

As Chairman of the Great Falls Memorial Committee, Mr. Borchardt tremendously helped his community. Previously, he was the President of the McLean Rotary Club and founded and served as the President of the Northern Virginia Brittany Club.

Mr. Borchardt, known for his optimism, emphasized his motto: "onward and upward". He will also truly be remembered for his countless and endless service to his county and his community. I am confident that his passion and love for his country will serve as an inspiration for millions of people.

A TRIBUTE TO RICHARD AND
JOAN MADISON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Richard and Joan Madison on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Richard and Joan's lifelong commitment to each other and to their many children and grandchildren truly embodies our Iowan values. I salute this devoted couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF
ARCELLE DANESE THOMAS

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Arcelle Danese Thomas, who passed away peacefully on April 7, 2015, at the age of 99.

Arcelle moved to Los Angeles in 1937, and remained a resident of the county for the rest of her life. After graduating from California State University Los Angeles, she worked as a teacher for the Los Angeles Unified School District and spent 30 years teaching children general education at South Park Elementary School. Outside of the classroom, Arcelle worked to improve childhood education by serving as the President of the American Childhood Education Institute.

An active member of the community, Arcelle became a lifetime member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Even in her later years, she led her senior citizen's center community group, which further demonstrates her initiative and commendable leadership qualities.

Arcelle was one of ten brothers and sisters. While she was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, she spent the majority of her life in Southern California where she raised a family with her husband of 63 years. She is survived by her sister, daughter, and loving grandchildren.

For her contributions to the community and for her many other achievements, I would like to honor Arcelle Danese Thomas and her family.

A TRIBUTE TO DON AND JOANNE
JORGENSEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Don and Joanne Jorgensen on the very special occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary.

Don and Joanne were married on April 9, 1950. Their lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowan values. I salute this devoted couple on their 65th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ENDURING
U.S./TAIWAN FRIENDSHIP

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call for greater support for closer U.S./Taiwan relationship. Taiwan is an important economic and security partner, and as an advanced industrial economy, has much to contribute to the world. I would also like to take this opportunity to share a speech entitled "True Friendship Lasts Forever" addressed by Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou on June 2, 2015, at a video conference at Stanford University. In his speech, President Ma delineated the importance of future cooperation opportunities between our two countries. Below is the summary of President Ma's speech. For the full transcript, please visit the website of the office of the President of the Republic of China: <http://www.president.gov.tw>.

Summary of President Ma's remarks:

"This year marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. In July 1937, two years before WWII broke out, ROC forces began fighting against Japanese aggression alone, and for four long years, they continued with virtually no outside help. It wasn't until the Pearl Harbor attack in December 1941 that the ROC joined forces with the Allies to declare war against Japan, Germany, and Italy.

The United States proved to be a staunch friend. The most notable example of that friendship was the American Volunteer Group (AVG), organized in 1941 even before the Pearl Harbor attack, a group that became legendary by their nickname: The Flying Tigers.

During the Cold War period following World War II, the friendship between the ROC and the U.S. flourished, as the U.S. continued to help us militarily while providing economic assistance. Between 1950 and 1965, that assistance included U.S. \$1.5 billion in economic aid, which is probably worth at least 12 billion now.

Although the ROC and U.S. severed diplomatic ties in 1979, barely three months later, the U.S. Congress passed the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA). Under that Act, Taiwan is treated as a foreign government for purposes of U.S. law and in U.S. courts. The Act also

requires the U.S. to provide Taiwan with defensive weapons.

Since I came into office in 2008, mutual ROC-U.S. trust has been restored at the highest levels of government. And over the past two years, there have been frequent, reciprocal visits by high-level officials.

In April of last year, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy visited Taiwan, and Charles Rivkin, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs is visiting Taiwan now. At the same time, heads of various ROC government agencies have visited the U.S., so there is a solid foundation of mutual trust there.

The ROC is also gaining more support in Congress. Just last month during deliberations on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2016, the House and Senate Armed Services Committees both passed initiatives that call for increased U.S.-ROC military exchanges.

In addition to strong security ties, Taiwan-U.S. trade relations have also made significant progress over the last few years. In March of 2013, after a five-year hiatus, we reopened negotiations with the U.S. under the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA), a platform set up in 1994 to facilitate talks in trade and investment matters. We have continued bilateral consultations in a series of 12 work conferences, and have made significant progress. As of the end of this March, the ROC is America's 10th largest trading partner, surpassing Brazil and Saudi Arabia, and the U.S. is Taiwan's third largest, after mainland China and Japan.

Let me turn to cross-strait relations. Over the past seven years, Taiwan and mainland China have signed 21 agreements. In April last year, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Daniel Russel said in Congress that "As a general matter, we very much welcome and applaud the extraordinary progress that has occurred in cross-strait relations under the Ma administration."

In addition to seeking stable development in cross-strait and ROC-U.S. relations, Taiwan has also taken concrete actions over the past few years to be a regional peacemaker in both the East China Sea, and the South China Sea. Back in August of 2012, I proposed the East China Sea Peace Initiative. That Initiative asks stakeholders to forgo conflict in favor of peaceful negotiations, and emphasizes cooperation in sharing resources. Eight months later in April of 2013, Taiwan and Japan signed a fisheries agreement that embodies the spirit of that Initiative, and solved a fisheries dispute between Taiwan and Japan that has troubled both countries for 40 years. Secretary of State John Kerry has publicly stated that the ROC-Japan fisheries agreement is a model for promoting regional stability, and that the principles at the heart of the East China Sea Peace Initiative apply to all of the waters in Asia.

On the 26th of last month, I formally announced the South China Sea Peace Initiative, hoping that the relevant parties will: "shelve sovereignty dispute, pursue peace and reciprocity, and promote joint exploration and development." By upholding those principles, we hope that all the parties involved will work together to maintain regional peace and promote regional development. Immediately, a U.S. State Department official stated that the