

youngest of four children. The hard-hitting Great Depression years had enormous influence in determining Marvin's life direction. At the young age of 15, he became involved in student activism and joined the national board of the American Student Union, a progressive organization of college students known for its protests against militarism. In 1943, Marvin was drafted into the Army and served in military intelligence until February, 1946 when he was discharged. Shortly after his discharge, he received his bachelor's degree at Brooklyn College, married Doris Donnelly and began his graduate work in economics at Columbia University. During this time, he was actively involved in the civil rights movement organizing marches and establishing statewide student organizations against segregationist laws. He completed his master's degree in economics at the University of Colorado, and in 1951, he was admitted as a graduate student at Cambridge University, England.

When Marvin returned to the United States as a trained economist, he wanted to pursue a career in academia, but was prevented from doing so due to unwarranted concern over his history of student activism. He became a market researcher for Hallicrafters, a company that specialized in constructing electronic equipment for the Air Force, but was let go when an executive learned of his activism in leftist organizations. This turn of events led Marvin to go into retail and merchandising.

In 1954, tragically, his wife Doris passed away. In 1956, Marvin met and married Esther Adler. The Schachters moved to Los Angeles for Marvin to take a job offer by the Mays Department Stores Company. At that time, Marvin joined the American Friends Service Committee in Pasadena and the ACLU's board of directors. He became president of the ACLU of Southern California, and served on the national board for 17 years. In the 1980s, Mr. Schachter hosted a weekly radio program on domestic and foreign policy issues on KPFFK, and became one of the founders of the Pasadena Weekly, for which he continues to write an occasional column. Marvin left a successful retail career to establish a real estate business, but continued his social and political work. He was the Vice Chair of the Interfaith Center to Reverse the Arms Race, a leader in the California nuclear freeze movement, and chaired a steering committee that organized and united California's disabled communities.

In the 1990s, Marvin expanded his volunteer service to include the senior community, serving as a Governor's appointee to the California Commission on Aging, chair of the Senior Advocacy Council of Pasadena, and President of the L.A. County Agency on Aging Advisory Council. Recently, he has worked with the International Criminal Court Alliance, the United Nations Association, the California Commission on Aging, and the Center for Healthcare Rights, among many other organizations. He is also documenting his life through the Pasadena Historical Society's Oral History Project. Marvin and Esther have two daughters, Pamela and Amanda, and two grandchildren, Emma and Max.

I ask that all Members of Congress please join me in recognizing the extraordinary lifetime contributions of Marvin Schachter, a true guardian of our civil liberties.

## NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAMS REAUTHORIZATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 12, 2014*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 5266, the reauthorization of the National Estuary Program (NEP).

The 33rd Congressional District, which I represent, includes the Santa Monica Bay, an estuary that includes some of the most iconic coastline in the nation. In 1988, the State of California and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project as a National Estuary Program under the Clean Water Act. Estuaries, protected and restored by funding from the National Estuary Program, are some of the most productive habitats on earth. Unfortunately, due to population growth across the coastline, these estuaries are increasingly under threat from pollution and environmental degradation.

Luckily, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) is working to protect its vital resources. Through an action plan called the Bay Restoration Plan, the Commission and its partners are working to improve the environmental health of the Santa Monica Bay and its surroundings by improving water quality, restoring damaged habitats and conserving natural and marine resources.

The reauthorization of the National Estuaries Program under H.R. 5266 is essential to helping safeguard the ecological and economic viability of our nation's estuaries. This legislation will direct more money to our nation's estuaries while reducing overall authorization levels by reducing administrative costs at EPA and designating money to National Estuary Programs.

Since 1987, the establishment of the National Estuaries Program has allowed us to identify and help preserve 28 different watersheds. These watersheds are essential to the future of our nation's coastlines. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5266 to protect our coastal ecology for generations to come.

## APPROVAL OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 14, 2014*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, this is the eighth time that the House has voted to approve Keystone and short circuit the review process, and I have opposed it each time. Continuing this pattern is not helpful or a good use of our time.

My position has long been clear: there is a legal and regulatory process that the Administration is currently following to determine if this pipeline is in the interest of the American people.

It is important to consider the environmental impact that this pipeline may have, including a potential direct increase in the energy-inten-

sive extraction of tar sands oil. It is also important to consider the impacts to local communities where this pipeline would be built as well as threats to the water supply. Oil from the tar sands continues to reach American refineries.

We should do the analysis of this pipeline right, and wait for it to finish. Most importantly, we should focus on long-term, sustainable solutions to meet our nation's future energy needs, lower our carbon emissions and make our communities more resilient to a changing climate.

If I had been present for the vote, I would have voted no.

## IN TRIBUTE TO 1SG. GERALD B. WRIGHT (RET.) ON HIS INDUC- TION INTO THE CONNECTICUT VETERANS HALL OF FAME

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2014*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, in America's veterans we regularly see many of the most prized attributes of American spirit. Our men and women in uniform are frequently called upon to create innovative solutions to complex problems in the most dangerous of environments. Through such harrowing experiences, our veterans develop skills and knowledge that frequently lead them to find new ways to continue serving and supporting their communities long after they take off the uniform. Few exemplify these qualities more than First Sergeant Gerald B. Wright (Ret.), who will be inducted into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame next week.

I have known Gerry for over 15 years, during which time I have witnessed his dedication to service both in and out of uniform. A tireless advocate for service members, their families and veterans from all branches and components of our Armed Forces, Gerry's advocacy and devotion to those who have served demonstrates the qualities that make him a revered member of his community, state and nation.

Gerry first enlisted in the U.S. Army in October 1968, and was deployed to Vietnam less than a year later. He served with the 19th Combat Engineers Battalion, 18th Engineering Brigade where he was responsible for road work, mine sweeps, security, and reconnaissance. In 1970, he was attached to the Seventh Special Forces Group, before returning to the United States to attend Pathfinder School, becoming an expert in land navigation.

After completing his second tour in November 1971, Gerry retired from active duty and returned to Connecticut to start his family and found his own business. Still fulfilling the call to serve, Gerry joined the Connecticut Army National Guard, with whom he would serve for 17½ additional years, during which he was part of Operation Desert Storm, and also led soldiers from Connecticut to Southern California to assist in constructing fencing and obstacles at our nation's border. There, he was commended by his commander for being the first rotation to not have a single heat or accident casualty due to the extreme temperatures of the region.

Gerry's care for his comrades and brothers-in-arms has not shown the slightest signs of

fading since his retirement from the National Guard in 1999. Gerry has consistently supported his fellow service members by storing the possessions of deploying soldiers, repairing and donating vehicles to veterans unable to afford their own, or helping place transitioning soldiers in civilian jobs, sometimes at his own business. Since 9/11, Gerry has been a regular, consistent attendee at "Send Off" and "Welcome Home" events at the Hartford Armory for Connecticut National Guard units deployed to the Middle East. In August of 2010, Gerry also completed the grueling "Legacy Run to Reno", a fundraiser to benefit military children who lost a parent in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Gerry is an invaluable asset to eastern Connecticut's veteran community, and a shining example of every honorable quality we see in our service members. Next week, he will be inducted into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame—the latest in a long list of honors and awards for which he is more than deserving.

CONGRATULATING EHCMA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2014*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the East Harris County Manufacturers Association (EHCMA) Workforce Development Committee for being awarded the Visionary Award from the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region Board of Directors.

This award honors individuals and organizations whose work on key regional issues has expanded economic and social opportunity in our community. The Workforce Development Committee has raised \$100,000 in scholarship funds for Lee College and San Jacinto College. These scholarships will help train tomorrow's petrochemical and manufacturing leaders. Strong investment in the future of these industries creates opportunity and prosperity that will benefit the entire American economy in the long run.

I thank the Workforce Development Committee for their investment in our community that supports future opportunities for so many businesses and families. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the EHCMA Workforce Development Committee for receiving the Economic Alliance's Visionary Award.

CONGRATULATING JESSICA RIVKA CHERRY AND DANIEL JOSEPH CHAVIN ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THEIR WEDDING

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2014*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, my esteemed colleagues, please join me in recognizing Miss Jessica Rivka Cherry and Mr. Daniel Joseph Chavin, as they celebrate their dedication to each other and to their future together.

Jessica and Daniel celebrated their commitment to each other on Sunday, November 16, 2014, in the greatest city in America, my hometown, Chicago, IL.

It is with great excitement and anticipation that both families share in the happiness of this union. Their commitment to each other is one to be celebrated and commended and one in which I offer my congratulations and wish them the best as they begin their new life together.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ARTHUR J. HILL

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2014*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend Arthur J. Hill, who passed away on November 4, 2014 at the age of 99. Arthur was a successful businessman, war hero, and community volunteer who made his community and country a better place through his dedication to his service.

Arthur was born in Coos Bay, Oregon where he attended local schools, and then continued on to study engineering at the University of Oregon. Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, at the age of 27 he volunteered for the U.S. Army and was assigned to the 146th Engineers Battalion as the Headquarters Company Commander, which is a position that he kept until the end of the Second World War when he retired with the rank of Captain.

During his campaign in World War II, Arthur worked tirelessly for the U.S. Army. Arthur's battalion built and operated an assault training center consisting of exact duplications of German fortifications, which was replicated from secret aerial reconnaissance photos of the Normandy landing beaches. He also participated in four additional European Campaigns in Northern France, Ardennes and Alsace, the Rhineland, and Central Europe.

In recognition of his efforts in training 65 civil engineers to assist in the reconstruction of the town of Pilsen, Czechoslovakia, the Czech Government awarded Arthur the Czech Military Medal. He was also awarded the Czech Presidential Medal on the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia, and was chosen as the recipient of the first annual "Hero of the Valley Award," which is given to a distinguished military veteran in the San Joaquin Valley.

Upon returning home from serving our country, Art met and married his wife, Betty Jane "BJ"; the couple enjoyed over 50 years of happy marriage until she passed away in 1998. After the war, Arthur went on to work in the oil industry until 1980, when he retired as president of Hill Oil Company. He then worked at the Veterans Memorial Museum from 1992 until 2011 where he served as Director for ten years. The Veterans Memorial Museum is considered by many to be one of the finest military museums in the country. Art was also a member of the Fresno Rotary Club for over 50 years and was Commander of the American Legion in Fresno.

Arthur loved to spend time with veterans, and cared for them so much that in 2010, he established the "Veterans of the Central Valley Fund" at the Fresno Regional Foundation.

This fund supports the Veterans Memorial Museum and other projects benefitting veterans. Apart from serving the community, Arthur and his wife Betty Jane loved to spend their time traveling the world. Arthur is survived by his son Brad and his wife Audrey, and their daughter Carly and her husband Keith Berry.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO SHAISTA MAHMOOD

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 17, 2014*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the birthday of a great Virginian, an 8th District constituent and my dear friend, Shaista Mahmood.

It's been decades since Shaista first came to our country from Pakistan with her new husband Rafat (Ray), her commitment to her adopted home is matched by none. All throughout Northern Virginia, life is improving thanks to the work of the Mahmoods. From their humble beginnings starting at the age of 23 with their first business in the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria, they've been important members of the small business community in the 8th District.

But it has been Shaista's charitable work for causes around the world that is most profound. In fact, the organizations to which she has devoted her time are too numerous to list. Whether it's supporting children recovering from life in war-torn regions of our globe at Seeds of Peace or securing positive change for women as worldwide economic drivers at Vital Voices, Shaista's commitment to making a difference in the lives of women and children is unmatched.

I've been honored to share this commitment to so many of these causes, but none more so than her devotion to improving women's and children's rights around the globe. Hers has been a silent hand at the wheel driving forces for change all around the globe, demanding equal rights for the many who are treated unjustly as a matter of course and tradition every day.

These are the very issues that have inspired so many of us to devote decades of our life to public service. But while we are welcomed and honored in DC and throughout the country as public servants, Shaista asks for no such recognition. She is proud to let her good work stand as testament alone to the countless hours of commitment she has spent advancing these global issues.

Since we first met years ago, thanks in small part to her delicious Pakistani cooking, the roots she has planted in Northern Virginia are deep and wide. Along with Ray, Shaista has opened her home to countless organizations, including elected officials at every level from across the political spectrum. We are all fortunate to call Shaista our friend, and for many, our inspiration.

Mr. Speaker, please join with me today in celebrating Shaista's commitment to making this world a better place all within it. I'm honored to call her a constituent and even more honored to call her a friend.