Each week, the President of the United States honors local leaders, who perform extraordinary work on a daily basis in their community to build a better America.

Shana is the Assistant Vice President of Community Relations and Financial Capabilities with New Mexico Educators Federal Credit Union. Every day she shares her experience and knowledge, providing financial education and job training to at-risk Latino students in New Mexico. Shana is a true role model, instilling in others the same confidence that drives her success. She shares her work ethic in a selfless way and teaches others that with persistence and determination, anything is attainable.

Our very own city of Albuquerque is fortunate to have such a remarkable person in Shana. She has played a vital role in developing the City of Albuquerque's ''Running Starts for Careers'' program, and she has designed the Financial Services Career Exploration course to ensure they receive college credit for their internship experience. Shana's outstanding work within the local community has helped students continue their education and get job-training in trade fields that interest them

Shana exemplifies the bedrock principles of our nation; civic engagement, love for our neighbor, an understanding that one ripple of change can soon become a current, and the idea that one individual can have a profound impact on a community. I have no doubt that Shana will continue to accomplish great things in all her future endeavors.

HONORING PROJECT CHILDREN AND FOUNDER DENIS MULCAHY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of Project Children.

Since its founding in 1974, Project Children has brought over 22,000 children from both Protestant and Catholic communities in Northern Ireland to America, uniting them with over 15,000 American host families for a summer of peace and a lifetime of friendship. Summer vacation in the United States has given these children a break from the conflict and politics of their country and a chance to experience what many might take for granted during their youth.

Denis Mulcahy and his brother Pat founded the program together after they immigrated to New York. A retired member of the New York City Police Bomb Squad, Denis is truly the heart and soul of Project Children. His extraordinary dedication to peace and understanding has made a tangible difference in the lives of many in the U.S. and in Northern Ireland, and to the peace process on the island.

A nonprofit all-volunteer organization, the program has fostered countless friendships among communities in Northern Ireland, Ireland, and America. Project Children along with host families, coordinators, fundraising volunteers, benefactors, and alumni here in the United States have played a pivotal role in the growth of this organization.

Project Children has had a tremendous impact on the peace process along with U.S. and Irish relations. This group is one of the organizations that laid the community-wide foundation for the Good Friday Agreement, while continuing to serve as an example of the power of peace and reconciliation efforts at the grassroots level—as well as the power of individual leadership exemplified by Denis Mulcahy.

During my time as a member of Congressional Friends of Ireland Caucus, I have been fortunate enough to be a part of many significant achievements in implementing peace in Northern Ireland. I have seen firsthand what organizations like Project Children have done to offer hope and a better life for future generations. Without this organization's commitment along with the leadership of Denis Mulcahy, many young men and women from Northern Ireland would not have the quality of life they have today. Congratulations to both Project Children and Denis Mulcahy on this momentous occasion.

CALIFORNIA 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S WOMEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, the success of our districts and the livelihood and future of our communities relies heavily on the devotion and service of those who go above the call of duty, willing to devote their time and energy to improving society and the lives of people around them. This fall, through my 2014 Women of the Year awards, I have made an effort to recognize, honor, and celebrate the vital contributions of outstanding women in my district.

Each of these women exemplifies sacrifice and devotion. These civic leaders have helped improve their communities in various ways, and are compelling advocates for critical issues including education, flood protection, environmental stewardship, and the arts. They promote healthy communities, organize events to promote world peace, and raise community awareness to end bullying. They are all women in California's Third Congressional District who have succeeded in bettering their communities and the lives of those around them—living proof that when women succeed, America succeeds.

Throughout our history, America's foremothers have made great strides in securing their equal rights and equal treatment under the law. And while we have come so far, there is still work to be done. We stand on the shoulders of giants, but that does not mean we should cease to reach further. Thanks to these women and others like them, I see our communities reaching further every day.

Pat Ash (City Councilwoman and preservationist; Williams—Colusa County): Pat Ash, the current mayor of Williams, has served as a Williams City Council Member for many years. She is the founding and most active member of Citizens for a Better Williams, known locally as CBW.

Through her membership on the city council and in CBW, Pat has played a crucial role in beautifying vacant areas, including a parcel that was annexed into the town square park. An outstanding example of Pat's leadership and generous spirit is her preservation of the aging Masonic Hall in town. Pat recently purchased it herself, thus maintaining its historic value to the city and county.

Under Pat's sustaining leadership CBW recently arranged for a mural to be painted on the Masonic Hall, adding local interest and a festive atmosphere to this popular park. On June 7th, the mayor hosted a mural dedication ceremony that featured Governor Jerry Brown and relatives of W.H. Williams, founder of the town. Through her creativity and tenacity, Pat has been instrumental in organizing Williams' Summer Concerts in the Park series featuring local musicians. The venue offers the community a place to mingle and for nonprofit groups to hold fundraisers. In further testimony to Pat's enduring appreciation for her city, she has written a book illustrating the influence of Western Europeans settling in Williams. Pat's fellow citizens appreciate her efforts to preserve and showcase the city's history.

Marci Coglianese (Municipal law attorney, former city official, land use advocate; Rio Vista—Solano County): Marci Coglianese, past mayor and council member for the City of Rio Vista, has practiced municipal and environmental law for more than 25 years. Her achievements in furthering good land use planning, and environmental and risk management practices for the Delta are extraordinary. Marci represented the League of California Cities on the State Floodplain Management Task Force and on the public advisory committee to update the California Water Plan. She has been instrumental in protecting Solano County farmland and served as co-chair of the Delta Levees and Habitat Subcommittee of the Bay Delta Public Advisory Committee. She is an active member of the Rio Vista Army Base Steering Committee.

Marci has always been a vocal and staunch advocate for fairness and for racial and gender equality in local government. After assuming office she was notable for her openness in listening and responding to the needs of her constituents of every political stripe and economic status. A person of the highest integrity and forthrightness, Marci sets an exemplary standard for all in political office, from the smallest village to the national capitol. Despite serious illness and family trauma, she has maintained a manner of openness, grace, and humor toward even her most bitter opponents. Marci Coglianese is greatly loved and admired by all who know her.

Deborah Eernisse (Fitness instructor, mentor, and volunteer; Davis—Yolo County): Deborah's outstanding trait is her ability to build community with diverse groups of all ages, particularly around fitness and health. In Davis she has built a supportive community of older adults who remain active and engaged in their own health and happiness. Her ''Fit for Life'' program at the Davis Senior Center has reduced injuries, falls, and the

need for hospitalization or skilled nursing care.

Deborah graduated from UC Davis with a minor in Adult Development and Aging. She had planned to be an at-home mom, but faced with serious medical problems in her immediate family she had the foresight and strength to persevere and graduate from the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program at Sacramento City College. Since then she has earned a number of other certifications.

Participants in Deborah's fitness classes have been able to improve their muscle tone, balance, coordination and strength in such a way that many age-related declines are slowed or prevented. Class members who have had strokes, joint replacement, fractures and similar problems are able to follow through with their long-term rehabilitation. Those with chronic conditions such as diabetes or neuropathy are able to optimize their independence and quality of life. Beyond strength, friendships are created and social support flourishes. Her classes fill up quickly and have a waiting list. Deborah also conducts a popular free yoga class for the Davis High School football team, and she has served on the board of the Davis Food Co-op. Recently she completed 30 hours of training to become part of the Davis Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Deborah is now part of a pool of volunteers ready to assist in large-scale emergencies.

Gloria Estrada (Veteran advocate and peace activist; Williams—Colusa County): Gloria Estrada works tirelessly for the interests of Colusa County families, donating much of her time to organizations that benefit the community's veterans and the families of fallen soldiers. On August 11, 2011, not long after recovering from a head-on crash Gloria's son, Pfc. Rueben ''Boy'' Lopez, was killed in action by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan. Since then Gloria has dedicated herself to helping families in need and advocating for peace. She celebrates her son's service and sacrifice by paying it forward.

One way she has done this is by arranging for the placement of Peace Poles in each community in Colusa County. The Peace Pole serves as a symbol to remind community members that they are the peace builders. On August 11, 2014, Gloria and her family organized a ceremony on the grounds of the state capitol in Sacramento. Veterans of Colusa County traveled to the state capitol for the ceremony in which 193 full-size flags of the world were carried. A Peace Pole featuring the message ''May Peace Prevail on Earth'' in 12 different languages was presented to the People of California.

Each year on the anniversary of her son's death, Gloria chooses an agency, school, or group where she hosts a celebration urging those present to celebrate life and to please pay good works forward. Gloria is a tireless community volunteer and an exceptionally loving and giving woman. Whenever someone is in need, Gloria is quick to search on their behalf. If someone needs company, Gloria is at their side with reassuring words. Those who know her well agree that each of us is a better person because we have Gloria in our life.

Lee Ann Grigsby-Puente (Flood protection advocate; Hamilton City—Glenn County): As president of Reclamation District 2140 Lee Ann played a leading role in working with Congressman Garamendi and other federal, state and local representatives to secure federal funding in an Energy & Water Development appropriation to begin construction of the Hamilton City Flood Damage Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration Project.

The current J Levee, now mostly in disrepair, was built in the early 1900s. The levee failed twice in the 1970s and required emergency reinforcement six times in the past 30 years. If the river floods, the homes of 2,000 Hamilton City residents are at risk, as are the farms and Highway 32.

The project is multipurpose. Plans include 6.8 miles of setback levee to protect the town and farmland. The existing J levee will be ''degraded'' and 1,400 acres of land will be restored to native habitat along the Sacramento River floodplain. Thanks to Lee Ann's perseverance and effective work with elected representatives, Glenn County Sheriff Larry Jones, who serves as head of Glenn County's Office of Emergency Services, was able to say: ''I am very pleased. The project is vital to our public safety. . . . Now I can start to look forward to the time when the J Levee is no longer one of my biggest concerns.''

Lee Ann serves on the Hamilton City Task Force developing a 5–10–20 year strategic plan for the city. She is president of the Hamilton City Women's Club that leads the way in adding new civic amenities in the downtown.

Mary Grimmer (School and community volunteer extraordinaire; Arbuckle—Colusa County): Mary Grimmer is an amazing woman, full of energy and passion, and extremely giving of her time and resources. For the past five years, Mary has volunteered at least 12 hours per week in the school library, helping students locate books, cataloging new books, and reminding students to return overdue ones. Each year she donates a generous number of titles to the library collection.

Meanwhile, the school office can count on Mary to help with school pictures in the fall and spring of each year. Through the Parent Club, she takes the lead on ordering all of the school tee-shirts and sweatshirts that students purchase. You also will see Mary Grimmer at all kinds of events, camera around her neck, taking thousands of pictures that she shares with the students. Mary is an active 4–H leader and a member of the Arbuckle Little League where she is responsible for many aspects of the organization, including scheduling of games. She is a part-time employee of the Arbuckle Parks & Recreations Department, giving more time than she could ever be compensated for. And, when someone in the community is ill or has just had a baby, Mary graciously delivers a home-cooked meal as a show of support for them.

Programs for children just don't happen. They take the dedicated people who care about kids to devote their time, energy and often their own financial resources. Mary provides initiative and the physical labor to fill the gaps. She is a beacon calling others to volunteer their time to change the lives of children.

Samina Masood (Working to end poverty, homelessness, and abuse of women; Fairfield—Solano County): Since 2012 Samina Masood has partnered with the City of Fairfield to seize the twin horns of homelessness and domestic abuse in order to demonstrate that renewal is possible for homeless, abused, and neglected women and their children. Were it not for her direct intervention and program services, hundreds of women and children would go without hope, a place to live, or resurrected lives. Each year her organization, Heather House, takes in hundreds of needy and vulnerable women, then shelters and supports them. Samina resides on campus with them to run the seven-day-a week program. Empowered by their experience in a 90-day work program, they are able to leave the shelter with a job, housing, and the skills to achieve economic independence. Samina's passion and dedication are quite infectious, engaging many city leaders to join hands and work together on behalf of these at-risk local women and their children. She has served as a commissioner on the Mayor's Commission on Crime to help prevent and reduce crime in the city.

Masood herself is a role model. She came to the United States as an immigrant from the third world country of Pakistan. She is a writer and published columnist with her columns appearing in the Tracy Press nationally and in the U.S. State Department Gazette. Samina has two master degrees—an MA in Communications and an MS in Clinical Psychology. In the 80s and 90s she worked for the World Health Organization, the U.S. Department of State, and U.S.-AID as an advocate for women and children. An abuse survivor herself, Samina talks openly about her childhood growing up in a county where women and children are deprived of rights. She often speaks of how she saved her own soul by fighting for other women who had no voice. She is writing a memoir.

Dr. Frances Nelson (Librarian, educator, literacy advocate; Fairfield—Solano County): Frances Nelson has brought outstanding gifts to the educational community of Solano County. She is a preeminent librarian whose commitment to diversity and whose advocacy for the teaching of U.S. history and government have enriched the lives of many students and adults. Frances has a myriad of community and educational experiences over more than 15 years in Vacaville's secondary classrooms and, after her retirement, as adjunct librarian with 20 years of service at Solano Community College. She is the only African-American librarian that Solano Community College has had in its seventy-year history.

Dr. Nelson has pioneered information access techniques with individuals of all ages and backgrounds. Through the California School Library Association Dr. Nelson participated on a committee that developed ''Standards for Information Literacy: Grades k–12.'' This endeavor prompted her to develop a library skill workbook and a video tape presentation on school site curriculum for a Vallejo school library. Frances travels regularly to Oakland to select as many as 75 books that she then donates to the Solano Juvenile facility. She also donates hair care products to African-American girls there when these are requested. Dr. Nelson is a newly appointed Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commissioner for Solano County, is active in the Delta Kappa Gamma Society Beta Psi Chapter, and has served in leadership roles at her church. Dr. Frances Gholson Nelson has elevated the whole community—not just with the time she has spent in community service but in the quality of her service that counts for so much more.

Gloria Partida (Advocate for restorative justice and anti-bullying activist; Davis—Yolo County): When her son was savagely attacked near downtown Davis the night of March 10, 2013 in what was deemed to be an anti-gay hate crime, Gloria Partida responded with composure and grace. She not only cared for her son Mikey's needs, physical and emotional, she led the community in a candlelight vigil coordinated by concerned community members. Mikey spent months in rehabilitation and many more in at-home care by family members relearning the tasks of daily life and receiving counseling for PTSD. Gloria faced the tragedy and its aftermath courageously and with compassion. In an October 6, 2013 editorial, ''Innocence Lost: Now where are my virtues?'' she set a powerful example, showing our community how to push back against hate crimes and bullying behaviors of all kinds: ''Having survived this magnitude of violence, my son and family became magnets for people who had suffered similar experiences and wanted to share their stories. Sadly, there were many. This produced for

me, ever the optimist, an internal civil war. How could people who started out sweet and promising turn into vessels of evil? . . . What became evident to me . . . was that I needed to be responsible for more than my own children. And not just the smart, easy-to-get along with ones . . . the marginalized ones.''

Gloria attended a church meeting on the topic ''Standing Up to Hate,'' and in that meeting the Davis Phoenix Coalition was born. Gloria worked ceaselessly on the group's projects, including a March 2014 anti-bullying workshop; a screening and discussion of ''The Laramie Project'' and other awareness-raising events; find-raising and attending the ''Not in Our Town'' national gathering in Montana; designing a tee shirt and bumper sticker; writing an anti-bullying brochure . . . always turning a devastating personal event into an opportunity for community growth.

Linda Plummer (Healthcare advocate, arts supporter, community volunteer; Marysville—Yuba County): Linda Plummer is known as a distinguished advocate for health care and for the arts, twin passions that merged when she created Rideout Healthy Kids. RHK is a musical theater program teaching healthy eating and exercise habits. Still in its first year, the program created seven jobs—four actors, a director and two sound technicians—and reached more than 4,000 school children in its first season.

As part of her job as marketing manager for Rideout Health, Linda helps to get the word out about the newly expanded Rideout Regional Medical Center, the largest construction project in recent memory in Marysville and its neighboring communities. Linda is a dedicated steward of the project. As 30 ironworkers, eight carpenters, six deck builders, two rebar workers and 15 other laborers and inspectors worked on the structure last year, Linda observed the sudden transformation following years of planning. ''It's like Christmas,'' she said.

The Yuba-Sutter Chamber of Commerce has recognized Linda for her deep community involvement. She founded the Way, Way, Way Off Broadway event to give performance opportunities to high school actors. She is a board member of the Sutter Performing Arts Association and Yuba-Sutter Arts. A past president of the Rotary Club of Yuba City, she has been involved with Friends of Yuba City Parks and Recreation; the Casa de Esperanza shelter for victims of domestic violence; Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts; and the Galena Street East performance group to encourage young artists. She was a judge for the Sacramento Regional Theater Alliance. When asked how she manages her busy schedule, she admitted: ''What schedule?'' For Linda, ''Volunteering is addictive. Whatever form it may take, volunteerism has an incurable impact on people—you see it change lives.''

Lonetta Riley (Educator and school district trustee; Yuba—Sutter County): Lonetta Riley has served on the Yuba City Unified School District board for 16 years as District 3's representative and for the past two years as board president. Says a friend, ''you can count on Lonetta's support for the students and she stands up for teachers and the job that they try to do in these times of diminished funding.'' Lonetta Riley is the only African-American woman to ever have been elected to office in Sutter County. When asked what it was like to be the first, she always responds that ''it doesn't really matter unless I work to make sure there is a second, third and fourth.''

Lonetta began her advocacy for education in 1970 while a graduate student at the University of Nebraska where she led demonstrations to address the poor graduation rates of black athletes. As a member of the Douglas County (Nebraska) Citizens Committee, she was instrumental in bringing attention to local civil rights violations. More recently as a Juvenile Justice Commissioner for Sutter County, she has worked to raise awareness and organize efforts to address the difficult issues facing delinquent youth. She is passionate in believing that mentoring during probation is an opportunity to help individuals get their lives back on track.

A criminal justice professor in the Los Rios Community College District, Lonetta is the Training Coordinator for the Regional Public Safety Training Center of American River College and guides the training of law enforcement personnel. She is a member of the Bethel AME Church, the National Urban League, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Bridges 2 Housing and other community organizations. Lonetta believes that ''if you don't use your voice for change, your silence says the status quo is okay.'' She exemplifies the adage to be the change you would like to see in the world.

TRIBUTE TO JACKSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Jacksonville Public Library's 100th anniversary as a Member of the Federal Depository Library Program. Since its designation in 1914, The Jacksonville Public Library system has faithfully provided information from the federal government to the citizens of Northeast Florida, providing a better informed and educated citizenry. Additionally, employees of the Library have offered guidance and acted as liaisons to the wealth of knowledge that the Depository contains.

The Federal Depository Library Program was established by Congress to ensure that the American public has access to its Government's information. Materials—whether, print, media or e-resources—are added by cataloging to the library's catalog and can be searched just like anything else. In the past government documents were not automatically cataloged and thus were missing from the records. The Jacksonville Public Library has an array of legacy materials from the 1860's, statistics, reports, newly published titles, as well as a mix of non-print media.

I am proud of the work that the Jacksonville Library has done on behalf of the community. The Library has made accessing information easier and more convenient for those wanting to extend the breadth of their knowledge. This achievement makes me particularly proud to call myself a Jacksonville native.

STOP ACT

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, we are now half way through September, and young people in Chicago and throughout the nation have started a new school year. As they advance in age and begin to realize their potential, many teens from junior high through the first years of college are confronted with peer pressure and normal curiosity to engage in illegal underage drinking. In spite of great progress in reducing underage drinking, the statistics remain unacceptably high.

For many years, the dedicated staff of the Federal Trade Commission has promoted a consumer education program known as We Don't Serve Teens. It is an effort to inform parents and other adults of the ways in which teens acquire alcohol and the risks they face. The FTC initiative is reinforced by members of the alcohol beverage industry who publicize the information in the media and at retail outlets throughout the nation.

According to survey data compiled for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, many young teens have easy access to alcohol. A study funded by that agency showed that 93.4 percent of adolescents ages 12–14 who drank alcohol in the past month got it for free.

In most cases, adolescents have access to alcohol through family members, from their own homes or homes of friends. The same survey indicates that more than 500,000 youngsters in that 12–14 age group consumed alcohol within the last month. Alcohol consumption at that age can be the indication of other problems. If ignored, it can lead to patterns of abusive drinking and other risky behavior that adversely affect the teenager for a lifetime.

In addition to monitoring the activities and behavior of young teens, illegal alcohol consumption poses a serious risk to high school and younger college students. This past August, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism published guidance titled, Fall Semester: A Time for Parents to Revisit Discussions About College Drinking. As our young people enter their later teenage years, the challenge for parents and the broader community increase. High school and college students have older friends who can purchase alcohol for them. They also have smart phones, cars, and other means to communicate and travel.

We often hear the message, ''If you see something, say something,'' from our homeland security agencies. Parents, friends, neighbors, pastors, and teachers all have different experiences and interactions with teens. We need to enlist all people of good will to say something if they see a teen that they know engaged in underage drinking.

Last year, alcohol was a factor in over 190,000 emergency room visits by persons under the age of 21. Some of those teens died and some suffered traumatic injuries that will permanently change their lives and diminish their potential. Those numbers are every bit as troubling as the national security issues we face. The We Don't Serve Teens web site and materials provide many common sense approaches to limit teen access to alcohol and to recognize the signs that a young person you know may be consuming alcohol illegally.

In addition to supporting the We Don't Serve Teens message, I urge my colleagues to support the H.R. 498, the Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act, better known as the STOP Act. It was introduced by Rep. ROYBAL-ALLARD again in this Congress. Thanks to her efforts and those of our Republican colleague FRANK WOLF, portions of this

legislation have been included in continuing resolutions and appropriations bills since 2006.

The STOP Act strengthened our response to the challenge of underage drinking. Seventeen federal agencies now worked through an interagency committee to better coordinate activities to further reduce underage drinking. A number of valuable studies and recommendations have been shared with government officials and civic-minded citizens throughout the nation. I commend our colleagues for their work.

To the men and women in agencies responsible for administering STOP Act research and grants, I ask you to persevere. Your work has saved many lives, and with sustained effort at the federal, state, and community level, we can further reduce underage drinking and its terrible consequences for our families and communities.

To the Commissioners and staff of the Federal Trade Commission, I commend the We Don't Serve Teens initiative and encourage you to sustain it in the future. I would also like to express appreciation for a company in the district I represent, Constellation Brands Beer Division, which promotes the We Don't Serve Teens message in the media and at alcohol beverage retail outlets throughout the greater Chicago area.

Underage drinking is a problem we can all work together to solve. I urge my colleagues and all Americans to utilize the tools prepared by the FTC and other agencies and help further reduce underage drinking and its consequences for our younger citizens.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CARIDAD CORTES

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize Caridad Cortes. Caridad was born and raised in the Bronx, New York. She relocated to Kissimmee, Florida with her children in 1994, while her husband continued to work in New York until he retired in 1997. She has worked in the healthcare industry for most of her career as a Case Manager.

In 2006, when her children were grown, Caridad was ready to continue her education. She returned to Walden University where she graduated with her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and a Minor in Human Resources in 2009. Caridad is a freelance writer for online media and is an avid photographer in her spare time. She is always exploring her creative side.

Since she first moved to Kissimmee, Caridad has seen immense changes in her community. Caridad seeks to spark change by getting involved in local social causes. She is the Recording Secretary of the Democrats of Osceola and a member of the Osceola Chapter of the Democratic Hispanic Caucus.

Caridad is married to John Cortes, Democratic Candidate Elect for the Florida House of Representatives, District 43. John and Caridad have been married for 33 years and have two children and one grandchild. Caridad is always there for her family, and there is no task too large or small for her to take on.

I am happy to honor Caridad Cortes, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for her contributions to the Central Florida community.

RECOGNIZING THE YODER FAMILY AS THE 2014 ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, FARM FAMILY AND AGRICULTURAL INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize the Yoder Family from Century, Florida, for being selected as the 2014 Escambia County, Florida, Farm Family and Agricultural Innovator of the Year.

The Yoder family farm, a 100-acre farm located in northern Escambia County, Florida, is a family affair. Run by Brent, and his wife Janice, the Yoders' four children—Blake, Brian, Allison, and Bryce—also play an integral role in the Yoder family's success. Having grown up on farms themselves, both Brent and Janice understand the importance of agriculture and the vital role that a strong family plays in operating a successful farm.

On their farm, the Yoder family runs a small grass-fed Grade A dairy farm with an on-site processing facility for pasteurization and a processing and bottling facility. The Yoder family started in 2009 with just one cow, Daisy, and the original intent was simply to produce the highest quality milk for their growing family; however, as soon as the Yoder family began to share their product with the local community, they saw that there was a great demand for their golden-yellow wholesome product.

Today, the Yoder family has 15 Jersey cows, chosen due to their high butterfat content, and, by grass feeding and grazing their cows, the Yoder family products offer consumers a healthy balance Omega fatty acids, conjugated linoleic acids, and low levels of saturated fats. Brent delivers the Yoder family milk on a dairy route one day a week, and the Yoder family milk is also delivered to eight local storefronts. The Yoders are also very welcoming and happy to open their farm to the local community to demonstrate the importance of agriculture, and many of their customers drive to the northern part of Escambia County to see the farm and dairy and purchase milk directly from the Yoders. The Yoders also work closely with Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Extension, and their farm served as a stop on the 2012 Escambia County Farm tour, where Brent led visitors on a tour of their farm, while Janice provided guests with home baked cookies and ice cold Yoder family milk.

In addition to their dairy farming activities, the Yoders also have a local partnership with Janice's father, a local row crop producer who also raises hogs, to grow non-GMO grains that is then delivered to local farms to be used for their mixes. The Yoder family personify the innovation and ingenuity of our Nation's agricultural industry, through their first-rate dairy operation, and their innovate mixes. The Yoders are always looking to improve their operations, and currently, Brent is utilizing a peanut base to create a soy-free poultry mix.

Outside of their farming operations, both Brent and Janice are also highly dedicated to their local community and their church. Brent works closely with the Lower Alabama 4–H Club, where he helps teach young people from Northwest Florida and Southern Alabama about the importance of agriculture. In addition, both Brent and Janice serve their local church in leadership capacities and raise their four children in a faith-filled environment. In addition, Brent also helps spread inspiring and family-oriented reading material through his service as Chairman of the Gulf States division of Choice Books.

Mr. Speaker, our great Nation was built by farmers and their families. The Escambia County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year Award is a reflection of the Yoders' tireless work and their dedication to family, faith and farming. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Yoder family for being outstanding in their field. My wife Vicki and I extend our best wishes for their continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BRIDGE TO A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to support the continued development of clean energy in the United States. The impacts of a changing climate are far-reaching, representing a threat not only to our ecosystems but to our national security as well. To help avoid the worst effects of carbon pollution, consumers must have a dependable supply of energy that is clean and renewable. That much of this energy—and many of the devices used to produce it—is American-made means that our country retains the innovation, export opportunities, and manufacturing jobs that are so important to a twenty-first century economy.

The Bridge to a Clean Energy Future Act of 2014 would extend critical clean energy incentives to provide market certainty and to strengthen investment in that sector. For example, this extends the Production Tax Credit for wind energy through 2016, offering parity with the Investment Tax Credit enjoyed by solar energy investments, while also granting the solar industry access to credits at the start of a project's construction, as in the wind industry. The bill also provides a range of other important incentives, such as the Advanced Energy Project credit, which aids U.S. manufacturers across the clean energy industry.

This bill supports thousands of jobs in clean energy industries, advances U.S. manufacturing, and supports our transition to clean, renewable energy. Most renewable energy investments are spent on materials and workmanship to build and maintain the facilities, rather than on costly energy imports. Renewable energy investments are usually spent within the United States, frequently in the same state, and often in the same town. Meanwhile, renewable energy technologies developed and built in the United States are being sold overseas, providing a boost to the U.S. trade deficit.

It is in the national interest to cut pollution while growing our economy. Tax credits for

clean energy and energy efficiency must be updated and extended. It is important to note that the fossil energy alternatives these industries are competing with have permanent tax incentives. We cannot continue to direct scarce tax dollars to industries that are a major contributor to climate change.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DESIGNATION OF THE ''JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD POST OFFICE''

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, as you know, here in Washington we have the unique opportunity to work for the citizens of this great nation and provide positive change in the lives of many. Together we work for the good of our communities, and in the process we cross paths with some remarkable leaders.

Today I am introducing a bill that will recognize the life of one of those very special leaders of our time, the late Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald, by designating a facility of the United States Postal Service in my district as the ''Juanita Millender-McDonald Post Office.''

Rep. Millender-McDonald was a pillar in many of the communities I represent. She was a resilient public servant who was deeply loved by her community first as an educator, then as program coordinator for a nonprofit fighting gender issues, and finally as a beloved elected official. Undaunted by the work to be done, Rep. Millender-McDonald took charge of her opportunity to serve and became the first African American woman to be named Chairwoman of the House Committee on Administration. She was also an active member of the Congressional Black Caucus and served over a decade in the House of Representatives.

An exemplary piece of her legacy was her work to better the lives of not just those here at home but internationally as well. Her work to aid victims of genocide and human trafficking serves as a testament to her dedication to creating a better world. Millender-McDonald worked tirelessly for her constituents, taking only a week of leave before she succumbed to cancer.

By designating a United States Postal Service facility in my district as the ''Juanita Millender-McDonald Post Office,'' we honor an exemplary woman with an incredible public service record that I hope will further serve as inspiration for the community which I serve—the same community which so revered her.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE L. CLIFFORD DAVIS

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to celebrate an entire life of accomplishment, fighting for civil rights, and devotion to improving the lives of others for a greatly respected constituent of mine in Fort Worth, the Honorable L. Clifford Davis.

Following graduation from Philander Smith College with a degree in Business Administration in 1945, Mr. Davis then enrolled at Howard University Law School for the school year 1945–1946.

In the spring of 1946, he applied for admission to the University of Arkansas Law School but, because he is African-American, was not admitted. In the school year 1946–1947, he enrolled at Atlanta University majoring in Economics but continued to seek admission to the University of Arkansas Law School. In the fall of 1947, he returned to Howard Law School but continued correspondence with the University of Arkansas in an effort to gain admittance.

In January 1948, a press conference was called at the University of Arkansas to announce that if he applied he would be admitted if he enrolled. But, because of the ''separate but unequal'' arrangements at Arkansas, Mr. Davis elected to remain at Howard and graduate with a Juris Doctor Degree in 1949. His efforts ultimately led to the University of Arkansas' decision to integrate its graduate programs, becoming the first southern state university to do so without litigation.

After graduating from law school, Mr. Davis returned to Arkansas and was admitted to practice law on July 4, 1949. He has practiced law in Arkansas and Texas for over 65 years and represented numerous plaintiffs in public school de-segregation cases. After serving as legal counsel for the NAACP in the 1960s, he became one of the first African American state district judges in Tarrant County, serving from 1983 to 1988 in Criminal District Court No. 2.

For his Civil Rights efforts, the NAACP has awarded him the highest award for Civil Rights litigation, and he has been recognized by the National Bar Association's Hall of Fame and the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame. On the local level, he has received numerous awards including the Blackstone Award, the highest award presented to a lawyer, and the Civil Gavel Award, the highest award presented to a judge, both awards presented by the Tarrant County Bar Association. Today, the L. Clifford Davis Elementary School in Fort Worth bears his name.

Judge Davis has been Counsel at the Johnson, Vaughn & Heiskell law firm since 1989, where he still practices law today. Despite the great time demands of these many accomplishments, he served his country in the military from 1954 to 1955 and was also an Assistant Professor in the Business Department at Paul Quinn College from 1952 to 1954.

Judge Davis is happily married to Ethel R. Davis and they have two daughters, Avis and Karen; and is a member of the St. Andrews United Methodist Church.

I am grateful for Judge L. Clifford Davis' many decades of service to this nation in advancing Civil Rights, serving in our military, and paving the way for others by establishing scholarships so that students can follow in his path. Our nation is grateful as well for his service.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE ELEVATION OF REVEREND DOCTOR JAMES C. PERKINS TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Doctor James C. Perkins on his election as the new President of the Progressive National Baptist Convention.

Beginning his service as an ordained minister in 1974, Dr. Perkins has served as pastor of Greater Christ Baptist Church for the last thirty years. Under his leadership the congregation of Greater Christ Baptist has grown deeper in its fellowship and in it is outreach to the Greater Detroit community.

As a strong believer that faith requires a person to care about both their spiritual well-being and the well-being of their community, Dr. Perkins has led his congregation in the creation of ministries that have been making a difference in the Greater Detroit region. Among the many projects these ministries have supported are the Fellowship Nonprofit Housing Corporation, which serves the community as a force for economic development and the Benjamin E. Mays Male Academy which opened in 1993 and operated for 17 years with the mission of providing access to education for young males in the Greater Detroit community. As a result of these efforts, the Providence Place complex, which provides housing to fifty low and middle income families, hundreds of young men have seen their quality of life improve. In addition to these accomplishments, Greater Christ Baptist runs a food pantry that provides vital food products to families in need, a political awareness ministry that fosters community interest in civic participation and the Progressive Matrons ministry that supports homeless women.

Realizing that his role as a spiritual leader is one that intersects with other community interests, Dr. Perkins also serves on the boards of a number of community organizations. These organizations include: the Michigan Progressive Baptist Convention where he served as president, the Detroit Baptist Pastors Council, the Detroit Chapter of the NAACP, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., and the Steering Committee of the Detroit Jobs Alliance. For his work he has been recognized with many awards, including: the Gandhi King Ikeda Award from Morehouse College, the Pastor of the Year Award from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the Charles Andrew Hill Award from the Michigan Progressive Baptist Convention.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Perkins' elevation to the presidency of the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC) is a recognition of the profound impact his leadership has made on the Greater Detroit community, and the inspiration that leadership has instilled in his congregation and other members of the PNBC. I congratulate him on achieving this important milestone in his service to the congregation of Greater Christ Baptist Church, the PNBC and the Greater Detroit community. I know he will continue to be a strong leader and staunch

advocate for his congregation and the Southeast Michigan community, and wish him continued success in his future endeavors to strengthen the Greater Detroit region.

TRIBUTE TO NEW MEXICO PBS

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend New Mexico PBS for again receiving an American Graduate: Let's Make It Happen community service grant that will enable its stations to continue their efforts to improve graduation rates for students in New Mexico. This grant through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting is part of an effort to close "graduation gaps" for students of different races, ethnicities, family incomes, disabilities, and those with limited English proficiency.

In today's economy, a high school diploma is a necessity and a college degree is so important to opening the doors of opportunity. In New Mexico, sadly, we have seen troubling graduation rates, with too many of our young people failing to graduate from high school. New Mexico PBS will use this grant to highlight local leaders who are helping increase graduation rates and playing a vital role in encouraging our children to complete their education. It will also work to increase understanding of the challenges facing students, working with partners to develop long-term solutions that emphasize the importance of early education.

This effort is a continuation of New Mexico PBS's mission to provide educational programs that strengthen our communities and build a brighter future for our state. I commend New Mexico PBS for its efforts and also the American Graduate program for their commitment to our young people.

RECOGNITION OF ACCESS TUCSON IN HONOR OF 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition and celebration of Access Tucson, an independent, nonprofit, membership-based organization that is celebrating 30 years of serving the people of Tucson, Arizona. I also want to commend Executive Director Lisa Horner for her many years of service to this community.

Access Tucson provides the training and facilities for Tucsonans to communicate with their community through electronic media. Access Tucson producers provide the ideas, information and diversity to create the most visible part of Access Tucson's operations: the programming.

Public access television is the only forum in which individual citizens have the opportunity to express their opinions and perspectives to the community through cable television. Access Tucson provides an important venue for exercising one of our First Amendment rights: the right to free speech. Public access television makes the use of electronic media possible for many groups that are under-represented or not heard or seen in conventional broadcast television.

Access Tucson provides programming with an important social benefit—such as programs that assist refugees learn how various Tucson services operate and how they can become fully integrated into our community. Access Tucson also provides media training and media literacy to many individuals, including people living with a disability.

I congratulate Access Tucson on its 30th anniversary and look forward to enjoying its service to our community for at least another 30 years.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AMERICA'S CREDIT UNIONS ON REACHING 100 MILLION MEMBER MILESTONE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize America's credit unions on reaching an historic milestone of achieving 100 million members nationwide. Credit unions are liked by their members for the quality service and financial education they offer. That is why one in three Americans have proudly united themselves with the common values and principles of credit union membership.

South Carolina is especially appreciative of credit unions as Ed Templeton, President and CEO of SRP Federal Credit Union of North Augusta, South Carolina, recently became the new chairman of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU).

Since America's first credit union opened its doors in Manchester, N.H. in 1908, millions have made the choice to become credit union members. Credit Unions help unite communities. It is likely you can join a credit union if you live, work, or worship in a particular area. Membership can be obtained through employers, families, school or alumni associations, industry or trade groups, and even homeowners' associations.

As a credit union member myself, I stand proudly in congratulating the more than seventy South Carolina credit unions and approximately 1.4 million citizen-members on this historic achievement. When 100 million Americans have united as credit union members, each one knows he or she is in good company.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. CAROL LINDE, WINNER OF AUBURN'S POLITICAL SCIENCE LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend an outstanding young leader who attends Auburn University, which is a leading research and educational institution in my district in Alabama. Auburn's political science department each year recognizes a student leader who excels in both the classroom and the community. It is my honor to announce that Ms. Carol Linde is this year's winner of Auburn's Political Science Leadership Award. A faculty committee selected Carole after careful consideration of her outstanding credentials.

Carol grew up in Delaware. She is a senior pursuing a dual degree in Political Science and Psychology, with minors in English and Women's Studies. With a perfect 4.0 cumulative grade point average, Carol has been rightfully recognized for her academic abilities as the recipient of many awards, including the Sloan Y. Bashinsky, Sr. and Sam Long Hutchinson endowed scholarships. She is on the Dean's List, and is a member of Auburn's Honors Congress, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and several other honor societies.

Carol has demonstrated her leadership in multiple ways. At Auburn, she has worked as a peer instructor for first year students in the Honors College, tutored student athletes and provided writing assistance for students through Auburn's Miller Writing Center. Beyond campus, she has helped spearhead recycling efforts on football gamedays, assisted with the East Alabama Food Bank and assisted local preschools' Head Start programs.

Carol has also involved herself in the policymaking process as an intern. She interned in the state office of our colleague in the other chamber, Senator TOM CARPER, as well as in my district office in Opelika, Alabama. As with everything else in which she has participated, Carol did an outstanding job working on behalf of the citizens of my district, and I am sincerely grateful for her efforts. I am convinced her record of service and success will continue after she graduates in May 2015, and I look forward to hearing of her future accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Carol, and express my appreciation to her parents, Eric and Melinda Linde, and to Auburn University for producing such an outstanding student and citizen.

HONORING JUDGE JAMES D. TRIMBLE

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Judge James D. Trimble, who has served his family and community throughout his lifetime while striving to put others before himself.

Judge Trimble chose to dedicate 30 years to the Menifee County School System. Of those, 22 were spent as a teacher and eight of were spent as a principal. Some of those years were even spent driving a bus throughout Menifee County and coaching the girls' basketball team. After retiring from the school system in 1994, he became a part-time tobacco farmer and worked part-time at the Frenchburg Job Corps for five years teaching driver's education.

From 2003 until 2006, Trimble served as Menifee County Judge Executive under the

motto "Leave Menifee County better than you found it." As Judge Executive, Trimble was able to accomplish a great deal for Menifee County, reducing the county's debt from $900,000 to $600,000 in just three years. He secured a grant for two new garbage trucks; purchased a new boom mower for the county; and worked in conjunction with 911 Director Christy Wayman and Commercial Mobile Radio Services (CMRS) to obtain a new 911 system for Menifee County, which also received a two year raise for all county employees and $100 million in additional money for blacktopping from the Governor's office while Trimble was Judge Executive. Judge Trimble also worked with Gail Wright of the Gateway Area Development District office to receive funds from Community Development Block Grants and Appalachian Regional Commission for a new Senior Citizens Center for Menifee County.

Trimble has been happily married to Lucille Coldiron Trimble for 49 years. They have two children, Jami Miller and Jimmy Trimble; and three grandchildren—Travis Trimble, Kyle Miller and Bryce Miller.

Trimble is a proud member of the Frenchburg Baptist Church, where he serves as a deacon and an adult Sunday school teacher as well as leading Wednesday night prayer meetings.

In his spare time, Trimble enjoys playing basketball in adult recreation leagues. He also enjoys the Bluegrass Games, and has taken home both gold and silver medals with his group. He is an active member of the Shift Masters Car Club, and coached Little League for five years while his son Jimmy played for "The Royals." He has enjoyed volunteering with Habitat for Humanity as well.

James D. Trimble has devoted his life to serving those around him, and his service to Menifee County, our Commonwealth and our community is greatly appreciated.

RECOGNITION OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the upcoming anniversary of the beginning of the Wuchang Uprising. This event, which began on October 10, 1911, is commemorated every year as the National Day of the Republic of China. The Wuchang uprising led to the establishment of the Republic of China, commonly called Taiwan, in 1912.

Over the years, the United States and Taiwan have fostered a mutually beneficial relationship based on interests and values that we share. This friendship has led to far reaching economic benefits and unique cultural ties.

Taiwan is a trusted ally and trading partner and has acted as an example of democracy in the Asia-Pacific region. It is in our mutual best interest to continue to strengthen our economic relationship and cultural ties. I hope our trade and investment continues to grow in the years ahead.

I hope that the longtime friendship between the United States and the Republic of China continues to blossom and develop for decades to come.

HONORING ALLISON HUGHES

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Allison Hughes of Barrington, Illinois. Allison is co-founder of a charity called Heels on the Ground, whose mission is to improve and enrich the quality of life for the caregivers of America's wounded soldiers.

Allison served our country for 8 years as an Army UH–60 pilot and was deployed in Iraq twice. Her husband, Special Forces Major Breg Hughes, was wounded on May 29, 2012 in Afghanistan when his Humvee drove over an IED, just days before Allison was due to give birth to the couple's second son. Breg sustained 3rd degree burns and severe injuries. While caring for her husband and raising two children, Allison has remarkably found the energy to co-found Heels on the Ground and work to support other caregivers.

Heels on the Ground is a charity that seeks to provide support for caregivers through the creation of local support chapters, individualized mental and physical wellness plans, educational webinars, quarterly workshops for chapter leaders, and through Wounded Warrior caregiver retreats for small groups with the goal of developing skills learned in other channels. The goal is to teach caregivers how to manage the stress, anxiety, and the countless other demands that are placed on them in caring for their wounded spouses, often while juggling responsibilities for children, work, their own personal mental and physical wellbeing.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Mrs. Allison Hughes for her impressive service to our country as both a woman in uniform and caregiver to one of our wounded servicemen. She has truly set an example for us all to live by.

HONORING DENISE RUSHING

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Denise Rushing (County Supervisor and economic strategist; Upper Lake—Lake County): Denise Rushing is best known for her work as a business growth strategist. With a background in energy technology and digital marketing, Denise helps change-makers innovate, create and enter new markets consistent with their values. She has generated grassroots momentum to find renewable and regenerative solutions to environmental problems. In 2006, after living in Lake County for just 18 months, Denise was elected to the Board of Supervisors in one of the most transformative elections in Lake County history as her platform of justice and environmental stewardship resonated with voters.

Lake County's economic evolution over 7½ years is a testament to Denise's leadership and evidenced by California's Green Summit Environmental Leadership Award two years in a row. One project is the largest public solar installation in the western United States; the other, "appropriate tech" park structures constructed with volunteer labor and all local and natural materials. Denise was instrumental in transforming a blighted trailer park into an eco-park, and a leading advocate in bringing the county's first four-year educational institution to Lucerne. She has been passionate about finding healthy solutions for improving water quality in Clear Lake and has worked collaboratively on local boards and committees, including one that brought traditional agriculture and the organic community together in a "Food Roundtable." Denise was elected in a resounding fashion and, true to her promises, has effected lasting, sustainable change in Lake County and the people who live here.

RECOGNIZING THE WARD FAMILY AS THE 2014 SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA, OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize the Ward Family from Allentown, Florida, for being selected as the 2014 Santa Rosa County, Florida, Outstanding Farm Family of the Year.

The Ward family farm was started in 1917 when James B. Ward settled in Allentown and set up a farm near Highway 89. Today, nearly 100 years later, the Ward family farming tradition continues with James E. "Jimmy" Ward, his wife Angela, and their three sons, Jamie, Justin and Dustin. Like many family farmers, Jimmy Ward has been farming for as long as he can remember, and he discovered his love of farming and learned the core values of hard work, integrity, and generosity from working on the farm with his father, Lamar, and his three uncles. Since taking over the farm, 24 years ago, Jimmy has carried on the proud Ward family farming tradition, and today, the Ward family incorporates the lessons learned from generations of farming to grow peanuts, cotton, corn, and wheat on their 900-acre farm.

In addition to their work on the farm, the Ward family is also deeply involved in their local community and in various agricultural organizations. Jimmy currently serves as Chairman of the Agriculture Financial Services Corporation Farm Committee and is an active member of the Florida Farm Bureau, where he can help share his vast experience and knowledge with other Florida farmers.

Mr. Speaker, our great Nation was built by farmers and their families. The Santa Rosa County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year Award is a reflection of the Ward's tireless work and their dedication to family, and farming. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Ward family for being outstanding in their field. My wife Vicki and I extend our best wishes for their continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE ALBUQUERQUE DUKES

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the

everlasting heritage of the Albuquerque Dukes baseball team, the famous ''Duke'' logo strewn across their dirt-stained jerseys and its rich cultural representation of our great state of New Mexico. I would also like to extend my gratitude to trademark owners Fred Matteucci and Steve Palmisano for recognizing the rich historical significance of this iconic symbol and bringing it back to our community.

In 1915, the Albuquerque Dukes became the first recognized professional baseball team, and joined the Class D Rio Grande Association featuring the Spanish conquistador as their symbol and mascot; they called him the ''Duke''.

The symbol of the Duke had far reaching ties to the identity and narrative that defines the city of Albuquerque. It derived from Francisco Cuervo y Valdez who wrote to Francisco Fernández de la Cueva, a viceroy of New Spain, later known as The Duke of Alburquerque to inform him of their newly founded villa. The ''r'' would later be dropped, but that site still remains and now features our beautiful Albuquerque metropolis of over 500,000 people.

It is remarkable how much the Dukes baseball team impacted our community. From the Great Depression, to the Manhattan Project, to the Cold War, and to the countless other events in our nation's history the Albuquerque Dukes were always there.

For 88 years, the Dukes took the field. Most New Mexicans still remember the smell of the grass, the pop of the ball when it met the wood of the bat, and preparing a fresh hot dog on the back of a pick-up truck parked above the lava rocks beyond the outfield fence. The Dukes became a cultural identity, a representation of what it is to be New Mexican and a sense of pride for everyone in Albuquerque. Families and friends celebrated victories and mourned the losses, but through it all they never lost faith in their team.

Although the Dukes no longer play, their legacy endures. Each spring, The Duke City and the Albuquerque Isotopes renew this commitment. Many fans still sport the Spanish-influenced red and gold jerseys and remember back to the excitement of the first pitch of every game. Thanks to individuals like Fred and Steve and the countless Albuquerquians who continue to proudly display the iconic conquistador, we can continue to preserve our unique history and tradition for future generations.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE RICARDO RANGEL

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Florida State Representative Ricardo Rangel. Born in Bronx, New York, Ricardo grew up in a military family, traveling the country with his father, who retired as a Master Sergeant. His passion for leadership developed at an early age, as he was very active as a teenager and took on a number of leadership roles.

After graduating high school, Ricardo followed in the footsteps of his father and enlisted in the U.S. Army. Ricardo was honorably discharged as a Sergeant after serving twelve years and earning five Certificates of Achievement for Outstanding Work Performance, two Army Achievement Medals for Outstanding Work Performance and three Good Conduct Medals for being a model soldier. Ricardo currently works as a senior marketing manager for AT&T.

Ricardo is no stranger to public service. After the Army, Ricardo has continued his focus on public service. He has been involved in community events such as United We Paint, Bowl for Kids' Sake and the Ricardo Rangel Annual Softball Game benefitting Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Central Florida. His continued activism and leadership in the community earned him the Emerging Leadership Award from the NAACP and the National Leadership Award from the Business Council.

Ricardo graduated with a Bachelors and a Masters degree in Management from Warner University, which has afforded him opportunities to work on different political campaigns. He has managed local races in Florida as well as federal races for candidates in Arizona, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Recognizing his management skills and strong work ethics, Ricardo was voted ''Florida Young Democrat of the Year'' in 2003.

With the economy still sluggish and the desire to help working families, Ricardo decided to run for the Florida House of Representatives. In 2012, Ricardo was elected with 68 percent of the vote to represent Osceola County's District 43 in the Florida House of Representatives. Within a few months of being in office he quickly jumped in and led the charge to protect working-class families. He also earned the respect of the business community by showing that he supports business friendly policies and is eager to work across party lines for economic development that will help create jobs.

As a member of the Florida Legislature, Representative Rangel serves on the Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, Government Operations Subcommittee, Veteran and Military Affairs Subcommittee, Local and Federal Affairs Committee, and State Affairs Committee. Ricardo also currently serves as a member of the State Executive Committee for the Florida Democratic Party.

I am happy to recognize Representative Ricardo Rangel, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his leadership and service to the Central Florida community.

ANOTHER CONTINUING RESOLUTION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I reluctantly voted for another Continuing Resolution to ensure funding for government programs in Fiscal Year 2015. It's a low bar and a sad metric when preventing another government shutdown is hailed as an accomplishment. What Congress needs to be doing—and what the American public deserves—is a return to regular order instead of governing on autopilot. We should pass all 12 of our appropriations bills because Congress needs to make thoughtful changes to our spending so they reflect the challenges and priorities of the day.

There were some encouraging exceptions. Through this CR, Congress was able to provide a short-term reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank, which supports 1.2 million jobs in the U.S., and financing for over 3,400 of America's small-business exporters. While it's important that it not expire, a nine month extension restricts the ability to finance importance large and long-term projects. Oregon's businesses looking to reach new markets abroad deserve real help. Also included in the CR is critical funding for the Centers for Disease Control and HHS's Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority to respond to the Ebola outbreak. Close to home, it provides increased funding so that we can make further progress on the VA claims backlog.

The final CR also includes an amendment that would provide the President with the limited and narrow authority he needs to address the atrocities perpetrated by ISIS in Iraq and Syria. My statement on the House floor and the Website explains why I felt it critical to support this amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF BISHOP CHARLES ELLIS FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AS PRESIDING BISHOP OF THE PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE WORLD

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bishop Charles Ellis on his reelection as the Presiding Bishop of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World (PAW) earlier this year.

This milestone in Bishop Ellis' service to the PAW and his congregation of Greater Grace Temple in Detroit is a recognition of the significant impact his spiritual leadership has made on the Greater Detroit community and on the broader community of PAW worshippers around the world.

As the son of a pastor, Bishop Ellis grew up with a deep appreciation and understanding of the power that spiritual leaders have to be agents of positive change within their communities. After graduating from Mumford High School and Wayne State University, he went on to serve the congregation of Greater Grace as its main financial administrator. Upon the death of his father, then Elder Charles Ellis was elevated to pastor of congregation at Greater Grace, where the congregation has continued to grow it is present membership of nearly 6000. It was just a few years later that he was appointed as a Bishop in the PAW, becoming the second youngest bishop in its history.

Under Bishop Ellis' leadership, Greater Grace Temple has developed more than 300 ministries that offer vital support to the Greater Detroit community—leading efforts to assist others that include issues of: education, the arts, families in need, victims of domestic violence and seniors. The impact of these ministries has been significant, and as a result,

Bishop Ellis and the congregation of Greater Grace Temple have been honored with recognition from many organizations. These honors include being named: Distinguished Leader of the Year by DTE Energy, Michigan Pastor of the Year by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and Black Alumni of Year by Wayne State University.

In addition to his leadership at Greater Grace, Bishop Ellis also serves on the boards of many local organizations, volunteering his energy to the success of community groups that improve the quality of life in the Greater Detroit region. Among the organizations he serves as a board member are: the Detroit Zoo, the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit, Sinai-Grace Hospital and the Booker T. Washington Business Association.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his decades of service to the congregation of Greater Grace Temple, the members of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World and the Greater Detroit community, Bishop Charles Ellis has made an impact that has affected thousands of lives. I congratulate him on his re-election as the Presiding Bishop of the PAW and wish him and his congregation continued success in their mission of fellowship and service to the Southeast Michigan region.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, September 15, 2014, I was unable to be present for a recorded vote. I request that the record show that had I been present, I would have voted ''yes'' on rollcall vote No. 497, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 5108, as amended.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL MANUFACTURING DAY

HON. SCOTT DesJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, Friday, October 3, is National Manufacturing Day. In honor of this day, I rise to recognize the important role held by the employees and businesses of the manufacturing community. Back home in Tennessee, the manufacturing industry accounts for nearly 15 percent of the state's total output and employs approximately 12 percent of its workforce.

Over the last several years, I have had the opportunity to meet and visit with a variety of manufacturers across Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District, and I always leave with an admiration for their commitment to providing high-quality products and services. Although the term ''manufacturing'' refers to a broad range of operations, one commonplace characteristic held by industry members is a sincere dedication not only to their occupations, but to the communities in which they work.

This unique trait is exemplified across the Fourth Congressional District, especially in Bradley County, where businesses such as McKee Foods, Whirlpool, Duracell and many others, not only provide a major boost to our State's economy, but also volunteer countless hours and resources to support an untold number of civic and charitable endeavors.

In light of all the contributions made, the manufacturing industry and its members are more than deserving of recognition on National Manufacturing Day.

I applaud the hard-working individuals and businesses who comprise the manufacturing industry and who continue to make the great state of Tennessee proud.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I missed two votes on September 18, 2014, due to being unavoidably detained at an earlier event. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

Thursday, September 18, 2014:

Rollcall No. 512: On Motion to Recommit with Instructions, H.R. 4, ''nay.''

Rollcall No. 513: On Passage of H.R. 4, ''yea.''

HONORING DEAN WATERS

HON. CHARLES J. ''CHUCK'' FLEISCHMANN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, members of the Oak Ridge, Tennessee scientific community are mourning the recent passing of Dean Waters, a community leader and a pioneer in nuclear physics.

Dean Waters was an innovator in the field of uranium enrichment centrifuge technology—a technology that creates the fuel that provides nearly 20 percent of our electricity, powers our nuclear Navy and protects our national security.

After earning two undergraduate degrees at Yale and a master's degree in nuclear engineering from North Carolina State University, Dean Waters worked for 54 years on the development and deployment of gas centrifuge technology for uranium enrichment. In 1977, President Carter presented Dean with the E.O. Lawrence Award for his contributions to the uranium enrichment technology. The Award is given only to those ''who helped elevate American physics to world leadership.'' Dean obtained more than 18 patents in the United States and England throughout his career.

In the early 1980s, Dean was the lead engineer at the Union Carbide/Martin Marietta project, which was responsible for developing the gas centrifuge process. He led a technology team of 500 people. Later, he was named chief scientist of the USEC ''American Centrifuge'' program. He was instrumental in preserving the core of the 1980s government program that served as the basis for a private sector investment. The program re-established American leadership in advanced centrifuge design. Dean served as a mentor to many who now carry on the banner of this critical technology.

Dean Waters was active in the National Society of Professional Engineers, the American Society of Engineering Management, and the Oak Ridge Rotary Club, where he served as president. Beyond his accomplished professional life, he was active in his church and community charities and was a competitive yachtsman, runner and cycler.

Many of Dean's accomplishments will forever be cloaked under the mantle of national security. What is certain is that his decades of leadership in the realm of uranium centrifuge technology are manifest today in a state-of-the-art American centrifuge technology. This indigenous form of uranium enrichment will enable the United States to maintain its national security, remain a positive force in the arena of nuclear nonproliferation and provide the fuel for future nuclear power plants, which will provide millions of people with reliable electricity while combating the effects of climate change.

As a nation, we should be grateful for the contributions of Dean Waters—a scientist and patriot—whose achievements in nuclear physics will stand forever as a source of inspiration to scientists in Oak Ridge and around the world.

HONORING THE LIFE OF KEITH JEFFERTS

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Keith Jefferts, a constituent and friend of mine. Keith Jefferts was characterized by three great passions: salmon, science, and piloting—both air and sea.

Keith was born May 10, 1931 and graduated from Edmonds High in 1949. He went on to earn a B.S. in Physics at the University of Washington. After the University of Washington Keith went on the U.S. Naval flight school, and he eventually received several awards for his military service.

He went on to work at Bell Laboratories, where he worked with radio astronomers Arno Penzias and Robert Wilson and helped discover carbon monoxide in the Orion Nebula, work that was eventually recognized with a Nobel Prize.

More recently, Keith founded Northwest Marine Technologies, which was an innovator in tracking and tagging young salmon.

This technology has proven critical in monitoring and restoring endangered salmon populations. More than a billion tags have been implanted in salmon and other marine species worldwide.

The world's fisheries will be beneficiaries of Keith's work for decades to come. I salute Keith Jefferts' life as a Navy fighter pilot, world renowned physicist, inventor, and environmental leader.

I extend my sympathies to Keith's wife Sue, his children Katherine, Ingrid, Steven, Erik, Amy and all of his family.

Let Keith Jefferts' spirit inspire us all to protect the world's fish populations, but I am certain Keith wouldn't mind if we prioritized the protection of the salmon in the Northwest.

THE EVILS OF GAMBLING

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I have long been opposed to any expansion of legalized gambling and have continually sought to raise awareness of the dangerous economic and social costs of gambling. That is why I want to submit for the RECORD a statement I received from one of the foremost experts on the dangers of gambling, Tom Grey, and the director of Stop Predatory Gambling, Les Bernal.

STATEMENT BY LES BERNAL, NATIONAL DIRECTOR, STOP PREDATORY GAMBLING AND TOM GREY, SENIOR ADVISOR TO STOP PREDATORY GAMBLING

Today, we would seek to speak for the ''losers.'' The ''losers'' are those citizens sacrificed by our government in its failed experiment of sponsoring and promoting gambling to extract as much money as possible from the public. ''Losers'' isn't a term we coined. That's the word used by a slot machine designer at America's biggest maker of electronic slot machines, International Gaming Technology (IGT), to describe the citizens who use the machines he makes, many of whom are your constituents. ''When I asked one I.G.T. artist if he ever plays, he acted as if I had insulted him,'' wrote New York Times reporter Gary Rivlin in his cover story on slot machines for The Times Sunday Magazine. ''Slots are for losers,'' he spat, and then, coming to his senses, begged me to consider that an off-the-record comment.''

Scott Stevens of Steubenville, Ohio was one of these ''losers'' who we speak for today. Yet Scott Stevens was a success by nearly every measure we use in America. Through hard work and sacrifice, Scott became a very successful business executive, earning an upper-middle class income. He was happily married with three daughters and actively served his community in a variety of different volunteer leadership roles.

But the lives of Scott Stevens and his family changed forever when they intersected with a government program unlike any other. It is a government program that exists to extract as much money as possible from citizens to fund government itself. This program has been called ''government-sponsored gambling'' but a growing number of Americans in the public square today call it more accurately as ''predatory gambling.''

Predatory gambling is when government uses gambling in the form of casinos and lotteries to cheat and exploit citizens. For-profit gambling is illegal unless the government gives its full support, and in nearly every instance operates in partnership with gambling interests whether in the form of state lotteries, commercial casinos or tribal casinos. Scott Stevens knew firsthand about predatory gambling.

Today, the electronic gambling machine has become government's preferred method of extracting money from citizens. Slots make up to 80% of gambling profits. These gambling machines are literally designed so citizens cannot stop using them, exploiting aspects of human psychology and inducing irrational and irresponsible behavior. Every feature of a slot machine—its mathematical structure, visual graphics, sound dynamics, seating and screen ergonomics—is designed to increase a player's ''time on device''—which means how long a person plays.

Gambling operators found that their profits were not about the size of the gamblers' stakes but rather the volume of their play. ''If you provide them with the right time-on-device, they will stay and play,'' one slot designer said to MIT Professor Dr. Natasha Schull in her recent book on slot machine technology titled Addiction By Design. ''If you take it too quickly and they lose, they're going to leave.'' In the actual language of the casino business, the goal is to get every user ''to play to extinction''—until all their money is gone, Dr. Schull quotes a slot marketing expert. ''I want to keep you there as long as humanly possible,'' another slot operator told her. ''That's the whole trick, that's what makes you lose.''

The slot machine is designed to be so effective at extracting money from people, wrote Dr. Schull, that it is ''a product that, for all intents and purposes, approaches every player as a potential addict—in other words, someone who won't stop playing until his or her means are depleted.''

Scott Stevens was one of the ''losers'' who used a slot machine. He became someone who used the slot machine the way its maker and promoter intended: he could not stop using it.

Aggressively marketed to the public as ''fun'' and actively promoted by public officials, why would Scott ever possess any concerns about using a modern slot machine?

Citizens like Scott Stevens who use slot machines as intended are the most lucrative ''losers'' of all for government and the gambling operators it partners with. Over the last decade there are 11 different independent studies—studies not funded by gambling interests—that show 40 percent–60 percent of slot machine profits are taken from citizens like Scott Stevens. Citizens who have been turned into gambling addicts.

In America today, at least 10 million citizens are gambling addicts; citizens who have become addicted to what is, literally, a government program. We call these millions of citizens who have ruined their lives and painfully wounded their families so our government can extract more money, ''The Expendable Americans.''

Scott Stevens was an Expendable American. He lost his job because he took company money and poured it into slot machines sponsored by the government. He maxed out his credit cards to tens of thousands of dollars. He emptied his daughters' college savings accounts and his 401k retirement funds. He owed huge debts to the IRS for not paying taxes on what government labeled his ''winnings,'' despite losing far greater money than he won.

On August 13, 2012, even though he had already given almost everything he had to this public policy, Scott Stevens made one last sacrifice. He drove to a children's soccer park in his town that he raised money to build. He sat down on a park bench. He called 911 on his cell phone and told them what he was planning to do. When the police and ambulance arrived at the park he said, ''You're not here to stop me, you're here to take me home'' and then shot himself in front of them. In the days afterward, a letter arrived in the mail addressed to his wife Stacy. Scott mailed it before taking his own life. It said, in part:

''I know you don't believe it but I love you so much! I have hurt you so much. Our family only has a chance if I'm not around to bring us down any further. You're such an unbelievable wife and mother. I know you will hold the family together . . .''

While millions of men and women like Scott Stevens and their families have sacrificed and hurt so much to provide needed revenues to American government, no one has ever thanked them for their ''service.'' There are no parades with fluttering American flags in the breeze. No yellow ribbons. Our country simply renders them failures.

Failure is the right description but it is directed toward the wrong participant. Government's experiment with gambling is the definition of failure, representing one of the biggest public policy busts of the modern era. Over the past four decades, government's partnership with gambling has failed in a multitude of ways.

It has transformed gambling from a private and local activity into the public voice of American government, such that ever-increasing appeals to gamble, and ever-expanding opportunities to gamble, now constitute the main ways that our government communicates with us on a daily basis.

It has broken its promise to remain a small component of our government and a small part of our society. In the brave new world envisioned by this power structure—where every cell phone is a ''casino in your pocket'' and every bar, gas station, convenience store, computer, and home in the nation is a place to place a bet—the essential driving message from the American government to the American people is ''All gambling, all good, all the time.''

It has fueled irresponsibility and non-accountability in government by imposing a giant excise tax on the citizenry that politicians never have to call a ''tax.''

It has failed to deliver on its over-hyped promises to fund education, lower taxes, or pay for needed public services.

It has taken political power away from the people and handed it over to gambling lobbyists.

It has perpetrated a phony model of economic development—a model with a jobs multiplier effect of approximately zero, since, in this model, nothing of value is produced.

It has promulgated the very economic attitudes and practices—short-term is more important than sustainable, wealth can come from ever-growing debt, something can come from nothing, slickness trumps honesty—that led us into the debt bubble and the Great Recession of 2008 and beyond.

It has caused neighboring states to compete against each other in a race to the bottom.

It has taken dollars from the poor to fund programs for the better-off.

It has spread addiction into our population, using the new science of machine design to produce out-of-control behavior that, according to scientists, closely resembles addictive behavior from cocaine.

It has spread debt and bankruptcy into our population.

It has led to serious gambling-related problems among young people.

It has contributed to broken families and child neglect and other social messes everywhere it goes, and has taken little or no responsibility to clean them up.

It has turned many law-abiding citizens into criminals who cheat, steal, and embezzle in order to continue to gamble.

It has arrogantly exempted itself from truth-in-advertising laws so that it can use taxpayer money to create and spread deceptive advertising.

It has corrupted our sense of community and undermined our faith that we're all in this together.

It has deliberately changed the word ''gambling'' to ''gaming'' in order to make this often destructive activity sound as innocent as child's play.

It has fueled cynicism about the motives of our government.

It has repudiated the value of thrift by creating mass incentives to turn potential savers into habitual bettors.

It has repudiated the virtue of ''love your neighbor'' and replaced it with a government endorsement of predatory practices, or preying on human weakness for gain.

It has withered our capacity as a people to confront forthrightly our reluctance to pay taxes for the public services we desire.

It has trampled on the ideal of ''justice for all.''

It has broken faith with the wisdom and leaders of earlier generations who, seeing the failure of gambling in the past, amended state constitutions to ban gambling activities.

It has lied to us about how the government actually uses the money it gets from gambling.

It has lied to us by repeating again and again that luck—rather than work—is the key to the American dream.

This is a critical moment. How our generation responds to the reach and arrogance of the government-gambling power complex will largely determine the legacy we pass on to the next generation. Politically, economically, ethically, and spiritually, the stakes are extraordinarily high.

Politically: Government's partnership with gambling fundamentally changes the compact between government and the governed. It pits government's interests against the best interests of its people. For government to win, its citizens must lose.

Economically: No great nation has ever built prosperity on the foundations of personal debt, addiction, and the steady expansion of ''businesses'' that produce no new wealth. Relying on gambling as an economic development strategy is a sign of surrender and defeat on the part of leaders who have failed to lead.

Ethically: A decent government does not finance its activities by playing its most vulnerable citizens for suckers, thus rendering the lives of millions expendable, exploitable, and unworthy of protection.

Spiritually: We mock the higher values that any good society depends on—honesty, mutual trust, self-discipline, sacrifice, concern for others, and a belief in a work ethic that connects effort and reward—when government tells its citizens every day that it is committed to providing ''fun'' instead of opportunity; that a rigged bet is the way to achieve the American dream; and that spending one's hard-earned dollars on scratch tickets is a form of good citizenship.

This is America. Surely we can do better than this. Surely we must. The choice is not—it has never been—between tying our future to gambling and accepting economic decline. Government-sponsored gambling is itself a form of economic decline. The alternative is to muster the courage to chart a path to true prosperity. An America freed from the yoke of government-sponsored gambling would be an America once again on the move—an America with broader and more sustainable economic growth, more honesty in government, more social trust, and the rekindling of the optimism that has long been our defining national strength.

While many leaders on both sides of the political aisle loudly proclaim they are committed to fighting unfairness and inequality of opportunity in America, their support of sponsoring and promoting gambling is actually intensifying the very unfairness and inequality that they decry. Many forces currently contributing to the rise of inequality, such as globalization and technological change, cannot be directly controlled by public policy. But government-sponsored gambling is a public policy—and it exists only because policy makers want it to exist.

A mounting pile of independent evidence further confirms this reality. Government-sponsored gambling is harming health, draining wealth from people in the lower ranks of the income distribution, and contributing to economic inequality. These are among the findings of Why Casinos Matter: Thirty-One Evidence-Based Propositions from the Health and Social Sciences, a report released from the Council on Casinos in September 2013, an independent group of scholars and public policy leaders convened by the Institute for American Values, a nonpartisan New York City-based think tank.

After four decades of unfulfilled promises, corrupt deals and broken dreams, it is time for our government to end its partnership with organized gambling interests and to embrace a fundamentally different and higher vision of the path to American prosperity.

In short, after four decades of consistent failure, it is time for our government to get out of gambling and for gambling to get out of our government. Stop Predatory Gambling is a Washington, DC-based nonprofit, transpartisan network of individuals and organizations from diverse backgrounds, political convictions and religious faiths dedicated to this fundamental national reform. We are committed to end the unfairness and inequality of opportunity created by government-sponsored casinos and lotteries.

We are part of the most diverse movement in the nation, an affirmation that most Americans share basic principles and values regardless of their position along the political spectrum. Today, we also provide a voice to all of these citizens from coast-to-coast who have bravely and selflessly fought in recent decades on behalf of our core belief that no taxpayer dollar should be used by government to lure citizens into gambling away their money and becoming slaves to debt; no agency or entity of government should depend on gambling to fund its activities; and no legislature, whether in the name of economic development or raising revenue, should pass laws to promote or sponsor gambling.

Some of you may ask what if government stopped sponsoring and promoting gambling? A better question that leads to a more revealing answer would be how did our nation educate children prior to introducing the lottery? Did not our parents as stakeholders fund government to provide the educational pathways to citizenship and potential prosperity? After World War II, how did America pivot from waging battle to creating jobs for a prosperous peacetime and enabling its citizens to become economic winners? Did not our government invest in not only roads and our infrastructure but more important, in breadwinners and families?

Already underway is a reclaiming of America from the devastation and heartbreak of government-sponsored casinos and lotteries.

It began in earnest with the establishment of the National Gambling Impact Study Commission by Congress in 1996 and its subsequent report in 1999 provided citizens with clear cut recommendations. The bipartisan commitment and courage by Congressman Frank Wolf, Congressman John LaFalce, Senator Richard Lugar and the late Senator Paul Simon to determine the truth about government-sponsored gambling, sustained and nourished the bottom-up growth of a national citizen movement opposing this dishonest and harmful public policy. What began as a diverse national coalition of groups and individuals, ultimately led to the organization of Stop Predatory Gambling, where today empowered citizens are challenging the gambling promoters with ever increasing intensity at the local, state and now, with the push for internet gambling, the federal level.

Perhaps the most visible challenge in 2014 is happening at the ballot box, that sacred public place where citizens can vote out of their best hopes or their worst fears for a common future. Citizens in Massachusetts have inspiringly waged a relentless fight against government-sponsored casinos for almost four years running. These citizens succeeded against overwhelming odds to achieve the first ever ballot question in a major state attempting to repeal state gambling laws in modern American history. Regardless of the outcome, the repeal drive signifies the unavoidable rising tide bringing a surge of major national reform on this issue.

Over the long-term, the most profound and lasting change may happen in our justice system. The family of Scott Stevens is ensuring he is no longer voiceless by bringing the facts of their story to federal court. Such litigation is bolstered by the rapidly-growing awareness of gambling addiction as a major public health issue, evidenced by the national story published last week by The Columbia University School of Public Health about the massive public health impacts of government-sponsored casinos and lotteries. It spotlights how predatory gambling is harming millions of Americans and the communities they live in.

It's inevitable that government-sponsored gambling will be phased out in most places across the United States. It is not a question of if but when. It's inevitable because we are a people who believe government should promote fairness and equality of opportunity for all. The speed of reform is up to all of us because it is we who will decide how many more ''losers'' like Scott Stevens we are willing to sacrifice from our own families and communities. Please join us in this good fight. Thank you.

TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, on October 10th Taiwan celebrates its National Day, commonly referred to as ''Double Ten Day'' because of its occurrence on the tenth day of the tenth month. On Double Ten Day, Taiwanese citizens pause and honor its first glimpse of becoming an independent and self-governing country.

Exactly six months ago, on April 10th, the United States and Taiwan celebrated a special anniversary—the 35th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act. This bill passed Congress and was signed into law by President Jimmy Carter in 1979. The Taiwan Relations Act was crucial in establishing a legal relationship between our country and that of Taiwan.

The Taiwan Relations Act has been mutually beneficial to both the United States and Taiwan—boosting our economies and establishing a confidence of protection to the newly-established democracy of Taiwan.

The people of Taiwan have contributed to our thriving economy in many ways—and for that, we are grateful. In fact, just last year, Taiwan imported nearly $26 billion worth of American goods. In Ohio alone we have reached over $450 million from exports to Taiwan—making the country Ohio's 5th largest Asian export market.

We are grateful for Taiwan's friendship and look forward to many more years of this successful partnership.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF BOB DICKERSON

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Bob Dickerson of RESULTS, a grassroots organization dedicated to creating the political will to end poverty in the U.S. and abroad. Mr. Dickerson has contributed immeasurably to the local and international community over the last twenty-five years as a volunteer leader.

After working as an attorney in Seattle for a number of years, Mr. Dickerson left his law practice and began working nearly full-time as a RESULTS volunteer. His passionate and ever present voice for the powerless—especially children—is truly remarkable. In 2005, his work was recognized with the Thomas C. Wales Foundation Award for Civic Engagement and Passionate Citizenship.

As the RESULTS Seattle Group Leader, Mr. Dickerson has developed deep partnerships with powerful coalitions, elected leaders and the media. His work inspired Members of Congress and volunteers across the country on both sides of the aisle to serve as vocal spokespersons in support of the Global Poverty Act, the Education for All Act, the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria, and the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations, among many others.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I recognize Bob Dickerson for twenty-five years of excellence. I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY REMEMBRANCE

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, our ally and friend in Southeast Asia, Taiwan, will celebrate their 103rd National Day on October 10th. Known as Double Ten Day, it celebrates the start of the Wuchang Uprising which ultimately led to the formation of Taiwan as we know it today.

Double Ten Day has the same significance to Taiwan as Independence Day does to us here in the United States. It is a day that people are able to celebrate and remember the sacrifices that led to creation of Taiwan. Both the U.S. and Taiwan are relatively new; in July we celebrated our 238th anniversary and Taiwan is celebrating their 103rd.

On this occasion, I would like to note how important Taiwan is to my home state of Oregon. Last year, Oregon exports to Taiwan reached $825.6 million. Taiwan became our 5th largest trading partner in Asia and the 7th largest in the world. From agriculture to machinery, Oregon products serve a large part of Taiwan's industries. There are more opportunities to capitalize on and I look forward to working to grow investments and exports to help both our peoples.

Again I wish a happy National Day to Taiwan. We look forward to continuing our friendship and partnership on the many issues that we both face.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the San Mateo County Law Library, a unique California resource that provides public access to justice. The law library in Redwood City, founded in 1916, houses a wealth of information not available at other public libraries and is used by some 9,000 individuals a year. In addition to attorneys, legal professionals and students, ordinary citizens use the library to get assistance with landlord/tenant complaints, marital and child custody disputes probate questions, entrepreneurial pursuits, safety issues and a broad range of other legal issues. In fact, last year the general public constituted 26 percent of all library users.

Individuals without legal training are not left to their own devices to find and interpret legal literature. Librarians help everyone find answers to their legal questions, regardless of their educational background or financial circumstances. The appreciation for this service is best expressed by the public users themselves. One patron said, ''The best legal librarians in the Bay Area. Superior kindness, knowledge and patience.'' Another said, ''The staff here have made my life better, and for that I feel compelled to dole out some kudos to them.''

The idea for law libraries was born in the Bay Area. In 1870, the San Francisco Law Library Act required the City and County of San Francisco to provide facilities and services at no charge and mandated access to county citizens. In 1891, the California Legislature adopted this practice at the state level requiring each county to have a law library. The libraries were not connected as a system, instead each county library rendered services according to the needs of its communities and was funded by the filing fees generated by the court system.

Because the state law does not provide any financial support to maintain the law collections or services, the San Mateo County Library is now at risk. Filing fees have dropped dramatically.

Before the San Mateo County Law Library opened at its current location at 710 Hamilton Street in Redwood City, it used to consist of two branches to serve the entire peninsula, one in San Mateo's Superior Court and the other in South San Francisco's courthouse. Due to funding cuts, support for the law collection at San Mateo's Superior Court had to be discontinued many years ago and then the courthouse was closed. Similarly, support for the law collection at the South San Francisco courthouse was discontinued in 2011 due to cutbacks and then the courthouse was closed. This created a Catch 22: as the courts closed and filing fees increased, fewer law suits were filed, more members of the general public used the law libraries to solve their legal issues, and the funding for the library dropped. The popularity of the San Mateo Law Library has ironically contributed to its threat of extinction.

California's County Law Library Statute was a direct result of the progressive movement in the late 20th century when disparity in wealth resulted in armed clashes between the working and moneyed classes. Lawyers were considered tools of the rich and the law libraries were tools for the common man to be his own lawyer. Justice Conrad Rushing wrote: ''The establishment of law libraries was not by any means the most important feature of what grew out of the progressive movement, but it nevertheless spoke strongly to the idea of equality under the law.''

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to honor the important role the San Mateo County Law Library continues to play today by providing access to legal support services and justice. May it be saved for all San Mateo County residents as a symbol and manifestation of ''equality under the law.''

THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRANSFIGURATION ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF WILLIAMSBURG, BROOKLYN, NY

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Transfiguration Roman Catholic Parish of Williamsburg, Brooklyn as it celebrates its 140th anniversary. The church is commemorating this special year by hosting a series of events celebrating the parish and community's rich history.

A church of humble beginnings, Transfiguration originated to serve Irish Catholic immigrants. Its first Mass was celebrated in 1874 by Friar John Fagan in a carpenter's shop on Hooper Street. In 1875, Transfiguration R.C. Church was dedicated. As the congregation and diversity grew, so did the needs of the parishioners. In 1912, the Sisters of St. Joseph established a parochial school that educated thousands of students until 2006 when it closed its doors.

In the late 1900's there were 500 Puerto Ricans living in New York City, and by the 1930's the population increased to more than 45,000. Many of these families moved to Williamsburg and settled in the Southside/Los Sures community near the Transfiguration parish where they lived among Irish Catholics, Italians and Jews. Transfiguration embraced the Latino community and adopted changes to its ministry and services to meet the spiritual, social and educational needs of its new parishioners. In 1956, after his ordination, Monsignor Bryan J. Karvelis, a then young priest came to the parish and saw first-hand the conditions and social needs of the families it served.

Transfiguration, under the leadership of Monsignor Karvelis, worked to improve the lives and social and economic status of the poor and refugee community it served. It founded and helped create organizations like the Southside Mission, the Transfiguration Parish Federal Credit Union, Southside Immigration Services, Nuestros Ninos Daycare Center, a men's shelter and food pantry and Casa Betsaida, a hospice residence opened during the AIDS crisis for individuals infected with the virus. Monsignor Karvelis served

Transfiguration R.C. Church for close to half a century until he passed away in 2005. The street outside the church was named in his memory.

Today, under the leadership of Monsignor Anthony M. Hernandez, Transfiguration continues thriving. My fellow colleagues, please join me in celebrating the 140th Anniversary of Transfiguration Roman Catholic Parish, a parish that continues its rich history of faith and social progress.

MARKING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILDERNESS ACT OF 1964

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

There is an old saying to the effect that the best time to plant a tree, protect a forest, and make a promise to the future is either 50 years ago—or today. Fifty years ago, visionary leaders committed themselves and our nation to protect and preserve public lands for generations to come. The Wilderness Act of 1964 is as important today as it was then.

I represent the Eighth District of Minnesota, where we are blessed to have one of the most beautiful and pristine wilderness areas in America in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAVV). I was so proud to be an original sponsor of the law that created the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness during my first service in Congress in the 1970's. Working with great environmental leaders like former Congressman Don Fraiser, and my late colleagues Congressman Jim Oberstar and Bruce Vento, we carved out and preserved the Boundary Waters for generation upon generation to come. I consider this one of my proudest achievements.

In addition to BWCAW, the Superior National Forest, Voyageurs National Park, the North Shore of Lake Superior, and the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway are other national treasurers we enjoy, and are committed to protecting.

We live up North, despite the long winters, because we love the land and understand the need to assure that future generations will have the same opportunities we have to enjoy the great out of doors.

I call upon my colleagues to continue fighting to set aside more of our nation's special places as wilderness areas—protecting our wild lands and the air, water and creatures that bless them.

IN HONOR OF FAMILIES IN TRANSITIONS ''I AM ONE: NEW HAMPSHIRE DAY TO END CHILDHOOD HOMELESSNESS''

HON. CAROL SHEA-PORTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was so pleased to join Families in Transition for the ''I AM ONE: New Hampshire Day to End Childhood Homelessness'' on September 4. I am a social worker by trade and by heart. I can remember just twenty years ago when people saw the issue of child homelessness as the government's problem, not the community's. And yes, the federal government needs to play a role, and so do the states, and so do the cities. But we also need people involved. We need these wonderful non-profits, like Families in Transition, who can do so much on the ground in our communities. Thanks to all attendees for caring, because we know that, in New Hampshire, 25 percent of the people who are homeless are children.

What does it mean to a child, at the end of the day, to have no place to go home to? What does it mean to a child if there isn't a medicine chest there if they feel sick, there's not a refrigerator if they're hungry, there's not a bed to sleep in? And what does it mean to a child when they find out that the people and groups at I AM ONE are coming together to help them? It means everything. Absolutely everything.

Thank you so much for the work that you do. This is a great community and a great state because we work together on these issues. And we're going to solve the problem of child homelessness together.

HONORING THE CELEBRATE NASHVILLE FESTIVAL

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to salute Celebrate Nashville, a festival honoring the many great cultures in our city.

Nashville is not just any city; it's the friendliest city in the south. We welcome visitors with gracious southern hospitality and country twang. But there is so much more to Nashville than meets the eye. What makes Nashville truly unique is the people who come from all over the world.

One in six of our residents is foreign-born, and we could not be more proud of our multicultural heritage. In 1995, a group at Vanderbilt's Scarritt-Bennett designed the first Celebrate Nashville event so cultures could share their gifts with everyone. Thanks to great community partners, it has grown to be one of the city's biggest annual events, bringing together more than 40,000 citizens.

From music and dance to food and crafts, Celebrate Nashville showcases everything that makes our city unique. It highlights the best of our past through displays of heritage with the promise of our future.

And so, Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to salute the Celebrate Nashville Cultural Festival for its commitment to our citizens and our community and for promoting all cultures in our city.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed on this September the 19th, 2014 at VFW Narrows Bridge Post #10018 and nationwide;

Whereas, there remain over 83,000 men and women unaccounted for, who have served our country in conflicts since World War II;

Whereas, the families and comrades of those missing hold out hope as the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office works to bring each person home;

Whereas, a grateful nation mourns and remembers those heroes who have given their lives to the service of our country; and

Whereas, the surviving brothers and sisters in arms of the fallen resolve steadfast to forge a new commitment year after year in pursuit of resolution and remembrance of those no longer with us; now, therefore, I, DEREK KILMER, Representative of Washington State's Sixth Congressional District, hereby proclaim the continued gratitude for those men and women who have served before us, and for those who continue the search for our servicemembers who are not forgotten on this POW/MIA Recognition Day.

In witness thereof, I call upon those here today, and those who will in future years join us, on this solemn remembrance, to keep the promise to bring home all those who are captured or killed while serving our great nation.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KERN COUNTY FARM BUREAU

HON. KEVIN McCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. McCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Kern County Farm Bureau's 100th anniversary, and to commend this organization which has done so much for Kern's hardworking farming families.

The foundation of Kern County's rich history rests with our agricultural heritage. When the first Californians settled in Kern, they brought their seeds with them, planting carrots, cotton, potatoes, citrus groves and vineyards, which they passed down through the generations. The most recent fruits of their labor—the 2013 harvest—tallied more than six billion dollars. Whenever our farmers sow, our whole valley and nation prospers.

A hundred years ago, the creation of Kern County Farm Bureau forged a coalition of 200 farms and 200 families, uniting to lend a neighborly hand through drought, earthquake and fire. These were the farmers who founded Kern's first reservoir system with water brought down from the mountains, who built 800 square miles of canals to make the valley bloom. By their labor, Bakersfield, Kern County and our region flourished; our population boomed. By a succession of horticultural breakthroughs—irrigation drip lines, and precision sprinklers to name a few—Kern County's farmers have learned to do more with less water, leading our state and nation with some of the most innovative and effective conservation practices. In the last fifty years, Kern's farmers have doubled our valley's crop yield without adding a single drop of water to their allotment. Our farmers have humbly overseen

nothing short of a production revolution and yet Americans have become so accustomed to the stability of our food supply—itself a testament to the quality of our agriculture—that scarcely anyone notices the triumphs managed on their behalf.

Today, the Kern County Farm Bureau serves 1,400 farmers, large and small, educating and inspiring the community, closely monitoring the agricultural legislation and regulation proliferating from Sacramento and Washington, and effectively advocating on behalf of its members across all levels of government. Kern County farms run the gamut, from the very small to the very large, and Kern County Farm Bureau works with all of them to educate policymakers on agricultural practices and traditions, and, most importantly, make Kern agriculture's voice heard.

Challenges and opportunities for Kern County agriculture still lay ahead. We cannot ask the sky for rain or the winter not to frost, but we can choose the friends we depend upon when crisis comes. The Kern County Farm Bureau has been a friend and a partner in our community over the past 100 years, and on behalf of our communities and neighbors, I congratulate the Farm Bureau's century of richness and relationships, and wish them another 100 years of success in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TOLEDO REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BEING NAMED ''CHAMBER OF THE YEAR'' BY THE ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVES

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to recognize the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce on being named the Chamber of the Year for 2014 by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives. Chamber of the Year is the most distinguished award that a Chamber of Commerce can receive, and this award recognizes the organization's strength and impact on key community priorities, including education, transportation, business development and quality of life.

I applaud the Toledo Regional Chamber on receiving this award and thank them for the important work they do to support the businesses and communities in our area.

RECOGNIZING THE SEATTLE SOUNDERS FOOTBALL CLUB

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Seattle Sounders Football Club (FC) on the 40th anniversary of its founding. Since its formation in 1974 as a member of the North American Soccer League (NASL), the Sounders have consistently brought world-class soccer to our region.

After decades of play in other leagues, Sounders FC was added as a Major League Soccer (MLS) expansion team in 2007. As a nod to the team's history, the notoriously loyal Sounders fans voted to keep the traditional team name alive even after changing leagues.

Since joining the league, the Sounders and their fans have set MLS records year in and year out. In every season of their tenure in the MLS the Sounders have led the league in both average attendance and number of season tickets sold. This loud and passionate fan base at every game has spurred the Sounders on to stellar play, and they have reached the playoffs in each of their four seasons as a result.

The soccer pitch is not the only place that members of Sounders FC have achieved excellence. Many members of the organization have undertaken efforts to better the community they call home. Through partnerships with organizations focused on youth and sports, and through a 2013 trip by team members to Tanzania with the Washington Global Health Alliance, the Seattle Sounders have done much more than just play outstanding soccer—they have made a difference in our region and across the world.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I recognize the Seattle Sounders FootballClub on forty years of excellence, both on and off the soccer pitch.