

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JAMES MARTIN CENTER FOR NON-PROLIFERATION STUDIES AT THE MIDDLEBURY INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES IN MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the twenty-fifth anniversary of the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey, California. Sixty years ago, MIIS was founded as a graduate school that would promote international understanding through the study of language and culture. Even though our world is much more complex and interconnected, our democratic objectives of global peace and security are still best advanced when Americans understand other cultures and can speak to non-English speakers in their own language.

And the Center for Nonproliferation Studies has been at the nexus of peace and security issues for more than two decades. The Center provides professional education to both U.S. and international students on critical global issues dealing with regional security, terrorist motivations, the science and technology of weapons of mass destruction, and innovations in analytical tools and methods. As the world's first graduate degree program that teaches the knowledge and skills needed to curtail the spread of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), CNS has been at the forefront of United States leadership on the threat that weapons of mass destruction pose against global security. CNS has safeguarded not only our nation, but also the world.

It is not enough that the United States be at the forefront of weapons technology to counter the threat of weapons of mass destruction. We must also focus on strategy and diplomacy in order to make meaningful policy that promotes nonproliferation and disarmament worldwide. CNS, under the leadership of its founding director, Dr. William C. Potter, has excelled at the nexus of global policy and diplomacy by cultivating world-class nonproliferation leaders for the classroom and providing CNS students with unique academic assignments outside the classroom.

Mr. Speaker, for twenty-five years, CNS significantly advanced the security of the nation and strengthened international partnerships that build peace. The importance of continuing that progress is even more important in today's uncertain world. Will the world be safe for our children and grandchildren? As long as rogue nations possess weapons of mass destruction, we will face challenges, but those challenges are being addressed by the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies by educating nonproliferation leaders of tomorrow. I commend the Center for all its accom-

plishments over the last twenty-five years and I look forward to its continued distinguished service to our country into the future.

AYLA CHARNESS

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ayla Charness for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Ayla Charness is an 8th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ayla Charness is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ayla Charness for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

### RECOGNIZING PEDERNALES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE EMPLOYEES

### HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize three power linemen from Pedernales Electric Cooperative in my district for their service and for putting into action cooperative principle #6—cooperation among cooperatives—in Haiti. Marshall Verette, Andrew Ridge and Mark Moreno volunteered to go to Haiti last February to work with Haiti's first electric cooperative, the Cooperative Electrique de l'Arrondissement des Coteaux (CEAC). This work was part of a rural electrification project through the NRECA International Foundation with support from the United Nations Environmental Program and USAID.

They spent two weeks in the town of Coteaux to help build a distribution system that will connect three towns. Upon completion, the diesel-solar hybrid electric system will provide safe, affordable and reliable power to 1600 consumers. Their contributions included upgrading lines, installing new lines and service drops, and training locally hired linemen in proper construction methods, pole climbing techniques, proper handline use, and important safety practices. Electricity is a critical element in improving the quality of life and in pro-

viding health care, education, access to clean water and economic opportunity. In Haiti, less than 15 percent of the population has regular access to electricity.

In appreciation of all they have done, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues join me in thanking them for their humanitarian efforts.

### IN RECOGNITION OF CHUCK MAULDEN'S ACT OF KINDNESS

### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and express appreciation for the kind acts of Mr. Chuck Maulden, an emergency department nurse at the Salisbury Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

We are all well aware of the tragic backlog for benefit applications and long wait times at VA hospitals that affect so many veterans across our country.

We spend more money today on the VA than at any point before, but too much of this money is spent on the bureaucracy in Washington and not enough at our hospitals and most importantly on veterans themselves.

In spite of this problem, we are thankful for the effort and hard work by caregivers like Chuck.

Chuck recently attended to a Vietnam veteran in his 60s who had severe pain and bad blisters on his feet.

When Chuck saw the veteran's tattered shoes with holes worn through the soles he took action.

Chuck bandaged the veteran's feet and then—in an act of servanthood—gave him the brand new shoes off of his own feet.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I hope Chuck's actions inspire us all to lend a helping hand to those in need, especially to our nation's heroes.

I hope Chuck's selflessness will inspire us to work to better serve the veterans in our communities.

I commend Chuck for his act of service. I am proud to represent him and the veterans he serves.

### CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE JOB CORPS PROGRAM

### HON. BRUCE POLIQUIN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Job Corps program on 50 years of dedicated support of our young Americans. Furthermore, 2015 marks five decades of ambition and hope for our young Mainers in Bangor and Limestone, and throughout the United States of America.

Maine's Job Corps programs are vital for preparing young people in the Great State of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Maine for employment and further education. It is an honor to strongly support their mission to better the lives of Mainers through technical and academic training.

Since its first class of students in 1997, the Loring Job Corps program has helped Maine students earn high school diplomas, construct careers, and obtain great jobs.

The Penobscot Job Corps has maintained the same mission for 35 years. Education and community service alike are two cornerstones of the Penobscot program, which prides itself on staff and students giving back to the community around them. The program's accreditation with the New England Association of Schools & Colleges in 2007 only enhanced its ability to reach out and enrich the lives of young Mainers.

The Job Corps Program encourages the vital education and creativity of bright young students throughout the county. It is with great pride and appreciation that I congratulate the Job Corps Program for half a century of critical work.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN  
CHARLES RUSH

**HON. MARTHA ROBY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday March 25, 2015*

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Charles Rush, an exceptional Alabamian who set an example of leadership for all to follow. His lifetime of dedication and service stands as a monument to the exemplary man he was, and his gallantry in battle continues to inspire future generations.

Rush was born in Greensboro, a small farming town in west Alabama. When he was seven, his family moved to Dothan, Alabama where he went to elementary and high school.

After completing high school at the Gulf Coast Military Academy in Gulfport, Mississippi, Rush was awarded an appointment to the U. S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Graduating in 1941, he was then assigned duty aboard a destroyer and stationed at Pearl Harbor. Later, Rush volunteered for submarine duty where he completed a total of seven patrols with the USS *Thresher* and the USS *Billfish*.

In 1943, three enemy destroyers attacked the *Billfish*, bombarding it with depth charges for twelve hours. During this terrifying attack, the ship's commanders became unable to ensure the safety of the submarine. Then Lieutenant Rush took control of the situation, outsmarted the enemy destroyers, and helped lead the submarine and all of the men aboard to safety. Nearly sixty years after the attack, Rush was awarded the Navy Cross in 2002—an honor insisted upon by his fellow crew members of the USS *Billfish* on board during the attack.

Captain Rush was a friend, mentor, respected colleague, and gentleman to many, and will be remembered for his courage and integrity. Captain Rush passed on February 27th, 2015, just shy of his 96th birthday. He is survived by LaVonne, his wife of 39 years, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, and a host of other family members.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF AGAT VICE MAYOR AGUSTIN  
G. QUINTANILLA

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Agustin "Dinga" G. Quintanilla who served as the Vice Mayor of the village of Agat. Vice Mayor Quintanilla passed away on March 19, 2015 at the age of 52.

Vice Mayor Quintanilla was born on August 8, 1962 to Jesus Taitano Quintanilla and Remedios Guzman Quintanilla. He graduated from the Guam Community College and shortly thereafter began his career with the United States Navy Guam Ship Repair Facility and U.S. Navy Public Works as a welder. He continued his career as a welder with Raytheon and then with DZSP as a combination welder.

Mr. Quintanilla was appointed the vice mayor of Agat in 2009 by Governor Felix Camacho, and was subsequently elected and reelected to the position. He has always had close ties to the community. As the vice mayor, he played a crucial role in expanding the village park and pavilion, "Sagan Bisita" and coordinating the village float entry for the annual Liberation Parade, garnering awards in 2009 and 2010.

Vice Mayor Quintanilla will always be remembered for his generosity and willingness to help those in need and the community he loved. During Chamorro Month, Vice Mayor Quintanilla would celebrate the Chamorro culture by building traditional huts at the neighboring Guam Naval Base. Always a humble and giving man, Vice Mayor Quintanilla also constructed benches for both the Agat gym and baseball field.

Prior to serving as vice mayor, Mr. Quintanilla was an active member of the Agat Municipal Planning Council since 1996. He also held numerous positions in community organizations such as the Agat Santa Ana Rancheros Association, Marcial Sablan Elementary School Parent Teacher Association, the Agat Cardinals Baseball Team, and the Western Visayas College of Science and Technology Association-Guam Chapter.

Though Vice Mayor Quintanilla stayed busy with all his duties and community organizations, he always remained an active parishioner of the Mount Carmel Catholic Church and Santa Ana Chapel in Agat. Vice Mayor Quintanilla could always be found cooking behind the scenes for both church and village events. He was even a vital part of the building of the Santa Ana Chapel as a part of the Santa Ana Association.

I am deeply saddened by the passing of Vice Mayor Quintanilla, and I join the people of Guam in celebrating his life and recognizing his dedicated service to Guam. My thoughts and prayers are with his daughters, Julianna, Alianna, and Nikita, and his loved ones and friends. He will be missed, and his memory will live on in the hearts of the people of Guam.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF  
CHRISTOPHER "CB" BOBBY

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, this past week, the people of the Mahoning Valley suffered a great loss with the passing of former Tribune Chronicle reporter Christopher "CB" Bobby. CB covered the Trumbull County Courthouse for decades and was known in the area for being fair, honest, and compassionate. Mr. Bobby truly cared for the people in his stories and wrote for the purpose of informing the public of the important issues affecting the daily lives of citizens.

Brenda Linert, the editor of the Tribune Chronicle, wrote a brief story about her endearment for Chris; and I believe her sentiments express perfectly the gratitude that the people of Warren, Ohio and the Mahoning Valley have for Chris and his dedication to the people and their stories.

HONORING MEMORIES OF NEWSROOM LEGEND

(By Brenda Linert)

We buried our friend this week. If you are a regular reader, no doubt you know by now that we, at the Tribune Chronicle, are mourning the unexpected death of Christopher "CB" Bobby, the veteran Tribune Chronicle reporter who for decades has covered news originating in the Trumbull County Courthouse. CB had an air about him that made people love him as a person and as a friend. As a journalist, CB was an old-school newsmen.

Those who sat near him in the "Bobby Acres" section of the newsroom (Chris, of course, was the mayor) can attest to the fact that CB grumbled a lot, often about new demands of the newspaper industry that he had become a part of 41 years ago. Chris would begrudgingly complete extra assignments, like those for special sections, referring to them as his "term papers".

I don't believe his rants and frustrations ever came because CB disliked work. It was, rather, because he disliked work that took him away from what he felt was really important—telling his readers the stories that needed to be told. He knew the stories of court cases were come not by just quickly pulling filings off electronic court dockets or trolling social media, as many young reporters do today. Chris would tell you that's not the way to find stories about people. And he tried his best to share that skill without ever belittling or condescending.

Throughout the decades, CB took an untold number of fresh-faced young reporters (myself included some 20 years ago) to the courthouse to teach them his secrets of covering a trial. In every instance, including mine, the cub reporter would enter the courtroom, slide into a pew beside CB and proceed to bury his or her face in a reporter notebook, scrawling away, never taking a moment to look up or even breathe.

And just like the day CB took me to court. He would shake his head, lean over and whisper something like, "What the heck are you doing? Put down the notebook and listen." With reluctance, I followed his instructions, fearing he was wrong and I'd miss something incredibly important. Each time I'd try to ease the notebook back into my hand, he'd shake his head disapprovingly. He knew, you see, the importance of simply listening and watching and understanding. That's how a good journalist is able to tell a story.

When CB told his stories they were about the people. He told them with authority,

apolitically and unapologetically. David Addis, a former Trib reporter who worked with CB in the late 1970s, last week described him like this: "Even then, Chris' strongest point was that he simply cared about the story, and the people behind the story. He was the most apolitical reporter I ever worked with—he didn't give a tinker's damn about the office politics, city politics or any higher sphere of politics. It's probably why people came to trust him. He was honest, considerate, compassionate and simply wanted to get it right."

That was true until the end. As former Trib reporter Mike Scott put it, "CB was the heart and soul of the Tribune Chronicle for decades . . . and a great reporter and mentor for generations of reporters." What may be most disheartening is to consider all the new, young reporters that will join us going forward who never will have the benefit of working with CB. Sure, we will publish a newspaper every day. We will move forward, because we must. But it won't be easy, and this newsroom will never be the same. Rest in peace, my friend.

HONORING JIMMY "DUCK"  
HOLMES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. THOMPSON, of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a talented man, Mr. Jimmy "Duck" Holmes. Jimmy has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to be a trailblazer.

Jimmy "Duck" Holmes was born to sharecroppers Carey and Mary Holmes in 1947, the year before they opened the Blue Front Café. He was one of ten children and his parents also raised four children of Mary's deceased sister.

Jimmy "Duck" Holmes is the proprietor of one of the oldest juke joints in Mississippi, the Blue Front in Bentonia. In the mid-2000s he began performing blues actively after many years of performing casually, and has already garnered several awards and many accolades. He is a practitioner and conscious advocate of a distinctive blues style from his hometown whose most famous proponent was blues pioneer Skip James.

Holmes, who never met Skip James, studied the music of Owens, learning songs including "Cherry Ball", "Hard Times", "I'd Rather Be the Devil", but didn't perform very actively until relatively recently. He promoted blues through the founding in 1972 of the Bentonia Blues Festival, which took place annually until the mid-'90s and was revived in 2006. He took over the Blue Front in 1970 after the death of his father, and beginning in the '80s the café became a popular destination for blues tourists, including annual visits by busloads of Japanese fans. In 1995 a commercial for Levi's 501 jeans was filmed there.

Various blues researchers including Alan Lomax recorded Holmes beginning at least in the '70s, but until recently his only vocal appearance on record was one song, "Devil's Blues", that he performed together with Cornelius Bright and which appeared on the Austrian Wolf label compilation album "Giants of Country Blues" Volume 2. In 2006 the St. Louis-based record label "Broke & Hungry" released Holmes' debut CD "Back to Bentonia".

He was joined on the record by Spires and drummer, Sam Carr, and in addition to some original songs, Holmes also covered the Bentonia standards "Hard Times" and "I'd Rather Be the Devil".

The CD was well received, and garnered several Living Blues Awards and to multiple festival bookings, including the Chicago Blues Festival and the Arkansas Blues and Heritage Festival. Holmes, who normally works as an educator, has traditionally been a somewhat reluctant performer, but has enjoyed the opportunity to share his music and talk about the Bentonia tradition. "You don't get nervous when you're doing your hobby," he says of performing.

In 2007 "Broke and Hungry" released a second CD, "Done Got Tired of Tryin'", which followed a similar formula, and included James' "Cherry Ball". The CD was nominated for a 2008 Blues Music Award for Acoustic Album of the Year, and National Public Radio listed it as one of the "Top 10 Blues Albums" of the year. Holmes also received national publicity in August 2007 when a Mississippi Blues Trail historic marker was dedicated in honor of the Blue Front Café.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jimmy "Duck" Holmes a talented and creative Blues Guitarist & Vocalist.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 133. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

A TRIBUTE TO BRENT MACKIE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Brent Mackie for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Brent has the determination and drive to be successful in anything he does, and his exemplary work with Holmes Murphy & Associates is a testament to that. As an account executive and shareholder with Holmes Murphy & Associates, Brent realizes the importance of giving back to the community. He has dedicated his time and talents to serve others through organizations like Junior Achievement

of Central Iowa, Variety—The Children's Charity, the Ankeny High School mentorship program and Easter Seals of Iowa. In all aspects of his life, Brent is a leader and an example of the hard work and service that makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Brent in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Brent on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

IN HONOR OF DR. BARRY  
SHEPHERD'S CAREER

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Barry Shepherd for his faithful service as the Superintendent of the Cabarrus County School system in the 8th Congressional District of North Carolina.

When Dr. Shepherd became Superintendent in 2008, he brought a unique vision that transformed Cabarrus County Schools during many challenging years. In spite of reductions in funding, Dr. Shepherd continually emphasized the value of people and his students.

As a result of this approach, students from Cabarrus County Schools are scoring higher on end-of-year assessments, graduation rates have increased, and the school system was able to open eight new schools during his tenure.

Today, Cabarrus County Schools boasts some of the most unique learning experiences offered in the country. Specifically, Cabarrus County Schools has a partnership with the Center for International Understanding at the University of North Carolina called Confucius Classrooms. This program features a reciprocal agreement where teachers and administrators from Cabarrus County visit schools in China to fine tune best practices in education. As part of this program, Chinese educators come to Cabarrus County Schools to learn from their successes as well.

Dr. Shepherd is a native of Wilkes County, North Carolina, and received a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. He went on to receive his Doctoral Degree in Education from Columbia University in New York.

Dr. Shepherd served as Superintendent of Elkin City Schools and as Assistant Superintendent in the Mooresville Graded School District before arriving in Cabarrus County. He also held various administrative positions in the Iredell-Statesville Schools, Lexington City Schools, and Thomasville City Schools.

It is truly an honor to extend these remarks congratulating Dr. Shepherd on his retirement and to thank him for his esteemed service to our local community as a visionary educator.

AIREONNA JENSEN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aireonna Jensen for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Aireonna Jensen is an 8th grader at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Aireonna Jensen is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Aireonna Jensen for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JIM McCLELLAND FOR HIS 41 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF CENTRAL INDIANA

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career and accomplishments of Jim McClelland. For more than four decades, Jim served as President and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District and central Indiana are forever grateful for Jim's community leadership.

Jim has spent most of his professional life with Goodwill. After receiving his Bachelor of Industrial Engineering degree from Georgia Tech and his MBA from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University, he served in the military for three years. He then began his career with Goodwill and has been with the company ever since. He started with the company in 1970 in Texas and moved to Indianapolis in 1973 to work with then-President and CEO Alan McNeil. Alan, a role model to Jim, tragically passed away less than a year after Jim moved to Indiana. Jim was named his successor and has been building and developing the organization ever since. Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana has only had three CEOs since its founding in 1930 and Jim has been at the helm since 1974.

Goodwill of Central Indiana has blossomed under Jim's leadership. He clearly has a true passion for Goodwill's mission and is an outstanding leader and social entrepreneur. When he first joined the Indianapolis team, the nonprofit had 558 employees, eight retail stores, and \$3 million in revenue. Today, the company has more than 3,100 employees, 55 retail stores, 10 commercial sites, 10 charter high schools, and \$310 million in revenue. All profits from the retail side go back into improv-

ing the community. With these profits, Jim launched many social services aimed at reducing the long-term effects of poverty.

He also worked tirelessly to expand job opportunities for unemployed Hoosiers and led philanthropic efforts in education and health. Two of his most notable accomplishments are the creation of the Excel Center, a program offering education to adults wanting to earn their high school diploma, and bringing the Nurse-Family Partnership to Indianapolis, a nonprofit that helps first-time, low-income mothers.

Jim is undoubtedly a savvy businessman and wise investor, but his commitment to humanitarianism is what shines through the most. He always puts others first, combining his talents to improve the future of others. His commitment to helping others extends far beyond his position with Goodwill of Central Indiana. He is involved with Goodwill Industries nationally and internationally, has served on the boards of numerous not-for-profit organizations, and been honored with awards in the nonprofit arena. Just to name a few of his accomplishments, he helped start a new Goodwill organization in South Korea, sits on the board of the Indiana Public Charter Schools Association, and was named Nonprofit Executive of the Year by The Nonprofit Times in 2000.

On behalf of the grateful constituents of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I congratulate Jim on the occasion of his retirement. His entrepreneurial and humanitarian spirit has left an everlasting impact on the Indianapolis community and beyond. I wish the very best to Jim, his wife, Jane, and their two children as he enjoys a well-deserved retirement.

**HONORING ROHIT RAINA****HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Rohit Raina attends Dawson High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: select an important event that has occurred in the past 15 years and explain how that event has changed our country.

**A NEW NATION IS BORN**

The time had come, Election Day in 2008. Republicans and Democrats were standing in anxious positions, waiting to see who would emerge victorious; Barack Obama, or John McCain. The Democrats were obviously rooting for Barack Obama, whereas the Republicans were cheering on for John McCain. However, only one could stand victorious. After a long collection of votes, the new president was declared; Barack Hussein Obama, the first African American President of the United States of America.

November 4, 2008 will be a day to remember in our American history. That day was when all tides had turned, and a movement was born. Barack Obama, a three time senate member for Illinois, became the first African American man to ever become president in the history of the United States of America. The turnout of this election was a complete change in the perspective of the American people; where people were used to "White supremacy" and social inequality. After the election, peoples' mindsets changed about socialism and the attitude toward racism in the workplace. I had read a book by Joseph E. Stiglitz, *The Price of Inequality*, which this book references how after Obama was elected, the whole nation changed. In the workplace, people were more respectful to the African American race, there wasn't as much racial discrimination as there previously was. In the book I had read, office employers would be somewhat racist; to a point where a Caucasian man with a critical record had a higher chance of getting a job they tried out for than an African American man without a criminal record. Socially, people were more understanding of the African American race, because they now knew with Obama as president, the African American people were seen to have potential and were not judged any longer.

Barack Obama has honestly been one of our greatest presidents in the American nation.

Understandably, presidents such as FDR and Lincoln fought through tough times, but Obama was not any less of those two great men. By signing the economic stimulus and fighting through an economic recession, Barack Obama has led the Land of the Free out of grave trouble and into the path of success. President Obama had led us out of two wars in the Middle East, lowered gas prices, and helped the American nation by producing an amazing healthcare system called ObamaCare. By his second term, he had created a better nation, besides the 18 trillion dollar deficit the United States is currently under. With better gun control (because of the Sandy Hook shooting), the assassination of the Taliban terrorist leader Osama Bin Laden, and the search for better relations with Cuba, Obama has clearly led this nation to the path of power.

Barack Obama's election and reelection was one of the most effective changing thing in American history. For the past 15 years, America was getting better and thriving, but with Barack Obama, our nation has re-emerged as a much more powerful superpower. Who knows where we will be in 5 more years, but with Barack Obama's leadership and his effect on the future presidency line, we will be in great shape.

**IN HONOR OF DR. JERRY MCGEE'S CAREER****HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Jerry McGee for his faithful service as President of Wingate University in the 8th Congressional District of North Carolina.

When Dr. McGee became President of then Wingate College in 1992, he brought visionary leadership that transformed this educational institution from college to university status. During Dr. McGee's presidency, Wingate's enrollment increased more than 125 percent. Under his leadership, Wingate went from a

small college to a thriving university. Wingate University has been recognized as one of the best small liberal arts colleges in the Southeast and the premier small private university in North Carolina.

As a result of Dr. McGee's leadership, Wingate University has expanded to new campuses in Charlotte and Henderson, opened 37 new buildings, and refurbished every facility on campus. Wingate opened its School of Pharmacy in 2003, and it now offers six health-care related graduate degrees and seven pre-professional undergraduate health programs. In a ten-year period starting in 1993, the number of Wingate undergraduates pursuing degrees in science or health-care related fields quadrupled.

The Wingate University community has expressed its support and praise for Dr. McGee's leadership through an influx of millions of dollars in gifts and grants for endowments, scholarships, and campus development. During Dr. McGee's presidency, Wingate University's endowment increased by 420 percent and its operating budget has nearly doubled.

Dr. McGee is a native of Rockingham, North Carolina, and received his Bachelor's Degree from East Carolina University and a Master's Degree from Appalachian State University. He went on to receive his Doctoral Degree from Nova Southeastern University.

Before being named President of Wingate University, Dr. McGee served as Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Meredith College and Vice President for Development at Furman College. Dr. McGee is actively involved in our local and state community, and he is the recipient of North Carolina's highest civilian honor, The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, in recognition of his exemplary service to North Carolina. Dr. McGee is also a member of the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame for officiating 404 NCAA Division I college football games, 20 of which were bowl games.

It is truly an honor to extend these remarks congratulating my friend Dr. Jerry McGee on his retirement and to thank him for his esteemed service to our community as a visionary educator and leader.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

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 \$18,152,382,569,585.32. We've added \$7,525,505,520,672.24 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING JEANNE BURTON ISRAEL

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize retiring Pleasanton City Councilwoman Jeanne Burton Israel. She has served with distinction, and is now ending her tenure after six years on the Pleasanton City Council.

A San Antonio native, Jeanne moved to Atascosa County in 1982, becoming the first female Fuel and Ash Operator at San Miguel Electric Power Plant. Two years later she relocated to her current home of Pleasanton. After twelve years at San Miguel Electric, Jeanne Israel started Errand Girl Services, a courier service in Pleasanton. Her position as a small business owner propelled her into local politics and in 2000 she served as Treasurer for the Atascosa County MHMR.

Mrs. Israel also became an active and esteemed member of her local Lions Club, known for her initiative and dedication to the community. She founded and served as the advisor to the Lions' youth organization, the Pleasanton Leo Club from 2002 until 2006. Sitting on several City Charter Review Committees sparked her interest in local government and prompted her to run for a seat on the city council in 2009.

From 2009 to 2015 Mrs. Israel has represented the people of District 6 on the Pleasanton City Council. During her 6-year tenure, she has been an avid supporter of the arts and has backed efforts to preserve and protect county history. Mrs. Israel has also been a proponent of education and increased citizen involvement in government. She has also worked to revitalize Pleasanton's downtown area and improve city infrastructure. In recognition of her outstanding service to the City of Pleasanton and the people of District 6, she has received awards from multiple community organizations in Pleasanton including the Pleasanton Lion of the Year, the Sons of Hermann Lodge #310 Humanitarian Award, and the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Jeanne Burton Israel on the occasion of her retirement from the Pleasanton City Council. Her years of dedication and commitment to her community have made Pleasanton, Texas a better place.

CELEBRATING THE 275TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Township of Morris as it celebrates its 275th Anniversary.

The Township of Morris, originally formed on March 25, 1740, is also known as the "doughnut" because it completely encapsulates the Town of Morristown. Morris Township was also one of the original 104 townships of New Jersey at the state's founding.

Morris Township is not just known for its geography, however. This township is home to more than 22,000 people, who are very active in their community. Morris Township is also home to many historic landmarks such as Pruddentown, Alnwick Hall which is known today as "The Abbey," and Normandy Park.

Morris Township, founded in 1740, is older than the United States itself, and has changed drastically since over two hundred and seventy-five years. At the town's beginning, it encompassed nearly half of Morris County and was primarily all farmland. As time progressed, however, the township would evolve into the more 'urban' setting it has today. In addition to this urbanization, Morris Township was divided into many other towns such as Roxbury, Morristown, Mendham, and Chatham. Morris Township was also home to a number of events in American history. From the encampment of The Continental Army and George Washington during The Revolutionary War, to "Millionaires Row" which housed many of New Jersey and New York City's millionaires until the 1940's, when income taxes led to the demolition of the houses, this township has a very rich history. Along with these historic sights are places such as, The College of Saint Elizabeth, The Seeing Eye and many other institutions which are able to call Morris Township their home.

To celebrate its 275th Anniversary, the Township will host several events, including a 5K run, family picnic, concerts, exhibits and tournaments. The Morristown and Township Library will be introducing a new exhibit to celebrate this landmark event as well. The exhibit will open April 8th and close on the 16th of August. To celebrate the opening of the exhibit, the library will host an opening ceremony on April 8th serving light refreshments for those who wish to attend. The exhibit will have on display all historical moments in the town's history, landmarks and important people to the community. The festivities will be celebrated by friends and neighbors, and will surely be a night to remember.

I commend the citizens, the Township Committee and the Mayor of The Township of Morris in honor of all of the hard work put in to keep Morris Township a culturally rich and growing community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in wishing the Township of Morris a happy 275th Anniversary.

A TRIBUTE TO SARA KUROVSKI

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Sara Kurovski for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field.

The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Sara has the determination and drive to be successful in anything she does, and her exemplary work as Mayor of the city of Pleasant Hill is a testament to that. As Mayor, Sara utilizes a servant-leadership approach to guide Pleasant Hill in the right direction. Sara is active and passionate about volunteering and has served on the Polk County Conservation Board, Pleasant Hill's Planning and Zoning Board, Board of Adjustments and the City Facility Planning Committee. In all aspects of her life, Sara is an example of the hard work and service that makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Sara in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Sara on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

BRIANA PACHECO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Briana Pacheco for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Briana Pacheco is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Briana Pacheco is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Briana Pacheco for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO RITUPARNA  
MUKHERJEE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have writ-

ten short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Rituparna Mukherjee attends Seven Lakes High School in Katy, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

The way health care is provided, paid for, and measured in the United States is rapidly changing. That will continue to happen as the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, comes into full effect. Prior to health care reform, a health insurance company could charge more, deny coverage or exclude condition-specific benefits if you had a life-threatening or chronic health condition. The ACA has changed most of that through changes in health insurance coverage however; the Affordable Care Act isn't simply about making insurance more widely available. It's also about re-engineering the health care industry, so that it operates more efficiently—providing treatment that is higher quality, less expensive, or both. The idea, as Sarah Kliff explains in the Washington Post, is to move from a system that rewards volume (i.e., the number of procedures performed) to a system that rewards value (i.e., the quality of care provided).

Beginning in 2014, no insurer can charge you more or deny you coverage based on your current health or a pre-existing condition. While an estimated 220,000 Americans who could afford it obtained alternate coverage, roughly 25 million with pre-existing conditions were uninsured. Not only that, the out-of-pocket expense kept both insured and uninsured. Americans away from preventive care, to the detriment of public health. Now, all health plans must offer a wide array of in-network preventive services and treatments for adults and children, with no out-of-pocket costs such as co pays, coinsurance or need to meet a deductible. Both of the aforementioned policies are conducive to lower healthcare costs and more importantly, awareness for preventive measures.

In accordance with the changes mentioned before, children under the age of 26 are now allowed to still be under their parents' healthcare plan. This means that there are a larger number of young adults insured as they enter the workforce. The aforementioned policy is middle- and upper-class beneficial because it implies that there are parents of adult children that are insured. Already more than two million young adults have gotten health insurance through their parents' policies.

While debate continues on both the success and the failure of managed care, one cannot deny the increased emphasis on cost containment. The results of managed care and the continuing evolution of the American health care system are both quantitative and qualitative. They range from a reduction in hospital admissions and stays to an increase in ambulatory care, out-patient surgeries, and home care; from an emphasis on prevention and better decisions by consumers about health-related behaviors to the sometimes limited choices by consumers in selecting practitioners and in utilizing benefits; from increasing limitations in coverage with higher deductibles and co-pays to the reality of a still significant portion of the population among the disenfranchised or uninsured.

While the Affordable Care Act has its positives and its negatives, as do most policies, its benefits have only just begun to be explored. Same goes for the negatives. We have to allow a few years to pass before we can pass judgment on this drastic change.

NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the twenty-six Congressional Medal of Honor recipients with strong ties to Oregon who will be honored in the special Oregon Medal of Honor Exhibit at the Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum in McMinnville, Oregon. On behalf of a grateful state and country, it is my privilege to honor these heroes who served above and beyond the call of duty, earning the Congressional Medal of Honor, our nation's highest award for military valor. Their brave service spans over 108 years, from the Civil War to the Vietnam War. Their names are as follows:

Civil War (1861–1865): Alaric B. Chapin, U.S. Army; Hartwell B. Compson, U.S. Army; Nathan E. Edgerton, U.S. Army; Louis Renninger, U.S. Army. Indian Wars (1861–1898): James Jackson, U.S. Army; Meaher Nicholas, U.S. Army; Lewis Phife, U.S. Army. Philippine Insurrection (1899–1911): Frank C. High, U.S. Army; Charles E. Kilbourne, U.S. Army; Marcus W. Robertson, U.S. Army; Jacob Volz Jr., U.S. Navy. Boxer Rebellion (1900): John A. Murphy, U.S. Marine Corps. Peacetime (1903): Harry D. Fadden, U.S. Navy. World War I (1917–1918): Edward C. Allworth, U.S. Army. World War II (1941–1945): Arnold L. Bjorklund, U.S. Army; Arthur J. Jackson, U.S. Marine Corps; David R. Kingsley, U.S. Army Air Forces; Robert D. Maxwell, U.S. Army; Henry Schauer, U.S. Army; Stuart S. Stryker, U.S. Army. Korean War (1950–1953): Stanley T. Adams, U.S. Army; Loren R. Kaufman, U.S. Army. Vietnam War (1964–1975): Larry G. Dahl, U.S. Army; John N. Holcomb, U.S. Army; Gary W. Martini, U.S. Marine Corps; Maximo Yabes, U.S. Army.

These wartime heroes were either born in Oregon, entered service from Oregon, were laid to rest in Oregon, or live in Oregon. Seven of the recipients gave their lives during an act of valor. Nine of them were commissioned officers and seventeen were enlisted men and non-commissioned officers. Twenty-one served in the Army, two in the Navy, and three in the Marine Corps. They served in ten countries around the globe: the United States, China, Philippines, France, Palau, Italy, Romania, Germany, Korea and Vietnam. Two World War II recipients are living today—Mr. Robert D. Maxwell, Bend, Oregon, and Mr. Arthur J. Jackson, Boise, Idaho. Mr. Maxwell is the oldest of the 79 living Medal of Honor recipients of all wars.

Among other items, the Oregon Medal of Honor Exhibit will feature displays for each recipient, interactive digital kiosks and a large American flag flown over the U.S. Capitol on March 25, 2015, National Medal of Honor Day. This outstanding project was organized by the Bend Heroes Foundation and their partners: Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum, Pacific Standard Television, Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, Congressional Medal of Honor Society, Medal of Honor Historical Society of the United States, my office, and BNSF Railway.

HONORING CHIEF DAN JONES

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Dan Jones of the Chapel Hill Fire Department, who will retire in May after 25 years of distinguished service to my hometown of Chapel Hill.

Chief Jones began his career with the Pinellas Park Fire Department in Florida, where he was quickly recognized as a leader and named Firefighter of the Year and Florida Fire Instructor of the Year. In 1990, he left Florida to become Fire Chief in Chapel Hill.

As soon as he arrived in our community, Chief Jones set about modernizing what was then a small-town Fire Department, most notable for its Carolina blue trucks. Today, thanks to his leadership, the Department is recognized as one of the finest in North Carolina and the country.

Chief Jones has faced his share of challenges as well—notably the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity fire in 1996, which took the lives of five UNC students. He helped lead the community back from that tragedy, bridging the gap between students, Chapel Hill residents, and the Fire Department. He also became an advocate for new safety techniques and equipment, reforms that have saved countless lives since.

Chief Jones has received many awards from his peers for his remarkable work, including National Fire Service Person of the Year and the International Fire Chiefs Association President's Award. He has also served as President of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors, written extensively on the topic of fire safety, lectured at UNC-Chapel Hill, and taught leadership classes around the country and the world.

Chief Jones has also been quick to assist me, particularly during my time as Chairman or Ranking Member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security, giving sound policy advice and convening numerous first responder gatherings from central North Carolina.

Whenever I see a Carolina blue fire truck drive by on Franklin Street, I am thankful that Chapel Hill has been lucky enough to have Dan Jones serve as its Fire Chief. On behalf of our entire community, thank you for your service, Chief Jones. I wish you the very best in retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 131. Had I been present, I would have voted YES.

HONORING RILEY FRANKS

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Riley Franks attends Pearland High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: select an important event that has occurred in the past 15 years and explain how that event has changed our country.

About fourteen years ago, the United States never expected something like this to happen but on September 11, 2001, terrorism took a big turn. A series of four coordinated terrorist attacks by the Islamic terrorist group al-Qaeda were set into play in New York City and the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Two passenger airplanes were hijacked and crashed into the North and South Towers of the World Trade Center; another was crashed into the Pentagon which caused a partial collapse of the western side, and the fourth plane was targeted at Washington D.C. but crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania after some of the passengers tried to overcome the hijackers. A total 2,996 citizens died that day and was the deadliest incident for firefighters and law enforcement officers ever. This day has changed America for the better and the worse in these four major lasting impacts: more than a decade of war, immigration and deportation, the skies, and an increase in surveillance.

Just a few weeks after the 9/11 event, the United States invaded Afghanistan to try and dismantle al-Qaeda and stop the terrorist group. Then two years later we attacked Iraq as a part of the War on Terror. Today, the U.S. is still entangled with Afghanistan and this War on Terror is now the longest-running war in U.S. history.

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency was established because of this tragic event. This agency was put into place to help deport criminals and stop those from coming into the U.S. illegally. In the decade after 9/11, deportations nearly doubled and in the first two years of the Obama Administration deportations hit a record high of 400,000 annually.

Airport security took a turn for the better. Although the lines and security rules to get to your gate are outrageous, the skies have never been safer. Before all of these color-coded security threat warnings and fancy full body metal detectors and x-rays, pat downs were very uncommon, liquid was allowed, and passengers were even allowed to have knives, box cutters, and cigarette lighters on board.

Finally, as a country, the U.S. boomed as a surveillance state after 9/11. This resulted in an increase of government intrusion of phone and web networks. By 2013, the United States had enacted 16 spy agencies and more than 107,000 employees that now make up the U.S. intelligence community.

Therefore, after 9/11 the United States has improved in a lot of ways mainly in security and there can only be improvement from here on out and hopefully the U.S. will never have to go through another tragic event such as this.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF LLOYD MADAY

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and achievements of Lloyd Maday, who passed away earlier this month.

Mr. Maday was a beloved and respected member of the Evanston, Illinois community, where he touched many lives. With his brother, he started Maday Brothers auto shop, which he operated for nearly 50 years before retiring in 1999. Maday Brothers was not just a place to get excellent mechanic services, Lloyd Maday made it a place where young people could get friendly advice and excellent counsel. Whether it was help in understanding how to repair a carburetor or how to deal with their personal problems, many Evanstonians turned to Lloyd Maday.

Mike Kennedy was one of those young people, who was mentored and got his first job from Lloyd Maday. Mr. Kennedy told The Chicago Tribune, Lloyd Maday "taught me a lot about fixing cars, but he taught me about character too. I'd watch how he treated people, the way he'd answer questions and take the time to explain things. If there was a problem, he'd be the one to handle it. He was calm and even-keeled, and his conversations always ended with a handshake."

Lloyd Maday was a master of his craft, keeping up with the many automotive and technological changes that occurred during his career. He made it a priority to listen and help those he met, to provide encouragement, and to set an example of how to live a life that gives back to the community. He was a devoted family man to his wife, and I want to express my condolences to his children and his 29 grandchildren. He will be greatly missed.

A TRIBUTE TO JOSH INGALLS

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Josh Ingalls for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees

will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Josh has the determination and drive to be successful in anything that he does and his exemplary work with Principal Financial Group is a testament to that. As the Recruiting Manager at Principal Financial Group, Josh is passionate about helping others and utilizes his abilities to place people in the jobs best suited for their professional growth. Josh has donated his time to others through his work with the Animal Rescue League and the PACE Juvenile Center. In all aspects of his life, Josh is an example of the hard work and service that makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Josh in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Josh on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

HONORING FORMER SENATOR STEPHEN M. BREWER FOR BEING NAMED CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

**HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank former State Senator Stephen M. Brewer for his 26 years of service in the state Legislature and to congratulate him on being recognized as Citizen of the Year by the Mount Wachusett Community College Foundation. Senator Brewer retired last year after 26 years of service in the state Legislature. Most recently, he served as Chair of the powerful Senate Ways and Means Committee. Senator Brewer is a giant; someone who looked out not only for his constituents and his community but also for Massachusetts. For 26 years Senator Brewer was a champion for Central Massachusetts. While I know his wife Valerie and daughters April and Audrey are happy to have him home, it's safe to say that we will miss his leadership in the State House. I can think of no one finer to receive this year's Harold E. Drake Citizen of the Year award for his service to the Commonwealth and to the constituents he represented over nearly three decades of public service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, March 16; Tuesday, March 17; Wednesday, March 18; and Thursday, March 19, 2015, I was out on medical leave for surgery and unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 113 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 647),

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 114 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 648),

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 115 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 876, as amended),

"No" on roll call vote No. 116 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 138),

"No" on roll call vote No. 117 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 138),

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 118 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1191, as amended),

"No" on roll call vote No. 119 (on agreeing to the McKinley Amendment to H.R. 1029),

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 120 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 1029 with instructions),

"No" on roll call vote No. 121 (on passage of H.R. 1029),

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 122 (on agreeing to the Edwards Amendment to H.R. 1030),

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 123 (on agreeing to the Kennedy Amendment to H.R. 1030),

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 124 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 1030 with instructions),

"No" on roll call vote No. 125 (on passage of H.R. 1030),

"No" on roll call vote No. 126 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 152),

"No" on roll call vote No. 127 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 152),

"No" on roll call vote No. 128 (on passage of S.J. Res. 8), and

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 129 (on approving the Journal).

TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDRA REBELES

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Alexandra Rebeles attends Foster High School in Richmond, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion, why is it important to be involved in the political process?

AN UNDENIABLE DUTY

"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors."—Plato

The American political system is an extremely complex system that impacts the lives of every single citizen who lives in our great country. Whether it's a presidential election or an election for local lawmakers, participation is essential in order for the system to be efficient and fair. A failure to vote or a choice to be ignorant in such important matters has severe consequences. Every election that takes place in the United States has a large degree of determining if a law will be passed or if a candidate will take the steps needed in order to create a better

country and system. In a situation like a presidential election, every single vote carries great significance and could alter which candidate will win. In my opinion, it is ironic how you see various Americans who have not voted protesting over laws, representatives, or presidents they do not agree with. The majority of the protesters will admit they did not vote but still feel the need to protest. How can you protest a law or principle if you did not even care enough to vote in the first place? I think those who choose not to vote need to take a look in the mirror and realize they are doing our country a disservice. Participation is the first step in order to create a better America that can serve its citizens in more efficient ways.

I have a firm belief that ignorance towards politics creates a veil that clouds the mind and leads to apathy and a lack of participation in political procedures. Ignorance in global and American affairs is one of the reasons why various people don't know or care about politics. Education in these subjects or matters greatly alters the ways a mind perceives political events. For example, watching an evening news program like the NBC Nightly News or the ABC World News can inform a viewer on the political matters plaguing or helping our country. Education can make a huge difference.

Awareness of political matters is imperative in order for this country to keep moving forward. Without any input from citizens, how can our elected officials suggest legislation that could help America in the long run?

ALEX LOW

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alex Low for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Alex Low is a 10th grader at Pomona High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Alex Low is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Alex Low for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING J.R. GALLEGOS

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pleasanton City Councilman J.R. Gallegos on the occasion of his retirement after twenty-three consecutive years of service to the people of Atascosa County and the City of Pleasanton.

J.R. Gallegos began his career as a public servant in 1989 when he was appointed to the Pleasanton Housing Authority Board of Directors. Three years later, at the age of twenty-eight, Mr. Gallegos was first elected to the Pleasanton City Council, representing the people of District Four. Since then, he has served on the Pleasanton City Council for twenty-three years. Mr. Gallegos has also been involved in a number of other community organizations and committees in Atascosa County and the City of Pleasanton.

Over the last two decades, Mr. Gallegos has dedicated his career to improving and enriching the lives of Pleasanton residents. During his time on the City Council, he has supported the construction of a municipal airport terminal, the police and public works departments, and a sports complex. Mr. Gallegos was also involved in plans for the wastewater treatment plant expansion, the Civic Center and Library, City Hall renovations, and a variety of other infrastructure improvements. His contributions have been described as "vastly improving the quality of life" for Pleasanton citizens. It is clear that he has helped to "pave the way to a bright future" for the City of Pleasanton.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize J.R. Gallegos for his twenty-three years of outstanding service as a Pleasanton City Councilman.

#### HONORING SAMUEL MCCRAY

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an extraordinary community advocate and activist, Samuel McCray.

He is a citizen of the Mississippi Delta, who was born on a plantation in a shack in the middle of a cotton field just South of Lambert, Mississippi. He attended the segregated schools in Quitman County, graduating in 1968 from Quitman County Industrial High School. On May 1, 1968, the infamous class of '68 led a walkout, protesting the arrest of Willie Bolden, a Southern Christian Leadership Conference organizer sent to prepare the upcoming March on Washington, the Poor People's Campaign. The first leg of the operation was to start in Marks with mule drawn wagons. An all white Mississippi Highway Patrol unit of twenty troopers attacked the gathering of over 500, and forced them off the jail lawn. For Samuel, this would be his first act of civil disobedience. After high school, he would attend Coahoma Junior College (now Coahoma Community College) and Delta State University (then Delta State College). While in the Delta, he helped to revive the Black Students Organization, becoming second in command in the organization. This organization managed to convince the administration to add African American Studies, to recruit black women to the Delta Bell Cheerleader Squad, to increase financial assistance, and to employ more of our people in the classroom.

While out on summer break in 1973, Samuel would join the local chapter of the NAACP and was chosen to head up the voter's league, the political arm of the organization. A few years earlier, the county purged the voter

rolls. His first charge was to get ready for the 1975 election so voter's registration was number one priority. During this period of history, the voter rolls and the poll books were coded by race which proved to be a valuable tool. The team discovered pretty quickly that the poll books would provide all the information needed. The consistence voters would be the priority group, believing they would be the easiest to get back on the books and to the polls on Election Day. By the deadline, the group had registered over 1500 black voters. The work had only begun; the decision was made to run a slate, a candidate for each position. Not because of the possibility of winning, there was no chance of that, the black vote was less than a third of the total. Will black voters vote for black candidates? About 80% of the black votes were cast for our candidates. The black leadership could not have been happier; we were on our way. Voter registration was a step-up, and an opportunity presented itself in 1978 with the death of the white county supervisor in District 1. The district had more black voters than another and they were concentrated in the Crenshaw and Darling Precincts. With an attractive candidate, and a good ground game we felt we could make history, and we did. The opposition accused the group of cheating; too many black voters received help with their ballot. They found themselves in court, which turned out to be a blessing. The ruling was that any voter with a physical disability, blind or illiterate could receive assistance from the person of their choosing. Another slate was put together for the Town of Lambert, which had an At-Large scheme where a voter had to case a five candidate's ballot in order for the vote to count. Again, the group looked for the most attractive candidates, one of whom was J.D. "Jake" McAdory. Everybody liked him, including both blacks and whites, and he was a standup guy. He was the first African American elected to the Board of Aldermen. As always, the group would run a slate in county elections, realizing that keeping voters engaged was the best tool to building a strong electorate.

In the late 70's Samuel would align himself with people like Attorneys: Frank Parker & Margret Carey; the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law; Victor McTeer & Willie Bailey, Johnnie Walls, Senator Henry Kersey, and others that were challenging the legal schemes hindering blacks from the ballot box. Sam was certified as an expert witness on white block voting, voting harassment, voter's intimidation and at-large voting. The effort would lead to redistricting or redrawing county supervisor and municipal lines to give black voters a fair chance to elect candidates of their choosing. By 1983, with creating three black majorities districts and getting rid of the at-large voting practice, they began getting much closer to achieving the goal set many years earlier. By 1987, they controlled the Quitman County Board of Supervisors. Today, all the municipalities with the exception of two are headed by African American mayors, and all of the governing boards are black majorities. While an activist in Quitman County, Sam worked at Coahoma Opportunities, Inc. (COI) in Clarksdale where he started as a community driver, but quickly moved up in the organization into middle management. He was promoted to Coordinator of Nutrition Access and to an Equal Opportunity Officer. In those posi-

tions, the organization would open the first WIC & food bank on site and help to bring free breakfast to public school cafeterias. While with COI, Samuel was serving on the Sub-Area Advisory Council, the group that made recommendations on health facilities in the State. His works on the council led to the creation of Aaron Henry Community Health Services Center in Clarksdale.

In 1986, Michael "Mike" Alfonso Espy hired him to organize the northern counties of the district where he applied what he had learned from his work in Quitman County, and applied that to a multi-counties model, resulting in some of the best turnout. In 1988, Governor Ray Mabus named Samuel to the Mississippi Housing Finance Corporation. The board later re-named the organization to the Mississippi Home Corporation, where he was elected Chairperson of the Program Committee. In this role, Samuel worked with local nonprofits to access programs such as USDA's Community Self-Help program, the 504 repair loan/grant and the 502 home ownership, which is the program used by Samuel to purchase his home.

In 1993, Congressman Mike Espy would step down to accept the Secretary of Agriculture in the Clinton Administration, the first African American ever to hold this position. The community was happy to have one of its own, but it put the 2nd District at risk. Thankfully, the leadership agreed to a mini convention process that led to a consensus candidate, Honorable BENNIE THOMPSON, County Supervisor from Hinds County, who was one of the single most respected, elected officials in the State, black or white. THOMPSON would go on to win and take office in April of 1993. Samuel never envisioned holding office or working for a politician, but this is BENNIE THOMPSON, he's a living legend. After lobbying his District Director almost daily, Samuel was hired on June 1, 1993 as a Field Representative and Caseworker, the greatest job on the planet. The Congressman assigned him the counties he had worked over the last twenty years. Samuel's office was located in Marks, his home town. Armed with marching orders to assure Federal Agencies deliver services fairly to his constituents, Samuel served as a resource to non-profits, governmental agencies and small businesses. In the years that followed, the Clinton Administration would institute the Empowerment Zone and the Enterprise Community Initiative. Part of Samuel's assigned counties received the Enterprise Community designation. North Panola would receive a portable water system that provided safe drinking water for hundreds of families. Local limited resource farmers would get a vegetable processing plant so they could better market their produce. An unexpected benefit to an unexpected group of about fifty families living in the Cotton Street Community, got sewer services for the first time. A street separated the town of Marks from this community, and because of their activism in the 60s, they were still being punished. The residents of Cotton Street found out and met with the governing body, and had them resubmit their application to include Cotton Street. On March 17, 2008, then candidate for President of the United States Barack Obama came to Greenville for breakfast with the Congressman and staff. Upon his election, the Congressman took his entire staff to the Inauguration of the first African-American President in his lifetime.

After nineteen and a half years as a Congressional Aide being a part of some of the greatest advancements, right here in the Mississippi Delta to be a part of it is a prayer, answered. Samuel and his wife of 32 years, Bernestine, still live in Quitman County. Their three children: Barbara, Johnathan, and Shonari are all grown and gone, with their 12 grandchildren whom Samuel and Bernestine love from a distance. On December 31, 2012 Samuel retired, the time had come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Samuel McCray for his dedication in being a respected community servant.

#### A TRIBUTE TO SUZANNE HULL

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Suzanne Hull for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Suzanne has the determination and drive to be successful in anything she does, and her exemplary work with *Contemporary Business Solutions* is a testament to that. As the owner of *Contemporary Business Solutions*, Suzanne utilizes her communication skills to assist people in developing their social media presence as a networking and job-seeking tool. She also is active and passionate about organizations she believes in, donating her time to non-profit organizations like the Des Moines European Heritage Association. In all aspects of her life, Suzanne is an example of the hard work and service that makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Suzanne in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Suzanne on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 135TH ANNIVERSARY OF GETHSEMANE BAPTIST CHURCH OF EUSTIS, FLORIDA

### HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize the 135th anniversary of Gethsemane Baptist Church of Eustis, and commend their strong heritage of service within Lake County, Florida.

Founded in 1880, Gethsemane Baptist Church of Eustis was the first place of worship for African Americans in Eustis, and has served as a beacon of hope in our local community. Many lives have been impacted through the church's ministry, and I am honored to recognize their long history of dedication and service. This is a momentous year for Gethsemane Baptist Church of Eustis, and I am pleased to commemorate it with them.

It is my pleasure to join Reverend William Hawkins and the congregation at Gethsemane Baptist Church of Eustis in celebrating this historical milestone. It is truly an honor to serve the residents of Central Florida in the U.S. House of Representatives.

#### THE TRAGIC KILLING OF RUSSIAN OPPOSITION LEADER BORIS NEMTSOV

### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, last month, while many of us were working late to prevent the shutdown of our own Department of Homeland Security, a tragedy occurred in Moscow.

Boris Nemtsov, famed leader of Russia's opposition, was fatally shot four times in the back near St. Basil's Cathedral and the Kremlin. He was 55 years old. That night the fateful image of his body lying dead, on a bridge, facing the Kremlin, sent shivers across our world.

Shivers of sorrow. Shivers of anger. Shivers of cold remembrance of a place with no room for real liberty. No free speech. No tolerance for contrary opinions. No experience of what it means to live in an open society.

Russia is a nation that spans eleven time zones. It holds enough nuclear arms to obliterate life on Earth. How sad that such a nation is still unsafe for a peaceful advocate of freedom and representative governance.

Boris Nemtsov was killed just hours before a non-violent demonstration he was preparing to lead, protesting Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine. What courage he showed in speaking for Ukraine, a young and energetic nation seeking peace and opportunity for its people. Ukraine is a sister to Russia and has not deserved the brutality that Russia has heaped upon her over the past year. During that short span, more than 6,000 people have died in the fight for an independent Ukraine.

Mr. Nemtsov, a former deputy prime minister of Russia, a vice premier, fought every day for a more open society in his home country. He championed reform ever since the collapse of the old Soviet order twenty years ago. It was a valiant, if often lonely, struggle against a vast and oppressive totalitarian state. More and more, he must have felt the creeping shadow of his own mortality due to the danger in which he placed himself.

Boris Nemtsov was assassinated by cowards lurking in the shadows as he crossed a bridge in front of the Kremlin. The murderers, driven to such a craven and despicable act, were too small and too afraid to let his voice rise.

As I read the news of his tragic fate, I see the first threads of a history that will hold him up as a leader of unparalleled courage and unprecedented faith in his people. This is remarkable in the face of one of the most persistent tyrannies in the world.

Boris Nemtsov's life is prophetic, like Alexander Solzhenitsyn and others who have suffered to move Russia out of its historical imprisonment of liberty.

No part of our world has suffered more in the last century than Russia and the subjugated Soviet territories, as Dr. Timothy Snyder recounts in his extraordinary book "Bloodlands."

In the middle of Europe in the middle of the 20th century, the Nazi and Soviet regimes murdered some 14 million people . . . all victims of murderous policy rather than casualties of war.

Yet not a single one of the 14 million murdered was a soldier on active duty. Most were women, children, and the aged; none were bearing weapons; many had been stripped of their possessions, including their clothes.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights has called the situation a "merciless devastation of civilian lives and infrastructure."

His report points out that heavy weaponry and foreign fighters continue to pour in from Russia and that the conflict has "dramatically deteriorated" in the past two months.

In 2010 Nemtsov founded the Coalition for Russia without Lawlessness and Corruption, a party notable not only for its ambitious name but also because it was refused registration as a party by the Kremlin. In recent years, as a leader of the Russian opposition, Nemtsov had written several highly credible reports exposing corruption at the highest levels of the Russian government.

Our own Gettysburg Address, one of the most revered statements in American history, says, in part, "that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

This is a message I now commend to the people of Russia: let the sacrifice of Boris Nemtsov inspire your own devotion to the cause of freedom.

Because of Boris Nemtsov, millions inside Russia can imagine liberty, a more democratic society, and a life better than the one now permitted to them. Ordinary citizens can make that life for themselves if they are only allowed real representative governance. Nemtsov strove to give every Russian a chance at that better life, even from inside the belly of a frozen whale. We honor his ideals and his sacrifice.

#### TRIBUTE TO SHERYL SOUNDAR

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on

my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Sheryl Soundar attends Manvel High School in Manvel, Texas. The essay topic is: select an important event that has occurred in the past 15 years and explain how that event has changed our country.

When asked for the most important event in our country's history within the past fifteen years, most people will say September 11, and not without good reason. That day launched the United States into a war that still demands American soldiers. It cost many lives, changed an entire country's outlook on foreign affairs, and put a standstill on many domestic issues. However, another event that is often forgotten in the glaring spotlight of 9/11 is Hurricane Katrina.

Personally, I have many memories of Katrina and the damage that it did to New Orleans, having lived in Houston during that time. This story occupied an entire month of evening news broadcasts and cemented into my memory the struggles that the people of New Orleans faced. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) also faced a struggle, but of a different sort. FEMA came under extreme criticism for its inability to offer assistance and for the prolonged lack of access to resources that caused in the New Orleans area. The public relations fiasco that resulted tarnished not only FEMA's reputation, but also the reputation of the already heavily criticized Bush administration. Many active duty troops were deployed to the area to assist during the recovery period in light of FEMA's failing.

As a whole, the Gulf Coast region was deeply affected by Hurricane Katrina, physically as well as mentally. New Orleans faced harsh economic conditions and harsh odds as its people began to rebuild, and surrounding states also felt this burden. However, the greatest impact Katrina had on the United States was on our collective psyche. At first, it seemed like another problem stacked on top of the ever present war on terror, but as the worst pain subsided, the country realized that this was, more than it was a tarnish or a natural disaster, an opportunity. Americans from coast to coast were horrified by the state of affairs in New Orleans and poured out their sympathy for those in need. As a nation, we were saddened and strengthened by Katrina, finding fear in the condition of the Gulf Coast and solace in the ability of Americans to unite behind a common goal.

ALICIA BALDERAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alicia Balderas for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Alicia Balderas is an 11th grader at Pomona High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Alicia Balderas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Alicia Balderas for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING THE DEDICATED HOOSIERS OF KEM KREST CORPORATION

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the dedicated Hoosiers of Kem Krest Corporation headquartered in Elkhart, Indiana.

They have recently been named the General Motors 2014 Supplier of the Year.

Kem Krest started in 1979 and since then has grown and expanded their customer base beyond the automotive industry to include the agriculture and defense industries.

The exceptional quality of products from this supplier reflects the hard work of their Hoosier employees.

They have demonstrated a clear commitment to go above and beyond as well as take the utmost pride in the products they supply.

I would like to personally thank the Hoosiers of Kem Krest Corporation for their hard work and dedication.

Kem Krest Corporation serves as another great example of a successful business in Northern Indiana and their devotion to making quality products should be recognized.

The dedication Kem Krest has shown makes me proud to represent Indiana's Second Congressional District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on March 23 and 24, I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on #130, 131, 132, 133, and 134. I would have voted "NAY" on #135.

A TRIBUTE TO JOEL FORTNEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Joel Fortney for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Joel has the determination and drive to be successful in all that he does, and his exemplary work with Principal Global Investors is a testament to that. Now the portfolio manager of Principal Mid-Cap Value Fund, Joel's success has continued. Joel and his wife are active in their community too, where they support the Blank Park Zoo by sponsoring animals. In all aspects of his life Joel's example of hard work and service makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Joel in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Joel on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

TRIBUTE TO RIDA SARWAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Rida Sarwar attends Pearland High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: In your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

239 years ago, the thirteen colonies declared independence from Great Britain. Since then, the United States government has always played a large role in the lives of Americans throughout history. The role of the government plays a huge part in society. The government should always cater to the needs of its citizens and provide an organized society.

In 1776, America declared its complete autonomy from Great Britain by signing the Declaration of Independence. Fifty-six men signed the document that would later become the most important document in American history and a symbol of independence. These men signed the declaration for many reasons. The most well-known reason was because of the absence of representation

for the colonies in the British parliament. These universal founding principles of representation and equality have become the basis of American government. Democracy upholds these principles in the government. The government is indirectly ruled by the people through representatives. These representatives are responsible for directly seeing to the needs of the people who live in their specified region. The government's job is to accommodate the needs of the citizens. American government is "for the people, by the people". The power of the government is limited by its citizens. This is self-government in its truest form.

The government is also responsible for creating an organized society. People pay taxes to the government so that the government can generate revenue and maintain its operations. In return, the government should be responsible for providing various services to the people. The government should provide fundamental services such as basic infrastructure, security and a stable economy. A country cannot support itself without a solid infrastructure. Therefore, the government should provide adequate facilities for their citizens. They should be responsible for providing urban infrastructure such as water supply, electricity and roads. It is the government's duty to effectively utilize the resources within a country for development. This means that the government should also be able to provide other services. Tax money should be used to create better education, health facilities and social security. The American government has always provided the best safety for its citizens. A government should always protect its citizens, because they should come first. Lastly, the government is responsible for keeping a stable economy. Without a stable economy, the people cannot survive.

The American government was established to serve the best interests of its people. Its role is to provide for them. It should provide an organized society and a good government. The government's main role is to serve its people.

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ROW4RICE

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Rice University Rowing team has taken a step to further rowing sports in the City of Houston. To help raise the funds needed to build a water sports facility on Buffalo Bayou in downtown Houston, two of the teams coaches will row 3,000 miles across the Atlantic in the Talisker Whiskey Atlantic Challenge. Coaches Mike Matson and David Alviar, attempting to be the first Texans to complete this feat, will begin this massive undertaking in the Canary Islands, and finish on the Caribbean island of Antigua.

The duo will take this challenge in a boat named after Ann McCormick Sullivan.

Ann Sullivan was a firefighter with Station 68 in Houston when on May 31, 2013 a 5-alarm fire at the Southwest Inn took the lives of 4 brave men and women, including Ann. This deadly fire completely shook the community. Ann was just 24 years old.

Coach Mike Matson was a volunteer firefighter in the City of Stafford and had the opportunity to run calls with Ann. Ann, nicknamed "mighty mouse," was a strong, resilient

firefighter, who was never afraid to step into danger to help others. Mike recalls training days when Ann would extend the heavy hose full of water to its full length, a task difficult even to the largest men on the squad. Ann lived up to this name, never wavering in her determination.

Coach Mike felt that it was fitting that the boat be named after one of Houston's heroes who truly represents the spirit of resilience needed for this race. Under the name Row4Rice the two coaches will raise money to build proper facilities to host rowing, kayaking, canoeing, and other water sports. They have pledged to donate \$5,000 to the Ann McCormick Sullivan Foundation to support women in firefighting. Mike, David and the rest of the Rice rowing team are to be congratulated as they begin this massive undertaking in the spirit of one of Houston's heroes.

And that's just the way it is.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE STATE  
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM EN-  
HANCEMENT ACT OF 2015

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced the National Guard State Partnership Program Enhancement Act of 2015, which strengthens this critical "soft power" global partnership program. The National Guard State Partnership Program (SPP) provides unique capacity building capabilities to Combatant Commanders and U.S. Chiefs of Mission via 68 comprehensive partnerships between National Guard units across the United States and 74 partner nations with the potential for further development.

For over 20 years, the SPP has directly supported the broad national interests and security cooperation goals of the United States by engaging partner nations via military, socio-political, and economic conduits at the local, state, and national levels. The program's public diplomacy effectiveness lies in its ability to leverage the full breadth and depth of U.S. defense and interagency capabilities from within the state-country relationship.

The value of the SPP lies in its ability to concentrate a small component of the U.S. defense structure—a state's National Guard—on a single country or region in support of U.S. Government policies and objectives that are coordinated between the Combatant Commander and U.S. Chief of Mission. This concentrated focus supports the development of long term personal relationships and interagency coordination mechanisms that would not otherwise exist. By its nature the National Guard is uniquely positioned within the military to develop these long term relationships.

The SPP is becoming an increasingly more important tool for Combatant Commanders and U.S. Chiefs of Mission in achieving long-term U.S. strategic objectives. The program has developed from assistance and partnership with primarily Eastern European nations to a program that supports all the non-CONUS combatant commanders. Recently, the long-term benefits of this program became evident. In particular, I highlight the 22-year relationship between the California National Guard

and Ukraine. When the instability in Ukraine began the California National Guard got some of the clearest insight we had into the situation by virtue of the long term relationship they had forged with Ukraine's military and civil institutions.

Of additional interest to me are the opportunities that SPP poses for our rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region. I believe the SPP will further expand and strengthen relations with many Asian and Pacific nations. The program clearly demonstrates the U.S. commitment to the region and our allies. In fact, one of the newest partnerships was established last year between Tonga and the Nevada National Guard. These types of partnerships help to develop critical capacity building capabilities for allies in this critical region of the world.

Most importantly, the bill I introduce today eliminates the 2016 termination of the program. Additionally, it removes the program restriction to be primarily a humanitarian and emergency response force and expands it to support the national interests and security cooperation goals and objectives of the United States. Elimination of this restrictive language helps to recognize the true nature of SPP and acknowledges broader partnerships that already exist. Requiring the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to develop "core competencies" will help the Combatant Commanders and U.S. Chiefs of Mission more effectively use, develop and maintain partnership programs.

Further, the bill ensures that Department of Defense, a state National Guard and Department of State's equities are considered in the context of broader program goals and lays out the roles of the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of State, and Chief of the National Guard Bureau in managing the program. The bill puts in place critical oversight mechanisms to establish metrics through which to analyze the impact of the program. Lastly, this bill creates an accounting line within DoD that allows National Guard funds to be used in support of the program and ensures accountability of the funding. Funds for the program currently come several separate Service, Department of Defense and Department of State accounts. The Congress needs more visibility on the use of these funds and establishing a central account is critical to this endeavor and is similar to how the counterdrug program resources its activities.

The capabilities and missions outlined in this legislation leverage the capabilities inherent in the National Guard and will strengthen our relations with allies and nations across the globe. The dual role of the National Guard provides them a unique opportunity to support Combatant Commander as well as an Ambassador's needs in a given country. I believe this legislation is necessary to codify current practices and enhance the program's positive impact worldwide.

I thank Congressman TIM WALZ of Minnesota; Congressman JIM BRIDENSTINE of Oklahoma and Congressman DOUG LAMBORN of Colorado for being original co-sponsors of this legislation. Our efforts highlight the bipartisan support for SPP and need to enhance this critical capacity building tool. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this critical legislation.

HONORING MICHAEL BRENNAN

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Michael Brennan attends Seven Lakes High School in Katy, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

The debate on the role of government has raged in politics since the very first inception of government in Sumeria over 5500 years ago. Today's society is certainly a far cry from those long-gone times, but the discussion on governance still continues on in our very own Congress to this day. The exact issues have changes with the times, but general views on the matter can be split into two groups: those who see the government only as a stabilizing political and economic entity, and those who also see it as a tool for significant change.

Regardless of the merits of either side, there are many purposes of government which many consider inherent to its existence and for which it was originally established. In exchange for the ability to tax citizens for the money required for its operation, the government provides the critical services of public defense and order—police forces, military, civil courts, and so on. The government is usually also responsible for the universal system of standards (or at the very least, adopting and enforcing standards set by the ISO) as well as creating and maintaining transportation, a monetary system, and upholding private ownership (at least in a capitalist system). There are also a number of societal industries and organizations which could be left alone to their own mechanisms (by means of ultra-conservative laissez-fair policies), but governments usually take an active role in at least rudimentary regulation such as professional certification, education, basic human rights and labor laws, and controlling or mitigating the natural ebb of flow of an economy. Indeed, many of the aspects of government which allow higher society to function are great and necessary positives—the conflict arises in questions on using the government's greater powers.

The unfortunate reality of the ideological divide between so called "conservatives" and "liberals" is that neither side is particularly more correct than the other (regardless of how much they may deride each other). However, it is well known how dangerous great power can be, and it follows from this that the society-changing power that a government has should be used sparingly. The government should use its "social" power when there is little other choice due to deep-rooted ideologies which directly contradict the concept of equality or threaten the safety and well-being of citizens, as in the 1960s when segregation had to be forcibly abolished or when government intervention

seemed like the only way to pull the US out of the Great Depression. Most every individual has compassion for his common individual, but "compassion" cannot simply be legislated through extensive social programs, using money from people who may not even agree with these programs. In all cases, when so much money and so many lives may be at stake, caution must necessarily trump passion.

AIDAN CLARK

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aidan Clark for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Aidan Clark is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Aidan Clark is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Aidan Clark for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

A TRIBUTE TO JENNA EKSTROM

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Jenna Ekstrom for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Jenna has the determination and drive to be successful in all that she does, and her exemplary work with the Des Moines Art Center is a testament to that. As the Manager of Membership with the Des Moines Art Center, Jenna is passionate about her work and it shows. Jenna is an active volunteer, giving her time to support worthy causes such as the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, Junior League of Des Moines and Housing Tomorrow. In all aspects of her life, Jenna's example of hard work and service makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Jenna in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Jenna on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

HONORING THE TREVINO FAMILY

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Trevino family of Zapata, Texas. Six brothers—Teodoro, Antonio, Anselmo, Filiberto, Jr., Leopoldo, and Jose Manuel—proudly served the United States of America in World War II. Combined, the brothers served a total of fifteen and a half years, and by the end of the war, each was honorably discharged.

The Trevino brothers were born to the late Filiberto Trevino and Luisa Cuellar Trevino. During World War II, Teodoro, the eldest, served in the Medical Corps; Antonio served in the Coastal Artillery; Anselmo served in the Engineer Corps; Filiberto, Jr. served in the U.S. Army Air Corps; Leopoldo served in the Field Artillery; and Jose Manuel, the youngest of the brothers, served in the Infantry. Despite the distance between them, the brothers were miraculously able to meet with one another over the course of their service; Antonio was fortunate enough to see each of his brothers.

Despite the many hardships the brothers faced during their service, each was able to overcome whatever obstacles were presented. With support from their loved ones back home—as well as one another—the Trevino brothers dutifully served their country. They were brave, fearlessly taking down enemy planes and saving fellow soldiers by covering them with their own bodies to shield them from incoming enemy fire.

After four and half years of wartime, the Trevino family was finally reunited. By June of 1946, all six of the brothers had returned home to Zapata, Texas. They were proud of their service, and it is with great pleasure that they share their experiences with their children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize the Trevino family for their incredible service to our great nation and their fellow countrymen during World War II.

TRIBUTE TO DR. NORMAN E. BORLAUG

**HON. ROD BLUM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, known as "the father of the green revolution," was born on March 25, 1914 on a farm outside Cresco, Iowa. Moved during the Great Depression by the examples of hunger

he witnessed, Dr. Borlaug committed his life to developing the then nascent field of plant biology to increase food production and combat world hunger. The mutation techniques he developed led to high yield, disease resistant wheat varieties suitable for planting around the globe. In honor of his work, Dr. Borlaug was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970, the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977, and the Congressional Gold Medal in 2007.

Today, on what would have been his 101st birthday, I rise to honor this great native Iowan. Dr. Borlaug revolutionized agriculture and saved over one billion lives from starvation. His legacy stands as an example of American ingenuity and the impact one good man can make on the world. I encourage all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to visit Dr. Borlaug's statue in Statuary Hall to reflect on the life and achievements of this great American.

HONORING CAPTAIN ANITRIA M.  
MACK

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a resourceful and ambitious woman, Captain Anitria M. Mack. Anitria has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to serve others.

Captain Anitria Michelle Mack was born on April 17, 1975 in Grenada, MS. She graduated from Grenada High School, May 1993. She began her military career in May 1992, enlisting in the 254th Engineer Detachment, Camp McCain, MS, under the split option program as an Administrative Specialist. She completed Basic Training the summer of 1992 and Advanced Initial Training the summer of 1993 at Fort Jackson, SC. The 254th Engineer Detachment later reorganized and became Detachment 3 Company B 106th Support Battalion causing CPT Mack-Lewis to reclassify as a Light Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic. She enrolled in Jackson State University in August, 1993 where she graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Accounting in May, 1997 and a Masters Degree in Business Administration, May, 2000. CPT Mack-Lewis then entered the Federal Officer Candidate School, Fort Benning, GA, July 8, 2001 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on October 11, 2001.

CPT Mack-Lewis simultaneously served as the Executive Officer and Maintenance Control Officer of Bravo Company 106th Support Battalion from October 2001 thru December 2004, located at Camp Shelby, MS. CPT Mack-Lewis deployed to Iraq in January 2005 as the Supply and Services Officer, where she was the Officer In Charge of all Logistics Convoy Operations for six Forward Operating Bases occupied by the 155th Brigade Combat Team within the "Triangle of Death". Upon return from Iraq, she assumed company command from April 2006–January 2008 of Alpha Company 106th Brigade Support Battalion, a Supply and Distribution Company whose headquarter is in Magee, MS with detachments at Prentiss and Taylorsville, MS. She then served as the Executive Officer of Joint

Forces Headquarters, Jackson, MS from January 2008–May 2009.

CPT Mack-Lewis has received numerous awards throughout her career to include: Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, as well as other commendations and state awards.

CPT Mack-Lewis worked fulltime with the Mississippi Army National Guard from January 1999–May 2009 as a federal technician. She served as a Budget Analyst for the Director of Logistics from January, 1999–December, 2004 and as the Employee Relations Specialist for all MS Army and Air National Guard Federal Technicians from January 2005–May 2009. She was then hired on the Active Guard Reserve Program (AGR) June, 2009. She currently teaches Army ROTC to students attending Mississippi College, MS College School of Law and Hinds Community College. She also serves as ROTC Liaison for National Guard soldiers who attend school at MC, MC School of Law, UMC, JSU, Hinds CC, Belhaven, Millsaps, Delta State, and MS Valley State University. She is a member of the Recruiting and Retention Battalion, Mississippi Army National Guard. She currently serves as a Logistics Officer for the 106th Brigade Support Battalion, Monticello, MS. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Clinton (MS) Alumnae Chapter. She and her husband Paul have been married since August 31, 2002 and currently reside in Terry, MS. They are members of New Jerusalem Church, Jackson, MS.

CPT Mack-Lewis's favorite scripture comes from Psalm 27:1–3. "The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked, even mine enemies and foes came upon me to eat my flesh, they stumbled and fell. Though a host should encamp against me. My heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Captain Anitria M. Mack for her passion and dedication to serving our great Country and desire to make a difference in the lives of others.

HONORING AVERY BAYHAM

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Avery Bayham attends Dawson High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: select an important event that has occurred in the past 15 years and explain how that event has changed our country.

On September 11, 2001 four planes were hijacked by the terrorist group al-Qaeda. Two of these planes struck the World Trade Center in New York City, one of the planes hit the Pentagon, and the other was crashed into a field in Pennsylvania. Hundreds of lives were lost as this event struck fear in the hearts of millions of Americans and dramatically changed the status-quo of the United States. Today, almost fifteen years later, we are still able to see the results of this devastating event in our everyday society.

Among the most common effects of 9/11 is racism. I am a sophomore in high school, and every day as I walk down the vast halls of my very racially diverse school, I constantly hear racial jokes and stereotypes. After 9/11, the Islamic community in the United States was heavily discriminated against and criticized. These so called "jokes" aimed at certain members of our community are extremely disrespectful, immature, and absolutely unacceptable. The Declaration of Independence states that "all men are created equal" and no man has the right to place himself higher due to race. I personally believe that the racial dispute towards Muslims after the event generated and propelled forward the racism that we have in society today.

Another gargantuan effect of 9/11 was that the security of the United States dramatically increased. This was the first event that seriously caught the attention of the entire population of America since the Cuban Missile Crisis. The security at airports was probably the most noticeable change with ways to try to find bombs, background checks, and body scans. The U.S. has been on the edge of its seat ever since we sent our boys into Afghanistan to put a stop to al-Qaeda, which was defeated with the death of Osama Bin Laden. Now, there is a new group known as ISIS, who is currently executing Christians in Europe while the rest of the world is watching helplessly from the sidelines. This group needs to be neutralized as soon as possible; although it isn't directly attacking the U.S., they are constantly attacking our society and relationships with others. This group was created in response to the elimination of Osama Bin Laden, the mastermind behind 9/11. I have seen friends abandon friends just because of what members of their race have done to each other, and I would hate to have that happen to myself.

9/11 was an absolutely devastating event in America, an event that is still attacking our society today. If 9/11 wouldn't have occurred, we would have significantly less racial discrimination as well as security threats in the United States. When did the U.S. begin to allow our enemies to change us?

IN APPRECIATION OF RON  
LEGRAND AND HIS YEARS OF  
SERVICE

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today, as ranking member and former chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, I join with my colleagues, Representative SHEILA JACKSON LEE, ranking member of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, and Representative ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT, the former chairman and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, in expressing our appreciation for

Ron LeGrand's years of service to the committee.

Ron has enjoyed a distinguished career in service to our Nation. Prior to joining the staff of the committee, he worked for the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, the House Select Committee on Narcotics, and the staff of Senator JOSEPH BIDEN on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

In the private sector and in public service, Ron has dedicated himself to protecting the rights of those who have been victimized by crime.

During his time with the committee, Ron worked tirelessly on the hard-fought reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, a historic law to assist victims of domestic violence and prevent future acts of domestic violence. He also worked on important legislation to protect seniors against those who would prey upon them. Ron's ability to build coalitions on both sides of the aisle and with outside stakeholders on human trafficking and drug legislation was critical to the passage of several important bills that have since become law.

In recent years, Ron dedicated himself to the examination and reform of our criminal justice system, culminating with his work on the Over-criminalization Task Force. We appreciate his magnanimity, energy, and enthusiasm, which has helped immensely in generating a bipartisan desire to address this issue.

In these and other legislative and oversight issues, Ron has displayed a high degree of professionalism and personal commitment, providing the members of the committee and staff with wise counsel.

We thank Ron for years of selfless service and wish him the very best as he leaves public service to continue his efforts in fighting domestic violence through his new position at the National Network to End Domestic Violence. All of his colleagues will miss him dearly and continue to value his friendship into the future.

A TRIBUTE TO DANIEL HOFFMAN-ZINNEL

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Daniel Hoffman-Zinnel for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Daniel has the determination and talent to be successful in all that he does, and his work with Planned Parenthood of the Heartland is a

testament to that commitment. As the Director of Education and Leadership with Planned Parenthood of the Heartland, Daniel is able to pursue a personal passion of his in his professional life. He maintains an active schedule outside work, volunteering for numerous organizations, including the Iowa Cancer Consortium.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Daniel in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Daniel on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

ABIGAIL ESPINOZA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Abigail Espinoza for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Abigail Espinoza is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Abigail Espinoza is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Abigail Espinoza for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SACRED HEART SCHOOL

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sacred Heart Elementary School, located in Rockaway, Morris County, New Jersey as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Since the school opened its doors in September of 1965, Sacred Heart School has been dedicated to fostering its students' moral development as well as their academic careers. Located in the center of the Borough of Rockaway, Sacred Heart teaches pre-kindergarten through eighth grade, and attracts students from all across Morris County. When the school was founded in 1965, were enrolled. The first class to graduate Sacred Heart in 1971 was a mere 15 people! Over the last fifty years, the student body has more than tripled to over 200 boys and girls.

Sacred Heart School is a private Catholic institution with the mission of providing academic excellence, sound instruction, and a choice of activities which permits students to explore their talents as well as their interests. They offer something more which includes academic excellence, principle leadership values, and a strong spirit of community. Sacred Heart School has the philosophy of education of the child including spiritually, academically, emotionally, socially, and physically. Their goal is not just produce good students, but well-rounded people.

The school's dedication to its students has not gone unnoticed. Sacred Heart has been recognized as a "Best Practice School" by the Home and School Federation of the Diocese of Paterson on four separate occasions. In 2004, Sacred Heart won its first Best Practice Award for its Peer Mentoring Program between 4th and 8th graders. In 2005, it received another Best Practice Award for Academics for its Career Day that it holds annually during Catholic Schools Week. In 2006, the school was recognized with a third Best Practice Award for continually surveying their community to ensure all of their needs are met, and always looking to better the way they serve their students. In 2007, the school received a fourth Best Practice Award for its Monday Lunch Program, where every Monday a new student provides a lunch based on his or her own cultural background in order to promote understanding and appreciation of cultural differences. Additionally, the Sacred Heart School was awarded the prestigious "Star School Award" by the Diocese for its outstanding Literacy for Life program. Star Schools are recognized for being on the "cutting edge" and for promoting high student achievement and outstanding performance.

Under the leadership of the qualified and credentialed teachers and faculty Sacred Heart strives to instill a deep love of God, neighbor, and country within their students. They want to nurture their spirits a long with their minds, as well as create a strong supportive community built on the values of love and faith.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to recognize the 50th anniversary of this wonderful school dedicated to fostering an environment not just for students to grow in academics but in their faith as well.

HONORING JEDD MOSKOWITZ

**HON. GRACE MENG**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my Chief of Staff, Jedd Moskowitz, who will be retiring from Capitol Hill after 32 years of exemplary service to the constituents of New York. Thirty of these years were spent with former Congressman Gary Ackerman, and I was lucky to have benefitted from his guidance for the past two and a half years.

Jedd started his career at the Queens Tribune working as a copy editor for Congressman Ackerman. When Congressman Ackerman ran and won a seat in the New York State Senate, Jedd remained by his side. In 1983, after five years in the State Senate, Congressman Ackerman was elected to the

United States Congress, and soon named Jedd his Chief of Staff.

Loyal, diligent, dedicated, hardworking all describe the model character Jedd has shown in this position. His knowledge of the House and its proceedings is unparalleled, his advice invaluable, and his willingness to help and mentor young staffers unmatched. He is currently the longest serving Chief of Staff on The Hill.

I would be remiss not to include baseball fanatic when describing him, as Jedd holds an annual tradition of inviting each member of his staff to attend a baseball game come spring-time. Though his season tickets are for the Nationals, his heart remains with his hometown team, the New York Mets. Jedd also remains active in his Synagogue, and is a devoted family man to his wife and two children.

I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me and rise in recognition of Jedd's faithful service to this body, and to the countless people whose paths he has crossed and whose lives he's enriched. Jedd, I wish you the best of luck and continued success in all of your future endeavors.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
TYRONE A. WILLIAMS

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Lieutenant Colonel Tyrone A. Williams.

Lt. Col. Tyrone A. Williams serves as the 172d Maintenance Operations Flight's Maintenance Operations Officer, Thompson Field, in Jackson, Mississippi. He is the primary advisor to the 172d Maintenance Group Commander for Maintenance Operations, operating block 13+ and, 16/17 C-17A aircraft, providing the state of Mississippi support in the event of national emergency, maintaining peace and order, and supporting civil defense and pre-attack planning.

Lt. Col. Williams is responsible for 20 personnel, nine C-17 aircraft, two major facilities, and associated support equipment.

Lt. Col. Williams set up both the Air National Guard's first Air Education and Training Command gained training detachment and the Air National Guard's only C-17 Aircraft Maintenance Training Field Service Detachment.

Lt. Col. Williams began his military career as an enlisted member, serving as an Aircraft Maintenance Specialist on the C-141 B and C model aircraft. He received his commission in 1998, graduating from the Academy of Military Science at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base. He is a career logistician with a discipline in maintenance. Lt. Col. Williams has been deployed numerous times in his career in support of both the real world and the special training events. In 2009, he served as the Division Chief, Logistics Operations Division, Logistics Directorate, United States Central Command Air Force Forces Forward in Southwest Asia. Lt. Col. Williams is a veteran of Operations Just Cause, Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, Joint Task Force Horn of Africa and the European Strategic Inter-theater Deployment.

Lt. Col. Williams has had many assignments and prior to his current assignment; he served as the 172d Maintenance Operations Flight Commander and the Logistics Group, Executive Officer, 172d Airlift Wing, Thompson Field, Jackson, Mississippi. As executive officer he assisted the Director of Logistics in formulating, developing, and coordinating all plans, policies and programs, finances and manpower requirements affecting aircraft maintenance, fuels, logistics plans, munitions, supply and transportation.

Lt. Col. Williams has a vast knowledge of education which includes a Master of Science Degree from Air University, AL received in 2009 and most recently in 2012 completed Commander Development Course from Andrews Air Force Base, MD.

Lt. Col. Williams has major awards and decorations: Air Force Commendation Medal with 1st Oak Leaf Cluster; Air Force Achievement Medal with 2nd Oak Leaf Cluster; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with 9 Devices; Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Devices; and National Defense Service Medal with 1 Device.

Lt. Col. Williams has state awards that include: Mississippi War Medal; Mississippi Emergency Service Medal; Mississippi Service School Medal; Mississippi Longevity Medal; Louisiana Emergency Service Medal; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border with 1 Device; Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with 2 Devices; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 2 'M' Devices; and Air Force Training Ribbon with Device.

Lt. Col. Williams is affiliated with many professional memberships and associations and a Life Member of the National Guard Association of the United States, Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Lt. Col. Williams for his dedication and support to the national and state Military Services.

IN HONOR OF THE 194TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair and co-founder of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, I rise today to celebrate the 194th anniversary of Greece's declaration of independence from the Ottoman Empire. Inspired by an intense belief in the right to self-governance, the ancient Greeks pioneered the notion of democracy. The founding of our own great nation was built upon a similar desire for self-governance. Our shared dedication to democracy unites our countries and has preserved the strength of our close relationship.

After generations of oppression, Greece's freedom was hard-fought, and the Republic of Greece has become a shining example of democracy to the world. Today, Greeks and their friends around the world celebrate March 25th as the day when the Greeks began the long,

hard war for independence. It is a day of joy and pride for a great people and I'm very proud to acknowledge the remarkable contributions that the Hellenic people have made throughout the world.

As many of my colleagues know, New York City is home to the largest Hellenic population outside of Greece and Cyprus and I have the honor of representing a large community of Greeks in Astoria, Queens. In Manhattan, we celebrate Greek Independence Day with a parade on 5th Avenue, which I have been honored to participate in over the years.

Greece and the Greek people are such critical allies and dear friends of the United States and today I'm very proud to stand with my Greek brothers and sisters to celebrate the anniversary of their independence. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Greek Independence Day.

A TRIBUTE TO EMILY HAMILTON

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Emily Hamilton for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Emily has the determination and drive to be successful in all that she does, and her exemplary work with The Des Moines "I Have a Dream" Foundation is a testament to that. As the Executive Director of this Foundation, Emily is passionate about going the extra mile. Emily is an active volunteer, frequently giving her time to support worthy causes. In all aspects of her life Emily's example of hard work and service makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Emily in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Emily on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

TRIBUTE TO HENRI DUYGULU

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in

the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Henri Duygulu attends Dawson High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: select an important event that has occurred in the past 15 years and explain how that event has changed our country.

#### HOW THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS HAS CHANGED THE COUNTRY

Thirteen years ago the terrorist attack of 9/11 on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon affected the United States of America greatly. Four main points were affected—first nearly a decade of war, deportation and importation, transportation, and the National Security Advisory (NSA).

Within under a month the United States (US) deployed US troops into Afghanistan and within 2 years after in Iraq. The war became harder to gain the public's approval because in 13 years the US government spent around 42 billion dollars and between 2001 and 2011, nearly 2 million troops were deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq. In that time, more than 6,000 American troops were killed, and roughly 44,000 wounded. Of returning service members, more than 18 percent have post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or depression, and almost 20 percent reported suffering from traumatic brain injury (TBI) during deployment.

After 9/11 the Bush administration created the Department of Homeland Security in 2002. The Department of Homeland Security was meant to strengthen the US borders. After US Immigration and Customs Enforcement deportations nearly doubled about 400,000 immigrants we're being deported annually per year, only half had been convicted of a criminal crime. As you can see after 9/11 it was much harder to become a US citizen or even get into the country due to more security for the citizens.

The transportation industry had a huge impact on airports due to the hijacking of the planes directed at the towers and Pentagon. Back before the attack people could show up 30 minutes before their flight and walk through security without identification. After the attack airports became much more secure security-wise. To get thru an airport now a days it takes over an hour going through many checks and having to follow countless rules and in some cases getting patted down or arrested. Not only aviation was effected, leaving through the US borders requires a passport now and you get fully inspected. The country became safer after these changes, but made travel harder.

Over the years, mini rumors have been said about the NSA. All of this traces back to the attacks on 9/11. 9/11 was the first terrorist attack on US soil and the attack devastated the country and it helped us realize that there were a lot of holes in our security and that a lot of people wanted to kill us. Because all these factors added up, the NSA watches over very carefully looking for threats within the country. The government funded the NSA 52.6 billion dollars in 2013 to use spy agency's to look through media and communication. Some US citizens find this scary, but in the long run who cares if the government knows a secret of yours? They are using it to keep us safe.

Through these points, I have shown evidence of how the attacks of 9/11 have changed our country, some for the better some for the worse.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 130, had I been present, I would have voted NO.

#### AUDREN WILKERSON

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Audren Wilkerson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Audren Wilkerson is an 8th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Audren Wilkerson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Audren Wilkerson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

#### PRINCESS MAHA CHAKRI SIRINDHORN—60TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join millions of people in Thailand—the United States' oldest ally in Asia—to celebrate Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn's 60th birthday, which will occur on April 2nd. Princess Sirindhorn is the third child of King Bhumibol Adulyadej, and the only foreign monarch to be born on the U.S. mainland.

Born in 1955, Maha Chakri Sirindhorn has followed closely in her parents' footsteps, traveling across Thailand to hear Thai's problems and respond with royal development projects.

By 1980, she was launching her own development projects, initially focused on disadvantaged and malnourished children. Aside from providing immediate assistance, she promoted integrated farming for overall resilience and more sustainable sources of nutrition. Public health has remained a lifelong concern: the Princess is the President of the Thai Red Cross Society and chairperson of the Prince Mahidol Foundation, which bestows globally

recognized awards for achievements in public health and medicine.

Princess Sirindhorn soon expanded her projects to encompass education, increasing access for children in need so they would have better opportunities in life. Her approach and philosophy are deeply rooted in human rights and self-sufficiency.

"Those at the margins of society have rights to a good standard of living. Access to education is a fundamental human right. Education provides opportunities to learn and live sufficiently. Knowledge can be valued resources to help others or the community," she has said.

Her more than 100 projects are aimed at improving livelihoods, raising the status of women, helping the disabled, protecting the environment and wildlife. Many have been supported by agencies such as FAO, WHO, and Johns Hopkins University.

The scholarships she grants to students are helping to nurture and create new generations of talented Thais dedicated to public service. Tech savvy and up to date on information technology, the Princess promotes Thailand's traditional culture and arts among the younger generation.

Through her hard work and dedication, the Princess has earned endearment and respect from the Thai people, who fondly called her "Princess Angel". I join them in celebrating the auspicious occasion of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn's 60th birthday and wishing her good health.

#### THE REPUBLICAN BUDGET

### HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on yet another horrible Republican budget. It seems like ground hog day, Mr. Speaker.

Just like last year, and the year before, and the year before that. . . . The Republican budget once again attacks our seniors, our students, workers, and middle class families—all for the sake of protecting tax breaks for the rich. Their budget proposal is another recipe for disaster at a time when too many Americans—especially people of color—are desperately struggling to make ends meet.

As a key member of the CBC's Education Task Force, I am concerned that it would outright deplete our nation's commitment to education, since Republicans included severe cuts in elementary and secondary education, as well as in early learning programs.

Just in my state of Florida alone: this budget on the House floor today would result in: (compared to President Obama's budget proposal)

1,400 fewer Florida children in Head Start;

Nearly \$75 million less funding in Florida for disadvantaged students, an amount that is enough to fund 160 schools, over 1,000 teacher and aide jobs, and over 100,000 students.

Over \$18 million less funding in Florida to provide educational opportunities for students with disabilities, representing nearly a 3 percent cut, and reduce financial aid for the more than half a million Florida students who rely on Pell Grants to afford college.

Mr. Speaker, we need to send this Republican budget back to the drawing board.

A TRIBUTE TO TRESSA MYRTLE  
EPPS

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Tressa Myrtle Epps on the up-coming celebration of her 110th birthday on March 30th, 2015.

Our world has changed a great deal during the course of Tressa's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Tressa has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-four Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Tressa in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 110th birthday. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Ms. Epps on reaching this incredible milestone, and wishing her continued health and happiness in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING THE CARMEL  
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SWIM TEAM  
ON THEIR HISTORIC STATE  
CHAMPIONSHIP WIN

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Carmel High School Girls Swim team for winning the 2014–2015 Girls Swimming State Championship title. This state title is a momentous win for the Lady Greyhounds, as it marks their 29th consecutive state championship title, which ties the national record for the most consecutive state championship wins in any sport.

While their 29th consecutive state title is momentous on its own, what the Lady Greyhound swim team accomplished during the state championship was even more extraordinary than that. The Lady Greyhounds broke thirteen state records at the state championship meet, four of which also broke national records.

To recap their record breaking state title, six individual records were broken, four records were broken by relay teams—all four of which also broke national records—and the team as a whole broke 3 records. The team won 9 out of 11 events, breaking the state record for most first place event wins. They also broke records for most points scored, scoring 445 out of 544 points possible, and widest margin of victory, beating the second place team by 266 points. These extraordinary achievements at the state championship speak for themselves, and have led many to refer to this

team as the best team ever in high school girls swimming.

The Lady Greyhounds, under the leadership of Coach Chris Plumb, have put forth an incredible amount of hard work and dedication. The team trains year-round, puts in countless hours in the pool and weight room, and have supportive parents who are just as dedicated to helping achieve great success.

Coach Plumb has been head coach of the Lady Greyhounds since 2006, leading them to 9 of their last 29 consecutive titles. Coach Plumb leads by example and inspires his swimmers with his coaching and character. He works tirelessly to motivate, train, and push his swimmers to dream big and reach their goals. High school sports are a special experience. They teach discipline, build character, and allow young men and women to have an experience they will remember for a lifetime. This team exemplifies the wonderful attributes that high school sports teach, and I am proud to represent such a hardworking and highly regarded group of young women and coaches.

Once again, congratulations to the Carmel High School Girls Swim team. I look forward to cheering the team on through another great season next year and send my best wishes as the Lady Greyhounds work toward breaking the national record for most consecutive wins. Go Greyhounds!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JACKIE WALORSKI**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed votes on March 23, 2015, due to weather. I missed recorded votes #130 and #131. I would like to reflect how I would have voted if I were present.

On Roll Call #130, I would have voted “no” (Passage of H.R. 360, Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2015).

On Roll Call #131, I would have voted “yea” (Passage of H. Res. 162, Calling on the President to provide Ukraine with military assistance to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity).

ADAM COOK

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Adam Cook for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Adam Cook is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Adam Cook is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Adam Cook for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO KATHRYN CARRABINE

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Kathryn Carrabine attends Dulles High School in Sugar Land, Texas. The essay topic is: select an important event that has occurred in the past 15 years and explain how that event has changed our country.

Changes occur in our country for many reasons and sometimes the impact is detrimental. In particular, the Obamacare abortion pill mandate that requires all employers to offer insurance and must include preventative care; which includes numerous birth controls and at least four of which cause abortions. Some companies are morally opposed to this; however, if they choose to not include this provision, they would have to pay \$100 per employee every day. With this act a company is forced to follow this federal law or go bankrupt. As few companies try to go against a federal law, this one stands out to companies owned by devout Christians. As abortion is against what many Christians, as well as other religions, believe, why is this mandate included in a federal law?

One case receiving notable attention, Hobby Lobby vs. Burwell, the Supreme Court voted against Hobby Lobby which could have caused the owners of the company to pay over \$1.4 million a day. They had to contemplate bankruptcy or acting against their moral beliefs. As they were faced with a hard decision, they chose to remain in business and to provide the insurance; but what did this mean for what they believed in? Should they just sit back and hold their tongue on a very important topic to them and many more? Hobby Lobby is not the only ones who are upset with this mandate. Many Catholic hospitals and private schools are also having a hard time facing this mandate. Many have compromised their religious beliefs that abortion is not acceptable, but they are being forced by the government in order to comply with the mandate and to stay in business. How can Christian schools teach their religion that abortion is not acceptable, when they have to provide insurance that condones preventative care resulting in abortion? Many suggest that this is going against the 1st Amendment regarding freedom of religion. Every American has the freedom to believe in what they chose to believe regarding religion. Unfortunately, freedom of religion and compliance with government mandates are causing conflict for many Americans.

The Obamacare abortion pill mandate has changed the country in a way that people are thinking for themselves and standing up for what they deem to be morally appropriate. As Americans contend with government requirements, one can only hope that government decision makers will seek to understand and respect the religious beliefs of all constituents. As younger people are growing up, isn't this what we want in the world? As Americans, we strive to do our best and respect the government, but is the government respecting everyone else? As many things run through our head, such as this controversial topic, it changes the way we think, which changes the world little by little, day by day.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS  
AND CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE  
CAUCUS BUDGET ALTERNATIVES

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, in developing the Democratic alternative budget, we sought and received input from all parts of our Democratic Caucus. The result is a budget that I believe reflects the values and priorities of our Democratic Caucus, and the values and priorities of the American public. While no budget offers each and every idea we might include as individuals, the final product is a powerful vision of how to reward Americans who are working hard to get ahead and to promote economic opportunity for all Americans.

Both the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and the Congressional Progressive Caucus (CPC) budgets contain some important ideas and initiatives that are not included in the Democratic alternative budget. I believe that both are far superior to the Republican budgets on the Floor today.

The CBC budget contains additional investments in education and other areas that I support and believe are important to our future. While the plan includes somewhat higher revenues and spending than in the Democratic alternative and the President's request, I support the increased investment and revenue levels it provides.

The Progressive budget also contains many initiatives and policy changes I support that are not included in the Democratic alternative budget, including a 4 percent cost-of-living pay increase for federal employees to help compensate for years of pay freezes. I also support adding a public option to the ACA exchanges, a proposal that is included in the CBC plan. In addition, I support a financial market trading fee, and have put forward an "Action Plan to Grow the Paychecks of All, Not Just the Wealthy Few" that would use the revenue to provide more tax relief to the middle class and those working to join the middle class. The tax relief includes paycheck tax credits for American workers, as well as a number of incentives for apprenticeships and training programs and for employee profit-sharing and retirement savings. One of those incentives would use tax policy to leverage higher pay for hard working employees. Specifically, the CEO-Employee Paycheck Fairness Act, which I introduced, prevents corporations from claiming tax deductions for

CEO and executive bonuses and other compensation over \$1 million, unless their workers are getting paycheck increases that reflect increases in worker productivity and the cost of living. The action plan also includes a modernized and expanded Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit that goes beyond the President's proposal in important ways, including by making it refundable.

Similarly, I strongly support putting a price on carbon, and have introduced legislation—the Healthy Climate and Family Security Act—to create a cap and dividend program to reliably lower carbon emissions and auction off permits to the first-sellers of fossil fuels. I believe it is important, however, to offset potential increases in energy costs for American homeowners, so my bill provides a dividend to every American. Professor James Boyce of the University of Massachusetts—Amherst has calculated that this approach will leave about 80 percent of American families with more money in their pocket at the end of the day. This legislation has been endorsed by Bill McKibben and key organizations including the Sierra Club, the Chesapeake Climate Action Network, and Communities United (Maryland).

In the case of both of these policies, the Progressive Caucus budget spends the proceeds on other program priorities. It has \$2.7 trillion more spending than in the President's budget and the Democratic alternative, and \$2 trillion more the CBC budget. The Progressive Caucus budget has \$5 trillion more revenue over ten years than both the President's budget and the Democratic alternative budget, and almost \$4 trillion more than the CBC budget. This is in part because the CPC budget does not rebate all of the carbon tax and does not use revenue from the financial market trading fee to provide tax benefits for low- and middle-income Americans.

While I support many of the initiatives in the Progressive Caucus budget, I believe we should use the revenue generated by a financial market trading fee and a price on carbon to more directly boost family incomes and assist those struggling to find work. Like Leader PELOSI and others who share many CPC priorities, I differ on some of the details of their policy changes. But most of all I am very grateful to the CPC for their significant contribution in the development of the Democratic Alternative and for their vision—which I share—of a growing economy with more shared prosperity.

A TRIBUTE TO BRENNA FINNERTY

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Brenna Finnerty for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involve-

ment and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Brenna has the determination and drive to be successful in all that she undertakes, demonstrated by her exemplary work with the Blank Children's Hospital. As the Annual Giving Director with Blank Children's Hospital, Brenna actively engages with her community to make it a better place. Her passion for volunteering is evident, as is her enthusiasm in supporting a worthy cause. In all aspects of her life, Brenna's example of hard work and service makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Brenna in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Brenna on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

HONORING BELLE FLOWER  
CHURCH

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable historical church, Belle Flower Church of Grenada, Mississippi and the great leadership it is under.

In the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred sixty-eight (1868), the first Black Baptist Church was established in Grenada—then a part of Yalobusha County.

The newly organized church was known as the Colored Baptist Church. Members were led by Rev. Larry Patterson, who served as pastor for a number of years.

In September 1872, Lot #119 was deeded to the church by George W. Ragsdale. The lot was situated in the West Ward of Grenada. Ragsdale said that members of the Colored Baptist Church could continue to possess the land as long as the site was used exclusively for church purposes, if members conducted themselves with good behavior and if they paid taxes. If they misbehaved in an unbecoming manner or failed to pay taxes, the land would be seized.

In 1876, the church was pregnant with many possibilities. Due to the severe labor pains of an unknown dispute among church members, Belle Flower gave birth to a daughter. She was named First New Hope Missionary Baptist Church.

A.H. Stevens was encouraged to open a high school at the church in 1888. He planned to offer the basic courses of study, as well as instrumental music.

Since its establishment in 1868, the Belle Flower flock has been led by nineteen shepherds. They are Reverends: Larry Patterson, George Wright, S.P. Martin, Jerry Weathers, Augustus Nabors, D. Higgins, A.L. Hills, Joseph Peterson, Willis Varnado, Robert Varnado, J.B. Webb, W.H. Turner, A.D. Banks, H.L. Barnes, S.T. Cunningham,

Tommie Lee Miller (1968–1984), Booker T. Moore (1985–1988), Melvin Montgomery (1988–2004), and Randy Jackson (2004–present).

From the inception until 1959–60, services were held only on the second and fourth Sunday.

The church was re-built in 1917 under the leadership of Rev. Augustus Nabors and committee members: Jeff Banks, Rev. Jas Bostic and Rev. R.S. Bostic. The annex was added in 1945 led by Rev. J.E. Webb. The committee members were: Rev. L.E. Smith, A.U. Fields, W.H. Bostic, (grandfather of Belle Flower member, Mrs. Dannette Woods), F.H. Johnson, T. Person, James Clark and Rev. B.S. Bostic, who was the designer of the annex.

Belle Flower has always been a trendsetter and a trailblazer in this community. When the Civil Rights Movement came to Grenada in 1966, the church was poised to take its rightful place in history.

Because the Belle Flower Church membership believed in binding up the broken-hearted and setting the captives free, this edifice became the headquarters for the Grenada County Freedom Movement (GCFM). The Southern Christian Leadership Conference's (SCLC) local staff offices were housed in the Sunday School rooms of the church. Mass meetings were held at the church nightly. Key civil rights leaders spoke at the church, including: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rev. Andrew Young, Rev. Ralph Abernathy, Rev. Hoses Williams, and folk singer/activist Joan Baez.

Belle Flower's pastor, S.T. Cunningham, served as treasurer of the GCFM. Members of the congregation followed his leadership in the quest for freedom by serving in many capacities. They demonstrated and marched; provided housing for civil rights workers; and cooked for SCLC staff. Melzina Cook (sister of Belle Flower's member, Thomas Cook) served on the GCFM steering committee.

Some members went to jail (Tommy Lee Green, Melzina Cook, Estelle Lemon-Cox, Paul Williams, Andrew Hooker, and others) and some members lost their jobs (Lottie Williams, Mother of Belle Flower members, Gloria Lott and LaRita Brown; and Emma Lemon, mother of Estelle Cox) in the struggle for their basic human rights. Night after night people marched out of Belle Flower Church to face down mobs of hate-filled racists. Their efforts and their bravery should never be forgotten.

On January 22, 1967, Belle Flower was fire bombed because of its role in the Civil Rights movement. While repairs were being made to the facility, services were held at First New Hope Church.

In 1968, several Grenada citizens participated in the Poor People's Campaign (also known as The Mule Train) to Washington, D.C. The southern leg of the Mule Train began on May 13, 1968, in Marks, Miss. The Mule Train's third stop was Grenada. The pickup point for participants was Belle Flower Church.

During the years following the Civil Rights Movement, the church made many modern improvements. They included: purchasing and bricking the parsonage, adding a new finance room, adding and remodeling the fellowship hall, refurbishing the sanctuary, (cushioning benches, carpeting floors) purchasing new pulpit furniture, purchasing a public address system and adding the conic.

In 2004, the members purchased the block adjacent to the church.

The church has added ministries over the years to meet the needs of the members. A Young Adult Choir was added to the Music Ministry in the 1970s. The Nurse's Guild was established in the 1980s. Programs for the needy provided food and clothing for area citizens. Programs for the children included: the Red Circle, YWA, Sunshine Band and Youth Brotherhood. In 1993, A Daisy Girl Scout troop was established for five-year-old girls in the community.

In 1976, the organ was purchased through the efforts of Mrs. Mary E. Caffey, who sponsored a Bicentennial Baby Contest.

Belle Flower has always had a welcoming and liberal atmosphere. The members set spiritual standards for the Belle Flower children and took pride in the success of its youth.

Knowing that they needed to leave a spiritual legacy, adults trained the churches' children according to scripture (Proverbs 22:6).

Belle Flower created an environment for its children to grow and flourish spiritually. The fourth Sunday of each month was set aside for the youth. The youths' commitment and zeal for this church was so great that college students would return home monthly to fulfill their obligation as youth choir members, musicians, junior ushers, junior deacons, youth Sunday School teachers and youth superintendent.

Church families and ministries have given their time, talents and treasures as a testament to the love they have for "The Flower". Some of these gifts included: brass candle holders, steps for the water fountain, the marquee, Bibles, choir robes and uniforms, a piano, the minor over the baptism pool, a podium for the fellowship hall, the drapes over the baptism pool, tables and chairs.

For generations, this church has stood as a pillar in the Grenada Community. It has been a shelter in the time of a storm, a rock in a weary land, and a cornerstone of the community.

Because of the love, training and support members received at Belle Flower, they have made an indelible mark on the world as medical personnel, authors, beauticians, administrators, soldiers, manufacturers, teachers and ministers. More importantly, however, for 137 years, this church has gifted the world with saved, sanctified souls dedicated to preparing others to see the kingdom of God.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Belle Flower Church for its contribution to the black community and black churches.

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#### HONORING ROGER GARZA

### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the accomplishments of retiring City Councilman Roger Garza of Pleasanton, Texas. He has proudly represented the people of District 5 for eighteen years and has been crucial to the growth and prosperity of Atascosa County and the City of Pleasanton.

A lifelong resident of Atascosa County, Mr. Garza attended Jourdan Elementary and

graduated from Pleasanton Independent Schools. After graduating, Roger enrolled in San Antonio College where he studied oil painting, still life portraits, and photography. With a keen interest in and talent for art, Mr. Garza went on to open Pleasanton Floral Photography and Tuxedo in 1975, which he still owns and operates today.

As a small business owner and Atascosa County native, Mr. Garza has long-been active in local community and political affairs. Prior to his election to Pleasanton's City Council, he was a key player in the successful redistricting of Atascosa County. This success is what prompted him to run for Pleasanton City Council eighteen years ago. During his eighteen-year tenure on the city council, Roger Garza has supported and overseen the development and completion of the Pleasanton Civic Center, the cleaning of the Atascosa River, and the approval of the construction firm for a new fire station.

In addition to his exemplary career as a public servant and small business owner, Mr. Garza is a committed husband and father of five.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize Councilman Roger Garza for his eighteen years of service to the City of Pleasanton.

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#### ANGELO DIAZ

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Angelo Diaz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Angelo Diaz is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Angelo Diaz is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Angelo Diaz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, March 25, 2015, my vote on the Ellison/Grijalva/Lee/Schakowsky/Conyers/McDermott Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute, known as the CPC Budget (rollcall vote 136) was recorded as a "No" vote when I intended to cast a "Yes" vote. I wish to clarify my miscast vote and express my strong support for progressive budgets that invest in everyone, not just the 1%.

The Congressional Progressive Caucus' Fiscal Year 2016 Budget—entitled the "People's Budget"—is a powerful, profound statement of American values and vision. The CPC fiscal plan recognizes that the middle class is the true engine of our nation's economy by giving working Americans a well-earned and long overdue raise with paid overtime and guaranteed sick and parental leave.

The CPC Budget charts a bold course of economic growth for America. It creates 8.4 million jobs, modernizes our nation's sagging infrastructure, makes crucial investments in education and enhances the social safety net. The Budget recognizes that comprehensive immigration reform is both a moral and an economic necessity. It is a roadmap to American success in the 21st century global economy.

The CPC Budget is aptly named; it is an economic plan that creates jobs, expands health security and guarantees a dignified retirement for everyone in America. I am proud to support the CPC "People's Budget."

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND WORK OF MR. WILLIE R. BRADSHAW

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and remember Mr. Willie R. Bradshaw, a friend and lifelong resident of his native Durham, North Carolina who was called to be with God on March 23, 2015 at the age of 86.

Willie R. Bradshaw was born on September 17, 1928 in Durham, North Carolina and was educated in the Durham Public Schools. He became an outstanding athlete at Hillside High School where he played on the 1943 football team that was undefeated that season. He graduated in 1945 and went on to attend North Carolina College, now North Carolina Central University. After, Mr. Bradshaw played professional baseball as a pitcher for several Negro League teams.

Mr. Bradshaw was a respected coach, having coached at I.E. Johnson in Laurinburg, Lincoln High in Chapel Hill, and Dudley High in Greensboro before returning to Hillside to coach in 1963. He served as coach and athletic director at Hillside High for 15 years, and then as athletic director for the former-Durham City Schools system, becoming the first African American athletic director in both the City and County of Durham.

Mr. Bradshaw devoted a lifetime of service to his city and his alma mater. After a successful athletic career, he joined the NCCU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1985. In 1995, Mr. Bradshaw was inducted into the North Carolina High School Hall of Fame and the National High School Hall of Fame in 2010.

A former president of both the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association and the North Carolina Coaches Association, Mr. Bradshaw's career record as a head football coach was 96–43–6 and 215–119 over his 14 seasons as a basketball coach. He was honored with a NCHSAA Distinguished Service Award in 1992 and was involved at the national level with the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association.

Mr. Bradshaw grew up in the Walltown Community and was a dedicated member of First Calvary Baptist Church. He cared deeply about improving the lives of young people and was committed to advocating for children and making sure they had opportunities to reach their full potential. As a champion for equality during the Jim Crow era, he is remembered as a bridge builder who brought people together for common causes.

Known for his strong leadership, and as a man of few words, Mr. Bradshaw made a difference in so many lives. The world was made a better place because of the life and work of Mr. Bradshaw.

I ask my colleagues join me in expressing our deepest condolences to "Coach" Bradshaw's wife, Shirley M. Bradshaw; daughter, Natalyn Bradshaw-Haile Selassie; and granddaughter, Fana Ruth Haile Selassie, and his extended family and friends who mourn their loss but celebrate his incredible life.

APPRECIATING THE SUPPORT OF OUTSIDE GROUPS ON THE DEMOCRATIC BUDGET ALTERNATIVE

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, while we were crafting the Democratic alternative budget we met with organizations representing millions of Americans—from seniors to students to hard-working families. I want to thank the many people who took the time to advocate so passionately for their cause. Many of these groups have written to Congress to publicly state their strong opposition to the Republican budget before the House today, eloquently enumerating the many hardships it will cause to working families, students, seniors and other Americans.

I also wanted to thank those who expressed support for the Democratic alternative because of its efforts to ensure broadly shared prosperity, helping middle-class families and those working their way into the middle class, and to invest in the future. I appreciate the support we have received from people working on broad range of issues. This includes groups representing those concerned with educating our children and making college affordable, such as the National Education Association and the Student Aid Alliance. We also heard from those who represent the many federal employees who provide vital services, such as the National Treasury Employees Union. The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights also wrote in to share their support for our Democratic alternatives and the policies it reflects.

I also want to thank those who are working tirelessly to protect Social Security for the growing number of seniors who depend on the program, including the strong advocacy from the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare. I share the Committee's goal of ensuring a livable retirement for all seniors and the importance of Social Security as fewer Americans have defined benefit pension plans. That is why during the Budget Committee's consideration of the resolution I offered an amendment to protect Social Security benefits from the threat of privatization or

benefit cuts that could result from the Republican budget. We have heard from many others who strongly oppose the harmful cuts in the Republican budget—groups as diverse as the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, the Coalition for Human Needs, Citizens for Tax Justice, Paralyzed Veterans of America, and the Service Employees International Union.

I appreciate the input, advice, and support of the many people who helped us design the Democratic alternative and work for its passage.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, March 25, 2015, my vote on the Butterfield/Scott/Lee/Moore Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute, known as the CBC Budget (Roll Call Vote No. 137) was recorded as a "No" vote when I intended to cast a "Yes" vote as well. I wish to clarify my miscast vote and express my strong support for progressive budgets that invest in everyone.

The CBC Budget is a roadmap to American success in the 21st century. The Budget proposes a comprehensive jobs program and makes critical investments in education, infrastructure and rebuilds the social safety net. It reduces the deficit by \$1.9 trillion, while investing in American families. The Budget also contains a bold plan to combat poverty in America and keeps faith with the promises we have made to our seniors by protecting Social Security and Medicare. The CBC Budget is a powerful statement of values and vision that seeks to guarantee a share of the American dream for everyone.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

