

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ENFORCE THE LAW FOR SANCTUARY CITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 3009, the Enforce the Law for Sanctuary Cities Act.

The murder of Kathryn Steinle in San Francisco was a senseless tragedy. My heart continues to go out to her family and friends at this difficult time.

As a nation, we cannot base complex policy decisions regarding the intersection of our federal immigration system and local law enforcement on a single tragic event.

Sanctuary Cities exist because municipalities across the country recognized that they had to act to keep families together as Congressional Republican leadership refused to move forward on bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform.

These are some of the most populous cities in the country—New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston—and the list goes on.

Our local law enforcement agencies are not trained immigration agents, nor should they be.

This conversation comes at a time in this country when many local law enforcement agencies are facing a crisis of trust with the communities they are sworn to protect and serve.

To threaten their federal funding based on local decisions about how best to serve their communities, as H.R. 3009, would do, is not only misguided but dangerous.

Instead, my colleagues should be working to pass bipartisan legislation to fix our broken immigration system and address these long-standing issues in a comprehensive and thoughtful way.

SAWTOOTH NATIONAL RECREATION AREA AND JERRY PEAK WILDERNESS ADDITIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2015

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to recognize one of America's greatest conservation writers, Rocky Barker of the Idaho Statesman. Rocky has provided unparalleled depth and insight to the readers of Idaho and the United States throughout the 15 years I have been working on CIEDRA and SNRA+. He has hiked throughout these mountains and understands every nuance and aspect of the area and this bill. I want to thank him for covering this story fairly and accurately all of these years. I also want to thank former

Blaine County Commissioner Tom Bowman for all of the great help he has provided. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

CONGRATULATING THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY SUPER- MILEAGE TEAM

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Northern Illinois University Supermileage team on their recent success at the 36th Annual SAE Supermileage Competition in Marshall, Michigan.

Over the course of two days in June, engineering and technology students from around the world completed the challenge of designing and constructing a single-person, fuel-efficient vehicle. The Northern Illinois vehicle, called the Huskie Rocket, was able to reach a fuel efficiency of 1,057 miles per gallon, placing the Northern Illinois Supermileage team third in the world, and second in the United States.

Since 2010, the NIU Supermileage team, led by faculty advisor Dr. David Schroeder, has consistently placed in the top ten at the annual SAE Supermileage Competition. This year's impressive showing included the hard work of ten NIU students, including Supermileage team captain Lindsey Dodis, Kevin Kuebrich, Christian McAdoo, Kyle McNamara, Russell Fordyce, Andrew Hagel, Adam Detrick, Aaron McKeown, Tom Swanberg, and Saajan Patel. All the students, faculty, and staff that contributed to the success of the Supermileage team and their Huskie Rocket should be commended for their hard work and dedication to applying what they have learned from the NIU College of Engineering and Engineering Technology at the Supermileage Competition.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 16th District of Illinois, I wish to express our sincere congratulations for the hard work of the Northern Illinois University Supermileage team. I look forward to seeing what these bright and dedicated students accomplish in the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE ALEX THEATRE'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Alex Theatre upon its 90th anniversary.

The Alex Theatre has been a cornerstone of the Glendale community since its establishment in 1925. In its early years, the Alex Theatre was home to Vaudeville theatrics and si-

lent films. For the next 60 years, the Alex Theatre previewed first-run films, ranging from 1937's *Saratoga* to 1977's *Star Wars*, solidifying its continuing identity as the epicenter of Hollywood glamour.

Originally designed by architects Charles R. Selkirk and Arthur G. Lindley, the theatre façade was remodeled in 1940 by S. Charles Lee—a remodel that included the extraordinary 100-foot Art Deco tower.

The Alex Theatre continued hosting Hollywood premieres until the 1980s, at which point the theatre began to fall into disrepair. In 1991, however, the Glendale Redevelopment Agency restored the Alex Theatre to its former glory, investing over \$6 million.

The renovated theatre opened on New Year's Eve in 1993 to serve as a community arts theatre and civic center. Owned by the City of Glendale and operated by Glendale Arts, the Alex Theatre was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1996.

Since its redesign in the 1990s, the Alex Theatre has retained its identity as a center for arts, but has increased its functions. Another expansion project began in July 2013 and was completed in June 2014. This \$5.2 million renovation added 6,600 square feet to the backstage area.

The Alex Theatre is currently home to four companies: the Los Angeles Ballet Company, the Alex Film Society, the Glendale Youth Orchestra, and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. In addition to hosting these companies, the Alex Theatre also hosts dance, comedy, theatre, music, and special events to serve more than 100,000 people who pass through its doors annually. To attest to the theatre's versatility, I had the great pleasure of hosting the 21st State Senate Arts Competition at the Alex Theatre in the late 1990s and early 2000s.

The Alex Theatre is destined to continue its impressive legacy as a local and national landmark. I am honored to recognize the Alex Theatre for its great cultural value to the community, and ask all members to join me in congratulating the Alex Theatre upon its 90th anniversary.

IN HONOR OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEVIS CUP RIDE

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Tevis Cup Ride of the Western States Trail.

The Western States Trail Foundation hosts the Ride with the aim of preserving the trail. Throughout its long history, the trail has been used by Native Americans, emigrants, gold and silver miners, and sportsmen alike.

The Tevis Cup is the oldest modern-day endurance ride, covering one hundred miles in one day. Riders begin in Robie Park, east 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.

Squaw Valley, and have twenty-four hours to make their way to the end of the rugged trail in Auburn, California. The 60th annual ride will take place on August 1, 2015.

Thousands of horseback riders from around the world participate in the Tevis Cup. The event brings together a vast community of volunteers dedicated to keeping the Western States Trail open to the public. Volunteers spend innumerable hours and significant financial resources to make this equestrian endurance ride a success year after year.

Mr. Speaker, the Western States Trail Foundation and the Tevis Cup Ride have made an important contribution to both the local economy and the preservation of this rugged Sierra trail. I thank the Western States Trail Foundation for hosting the Tevis Cup Ride, particularly on the event's 60th Anniversary, and I commend the Foundation for its continuing efforts to ensure the trail remains a monument to public access and enjoyment of our nation's abundant natural resources.

REMEMBERING LEONORA TERESA
BROWNE WELCH

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Leonora Teresa Browne Welch who passed away peacefully on Tuesday, July 28, 2015.

Mrs. Welch was born in Savannah, Georgia on June 23, 1928 and was the only child of Josephine Mollo and Palmer Carr Browne. She had many fond memories of her childhood with Italian family members on her mother's side, and growing up on her father's dairy farm, Kensington Dairy, which comprised the land known today as Kensington Park and Fairway Oaks.

Mrs. Welch attended Cathedral Day School and St. Vincent's Academy where she was Valedictorian of her graduating class in 1946. She went on to study journalism at Armstrong College and worked at Citizens and Southern Bank.

In 1952, Mrs. Welch married O.C. Welch, Jr., a Savannah native and engineer for the Seaboard Coastline Railroad, and by 1963 she was a busy mother to her eight children. She was affectionately called "Noni" by her husband and later by her many grandchildren. The Welches were married for 43 years until Mr. Welch's death in 1996.

Mrs. Welch was a devout Catholic throughout her life, and the Welch family were communicants of St. James Catholic Church where their children attended school before going on to attend St. Vincent's Academy and Benedictine Military School.

As her children began to leave the house, Mrs. Welch found more time to avail herself to volunteer for several community organizations including Goodwill, but was especially dedicated to her work in the Diocese of Savannah and St. James offices. She also enjoyed a close circle of friends known as The BOF's— or Best of Friends—who met monthly for luncheons around Savannah. She was also active in the Daughters of Ireland.

Mrs. Welch was a shining example of God's unconditional love, and was a loving and

proud mother and grandmother. She is survived by her daughters Celeste Welch Crago and Julie Welch Cirincioni; and her sons Michael Warren Welch (Aino), O.C. Welch III, Daniel Kevin Welch, Brian Christopher Welch (Tiffany), Douglas Gerald Welch (Marcy), and Joseph Thomas Welch (Charlotte); 20 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATURAL
GAS ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECO-
NOMIC SECURITY ACT

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Natural Gas Environmental and Economic Security Act with a number of my colleagues, including the Ranking Member of the House Natural Resources Committee RAÚL GRIJALVA, to reduce the frivolous and unnecessary waste of natural gas from public lands. Large volumes of natural gas are regularly flared, vented, or simply leak from Federal oil and gas leases—in 2013 alone, the amount of lost gas could meet the heating and cooking needs of 1.6 million American homes according to the Environmental Defense Fund. To make matters worse, the Center for American Progress and The Wilderness Society showed that the amount of gas lost to venting and flaring doubled between 2008 and 2013, with no sign of the trend slowing. In addition, this wasted gas is not subject to royalties, costing the American taxpayers as much as \$58 million annually in lost revenue according to the Government Accountability Office.

Beyond being economically wasteful, these processes are bad for human health and the environment. Gas released to the atmosphere from venting and leaks contributes dramatically to climate change, since methane, the major component of natural gas, has 25 times the warming impact of carbon dioxide over 100 years. In 2013 alone, the Environmental Defense Fund estimated that the volume of methane released to the atmosphere was equivalent to the emissions from 5.6 million cars. Venting, flaring, and leaks all affect local air quality as well by releasing volatile organic compounds, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter into the atmosphere. These environmental costs undercut the potential benefits of natural gas as a lower-carbon, cleaner burning fuel alternative to coal.

Local regulations have already demonstrated that the best way to curb venting, flaring, and fugitive releases is to both enact strong regulations and incentivize gas capture by collecting royalties on lost gas, and our bill, the Natural Gas Environmental and Economic Security Act takes this two-pronged approach. To address royalties, the bill amends the Mineral Leasing Act and the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to require royalties on all gas produced from new leases, including gas used on the lease to power equipment. Gas lost in acute emergency situations would remain exempt from royalties to ensure that safety is not compromised.

The bill would also require that 99 percent of all gas produced each year from Federal leases be captured within 5 years. It also prohibits venting and limits routine flaring. To

reach the 99 percent goal, the bill establishes equipment and operation standards, mandatory leak detection and repair procedures, and recordkeeping requirements; it also institutes new reporting requirements for all gas produced, disposed, or leaked on a lease and requires public disclosure of the data. Market-appropriate enforcement mechanisms for non-compliance, as well as guidelines for applying such measures, are also established.

This bill is a win-win for the American taxpayer, providing both environmental and economic benefits, while also promoting the growth of the domestic methane mitigation industry, which is creating high-paying jobs through small businesses across the nation. Further, many of these gains come at minimal or no cost to producers, since many mitigation technologies pay for themselves once the captured gas is marketed.

The Natural Gas Environmental and Economic Security Act stops the waste of valuable taxpayer resources, protects the environment and public health, and boosts the economy. I ask that my colleagues support this common-sense legislation and rein in the waste of natural gas from our public lands.

HONORING THE DEDICATED
SERVICE OF DOROTHEA MCBRIDE

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday July 29, 2015

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dorothea McBride who is retiring from the Department of Veterans Affairs after 27 years of dedicated service. A Registered Nurse, a Veteran, and Patient Administrator at Central Alabama Veterans Healthcare System, her tireless work has been instrumental in helping the veterans of Central Alabama.

Under particularly challenging circumstances, Dorothea has provided critical health care to many of our nation's most dedicated servants. Whether responding to veterans directly or working with my office on Congressional inquiries, she has demonstrated an exceptional level of professionalism and patriotism, literally saving lives.

Dorothea McBride cares deeply for the veterans in her care. She never failed to respond diligently and with compassion and courtesy when asked for help. Along with my staff, I want to wish her all the best in the next chapter of her life. We will never forget her service.

CONGRATULATING GIL MILLER ON
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
UNITED STATES NAVY

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Captain Gil Miller on his retirement from the United States Navy and to thank him for his many years of dedicated service.

Captain Miller is a Naval Academy graduate who has devoted 25 years of his life to serving our country. For the last two years he has

done an outstanding job as commander of Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base in Tarrant County, Texas. He has served our country well while also making significant contributions to the communities around the base.

Earlier in his career, Captain Miller flew SH-2 and SH-60 helicopters based on ships in the Eastern Pacific, Central America, and Caribbean. He also flew fleet airlift missions in the Beechcraft C-12 and the C-130T Hercules transport for three tours, and deployed on relief missions for the Pakistani earthquake and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Captain Miller served two tours in the Pentagon as Executive Assistant to the Deputy Director and as principal briefer to the Undersecretary of Defense for all Reserve and National Guard mobilizations, deployment orders, and global force management.

While Captain Miller has served our country he has been blessed with the support of his wife, Cheryl.

I offer my heartfelt thanks and congratulations to Captain Miller for his outstanding career in the Navy and wish him the best in his retirement.

CONGRATULATING JOHN S.
LIZAMA ON HIS PROMOTION TO
BRIGADIER GENERAL IN THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Johnny S. Lizama of the village of Santa Rita on his promotion to the rank of Brigadier General of the Guam Air National Guard. Brigadier General Lizama is the Director of Staff for Air, Joint Forces Headquarters, Guam National Guard. He was appointed to serve as the Assistant Adjutant General-Air Force by Governor Eddie Baza Calvo.

Brigadier General Lizama began his military career in June 1977 after enlisting in the United States Coast Guard. In December 1982, he enlisted in the Air Force and reported to Eglin Air Force Base as a Direct Duty Assignment Interior Electrician with the 3202nd Civil Engineering Squadron. He later served as a Manpower Management Technician with Detachment 6, 3904th Management Squadron at Beale Air Force Base, California, during his last two years of active duty service. In 1988, Brigadier General Lizama separated from the Air Force and returned to Guam, where he joined the Guam Air National Guard and served as the 254th Services Flight Superintendent until 1992.

In 1992, Brigadier General Lizama was commissioned in the Guam Air National Guard as Personnel Programs Officer for the 254th Air Base Group and later as Director of Personnel for the Active Guard Reserve. As Director of Personnel, he administered a range of personnel programs to include procurement, professional development, recruitment and retention programs, and support for contingency operations, among other major responsibilities.

From 2002 to 2006, Brigadier General Lizama was the comptroller for the 254th Air Base Group with oversight of \$2.1M in appropriated funds, whose financial management

expertise was instrumental in the planning and standup of the 254th Security Forces Squadron. As commander of the 254th Air Base Group from August 2007 to September 2013, he was responsible for the command and control of Guam Air National Guard's units and activities and their maximum readiness capabilities.

Brigadier General Lizama is a 1977 alumnus of Father Duenas Memorial High School in Tai, Guam. He received a Bachelors degree in Management from the University of Guam and Masters degrees in Public Administration and Human Resources from Golden Gate University. Additionally, Brigadier General Lizama enrolled and successfully completed Air War College.

I extend my congratulations to Johnny S. Lizama on his promotion to Brigadier General, and I join the people of Guam in commending him for his service to our nation and island. Brigadier General Lizama's promotion marks an important milestone in the history of the Guam National Guard. Finding qualified officers to serve in Assistant Adjutant General positions ensures that the vision and intent of the Guard Empowerment Act is being fulfilled on Guam. This will provide greater professional development for well qualified officers in the Guam National Guard.

Moreover, this is a historic occasion for our island as Brigadier General Lizama is the first Chamorro Airman to be promoted and federally recognized at the rank of brigadier general in the Guam Air National Guard and the United States Air Force. I also extend my congratulations to his wife, Dee, and their four children, Keith and his wife Paul Jean, Kimberly and her husband Jonathan, Brother Cody, OFM Cap., and Rico as well as to his two grandchildren, Taehlyn-Jean and Urijah John. I wish him the best on this important achievement.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO ABDO
YOUSSEF SAAB

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Abdo Youssef Saab of Los Angeles, California, a man of integrity and an outstanding community leader, who passed away on July 23, 2015.

Abdo was born in Hammana, Lebanon on August 15, 1945. He was educated in Jesuit schools in Lebanon, studied in France and received his Civil Engineering degree. Abdo came to Los Angeles in the early 1970's, where he met Lourdes, a community liaison for the Los Angeles Mayor's Office; they fell in love and married. They lived and raised their two daughters, Liane and Jessica in La Cañada Flintridge before moving to Los Angeles.

Mr. Saab began a long and remarkable career as a businessman, ascending quickly to the position of Vice President of Downtown L.A. Motors. He then began several businesses, including a travel agency and a consulting firm. Abdo was also active in the local law enforcement and political communities.

A charismatic man, Abdo's presence was felt wherever he went. He loved to make peo-

ple laugh, and his good sense of humor made a positive lasting impression on everyone he met. Valuing integrity in work, politics and life, Mr. Saab treated everyone equally with respect and as a friend, and cared deeply about civil liberties and justice. He enjoyed helping people and was a dependable friend in hard times. Deeply patriotic, Abdo loved Lebanon, his country of origin, and America, his adopted home.

A devoted family man, Abdo is survived by his loving wife Lourdes, daughters Liane and Jessica Saab, brother George and sisters Georgette, Layla, Aida and May.

Abdo was an irreplaceable part of our community and he will be sorely missed by his family and friends and all those whose lives he touched. A trusted friend and a man of impeccable character, I ask all Members to join me in remembering Abdo Youssef Saab.

HONORING PRINCIPAL JAMES
CONDON FOR THE 2015 INDIANA
PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Principal James Condon of Plymouth High School for being named the 2015 Principal of the Year. His success in fostering an exceptional learning environment for students in Plymouth is nothing short of remarkable.

Every year, the National Association of Secondary School Principals recognizes outstanding middle school and high school principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students. Recipients are chosen based on their performance in four categories, which include personal excellence, collaborative leadership, curriculum and personalization. Among other requirements, an award winner must model values, beliefs and attitudes that encourage others to higher levels of performance; create a culture of collaboration; ensure that each student has the best possible opportunity of realizing success; and create a school climate that is warm, inviting, safe and secure. Every one of us depends on our teachers, and because of that, they deserve our support and appreciation.

For over 20 years, Principal Condon has been contributing to the betterment of Indiana education. Since he became the principal of Plymouth High School in 2007, the school has been rated as one of the top high schools in Indiana and has received an "A" from the state in school accountability. As an added accomplishment, the school has achieved an 86 percent graduation rate, exceeding the Indiana state average by nearly 10 percent. These remarkable achievements have been duly-recognized and rewarded. Before receiving Principal of the Year, he was named the top high school principal in Indiana's second district, which includes Elkhart, St. Joseph, Starke, Marshall, Pulaski, Fulton, LaPorte and Kosciusko counties. Because of leaders like him, Hoosier classrooms are filled with future doctors, scientists and entrepreneurs.

Principal Condon's efforts have been instrumental in advancing Indiana's education system. His leadership has led to the development of digital and project-based learning, creation of dual credit courses and preparation of students for the job market. As a result, Plymouth High School now offers 35 dual credit courses and has achieved one of Indiana's highest pass percentages on AP classes. The school recently opened a state-of-the-art Advanced Manufacturing Training Center that serves students during the day and adults in the evening. Contributions like these would not be possible without the effort of passionate educators like Principal Condon. Quite simply, his work is bettering the lives of Hoosiers.

I want to take this opportunity to once again thank Principal Condon for helping students in Plymouth develop their talents and become our future leaders. On behalf of myself and my fellow Hoosiers, I congratulate him on receiving this prestigious award.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LUEN THAI GROUP

**HON. GREGORIO KILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, today I ask you to join me in celebrating a fifty-year story of success that spans not just the Northern Mariana Islands or the mid-Pacific region, but three continents and several oceans. The Luen Thai Group of companies was founded by Dr. Tan Siu Lin in Hong Kong in September 1965, expanded to the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam in the 1970s, and now provides many important services to our community through its many local, regional, and international affiliates.

The Luen Thai Group is among the most successful apparel and accessories supply chain service providers in the world. The apparel business is listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and produced 175 million units of garments, bags and shoes last year.

The company has invested heavily in the tourism industry in our region and continues to drive the expansion of tourism today. Luen Thai affiliate Century Travel and Tours is responsible for bringing thousands of visitors to our islands and for providing for their enjoyment during their stay with professional, quality services in air and ground passenger transportation.

Luen Thai Fishing Venture is a "one-stop" seafood provider, offering a full range of supply chain services from fleet operation, base operation, and processing in the central and western Pacific regions, to marketing and sales in Japan, the United States and China.

Luen Thai is also a provider of third party logistics as well as air and sea freight forwarding. The synergy created by these three areas of activity not only supports Luen Thai's own growth, but also helps connect the many small islands scattered over our vast ocean region, contributing to economic development and lifting the quality of life for those who inhabit Micronesia.

And affiliate Asia Pacific Airlines' services match the needs of a wide-ranging clientele. APA is a US-registered airline and a reliable air cargo service carrier in the western Pacific region.

Luen Thai has been involved in shipping since its early days. Along with partners, Luen Thai set up Mariana Express Lines, Ltd. in 1997 to increase the supply of shipping services in the Micronesian region. MELL's reliable and regular shipping services have brought business growth to Luen Thai Group as well as other enterprises in the region.

With service stations in 12 countries across Asia and America, affiliate CTSI is the largest provider of logistics services in Micronesia. It also works closely with MELL and APA to provide a full range of logistics and support services, including logistics consultancy and training, as well as customized IT solutions which support service integration, real time information and efficient operations. CTSI strives to provide the best to its customers by fostering a corporate culture that champions quality service, and by continually investing in both personnel as well as the hardware of the company.

Affiliate POI Aviation provides a broad range of round-the-clock services in ground handling, passenger and cargo handling, airport operation, and aircraft maintenance, to Saipan International Airport and its users.

Affiliate Century Insurance was established in the 1980s as an agent for a number of multi-national non-life insurance companies to issue and underwrite policies on commercial and domestic types of insurance in Micronesia. It was granted a Certificate of Authority to operate as the first fully-fledged non-life insurance company in CNMI.

For a long time, the sheer size of Micronesia has made it difficult and costly to provide a quality health service to the small populations scattered over its islands. Luen Thai met this challenge by investing in TakeCare, Inc. TakeCare provides medical insurance and owns FHP Health Center. One of the longest serving health service providers in the region, FHP operates twelve centers of medical care on Saipan and Guam which cover the full spectrum of wellness, both in sickness and health, from monitoring physical fitness to dispensing quick responses to urgent medical needs such as transfer service to major medical facilities overseas.

Affiliate Saipan Tribune is a daily newspaper that keeps the people of Saipan informed about life on the island and world events while its web version serves as a window to the islands for the outside world. The Tribune is a very important part of the community fabric.

Luen Thai also owns Cosmos Distributing Co. Ltd. and Dickerson & Quinn, which is a vast network in Micronesia for the distribution of a myriad of international brands.

Tango, Inc. brings great, state-of-the art cinema to the western Pacific region. Today, the company owns 17 movie screens, 30 bowling alleys, and other entertainment and dining outlets in the region.

Realty Management Services provides professional management and rental services in Guam and Saipan, including for residential, commercial and industrial properties. The first-rate service and green initiatives of RMS have set benchmarks in the region.

Dr. Tan Siu Lin's values and beliefs are the guiding principles of the operation and development of businesses in Luen Thai. Dr. Tan believes strongly in giving back to the communities where Luen Thai operates.

In 2009, Luen Thai launched the "iServe. iGiveback." program that incorporated all business units and their employees. The group of companies has also shown its support for educational, art, cultural, as well as sport activities and programs with generous sponsorships.

The first Tan Siu Lin Foundation was established in Saipan in 1986, followed by others in Guam, Hong Kong, and China, to oversee and coordinate Dr. Tan's wide-ranging charitable works in many different places.

The history of the Luen Thai group of companies is an extraordinary success story that reflects the vision and dedication of Dr. Tan and his family. The company and its affiliates bring employment, products, services, and business opportunities to the Northern Mariana Islands, to our entire region, and around the world.

RECOGNIZING VIC STORY JR., 2015
FLORIDA FARMER OF THE YEAR

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity to recognize a close friend of mine whose dedication to the citrus industry has greatly impacted our Central Florida community. Mr. Vic Story Jr. of Lake Wales, Florida was recently named the 2015 Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Expo Florida Farmer of the Year. Mr. Story oversees The Story Companies, his family-owned and operated business, which includes land holdings, citrus management, citrus marketing and harvesting for over 7,000 acres of citrus in Polk, Hardee, Highlands, and Hendry counties.

In 1945, upon returning home from fighting in World War II, Mr. Story's parents moved to Polk County, Florida and purchased 100 acres. Mr. Story, along with his brother, Terry, helped his father plant their property with an orange and grapefruit grove until all the land was planted in citrus. Mr. Story's father, Vic Sr. grew the family's grove into a successful enterprise after surviving the major citrus freezes in 1957-58. In 1965, they began purchasing other citrus groves in the area, and by 1984, they had started a harvesting company. Today Mr. Story serves as the President and Chairman of the Board of The Story Companies for the family farm. He has passed on the management of the family business to his two sons, Kyle and Matt.

This October, Mr. Story and his family will head to Moultrie, Georgia for the Sunbelt Ag Expo, where he will compete with nine other state winners for the Southeastern Farmer of the Year. He is most deserving of being named 2015 Florida Farmer of the Year. His leadership, dedication, and passion continue to be an inspiration to us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL RICK HARNEY, JR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Colonel Rick Harney, Jr. on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Army. Throughout his 37 year career, Col. Harney has selflessly served our country and community; namely, during the time he spent as Director of the United States Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC) at the Carlisle Barracks, which I am honored to represent. USAHEC is a tremendous institution within my congressional district charged with educating members of our Armed Forces and honoring soldiers—past and present.

Col. Harney enlisted in the Army in August of 1978. In 1987, after matriculating from the United States Officer Candidate School in Fort Benning, Georgia as a Distinguished Military Graduate, he received his commission as a Field Artillery Lieutenant. He has undertaken many notable assignments, including Assistant Commandant and Chief at the United States Army Quartermaster School in Fort Lee, Virginia, and Commander of the Defense Distribution Center at the Anniston Army Depot in Alabama. Such roles have enabled Col. Harney to positively influence his colleagues, as well as the future strategic leaders of our military.

A Magna Cum Laude graduate from Hawaii Pacific University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, he also holds an impressive number of advanced degrees, including a Master of Business Administration from Webster University, a Master of Military Arts and Science from the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the Air War College. In addition to his academic success, Col. Harney has received an extensive amount of awards and decorations. These include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Meritorious Service Medal with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Service Achievement Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Meritorious Unit Award with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Superior Unit Award, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and Parachute Rigger Badge. Such accolades are indicative of the high caliber of his dedicated service to our nation.

On July 7th, 2014, Col. Harney assumed duties as the Director of the USAHEC at the Carlisle Barracks in my congressional district. As an instructor and educator, Col. Harney has significantly improved the experiences of his fellow instructors and students. The initiatives and programs he has implemented have shaped the lives of the future leaders of our military, and have enhanced the effectiveness of the United States Army War College. Even though he will no longer be present at USAHEC on a day-to-day basis, his legacy will inevitably carry on.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to congratulate Col. Harney on the culmination of a distin-

guished, 37 year career in the United States Army. I hope that he will celebrate the occasion in the company of his wife, Leslie, his children, Dominick, Aerin, Marc, and Ashley, and his grandchildren, Izumi, Eugene, Marc, Marvelo, Mecca, Ayrielle, and Ash'kelon. I wish him all the best in this next chapter of his life.

IN HONOR OF EMMA HARRIS ARMSTRONG

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the accomplishments of an extraordinary woman, Mrs. Emma Harris Armstrong. Throughout her 99 years, Mrs. Armstrong has experienced important moments in history and has also continuously striven to improve the lives of her family, friends, and community.

Mrs. Armstrong's hardworking and independent attitude grew out of her childhood and subsequent life experiences. Growing up as the third child of twelve siblings, she, like her siblings, helped with household chores and sharecropping, while worshipping at the Mount Olive Baptist Church and attending school. At the Brunswick Courthouse in Georgia, Emma Harris Armstrong married John "Jackie" Armstrong. During their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong traveled across the United States to accommodate Mr. Armstrong's military career. During and after World War II, Mrs. Armstrong resided in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Mrs. Armstrong often passed the time playing tennis with other Army wives, eventually becoming quite good at the sport. Through her and her husband's travels, Mrs. Armstrong cultivated a love for travel and the beautiful sites of this country.

Mrs. Armstrong has seen an incredible amount of change during her lifetime. During her life, Mrs. Armstrong has seen the devastating effects of the Great Depression, the desperate times of World War II, and the landing of the first man on the moon. Mrs. Armstrong lived through the painful effects of discrimination, however, despite everything, she always approached the evils of segregation with love in her heart. Through her independence and strong will, Mrs. Armstrong raised two children in the midst of these turbulent times while still finding time to be actively involved in her church, the community, and politics. Mrs. Armstrong worked on the Senate campaigns for both Senator George McGovern and Senator Tim Johnson.

On most days, Mrs. Armstrong can be found attending church activities, spending time with family, and devoting her time to the community. Throughout her years, Mrs. Armstrong has always treated all her family, friends, and visitors with graciousness and kindness.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible perseverance and steadfastness of this woman. Mrs. Emma Harris Armstrong is a great lady whose love and dedication inspires numerous people around her. I ask my colleagues to join me in venerating this distinguished individual.

HONORING SHARON P. PEARCE, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Sharon P. Pearce, CRNA, MSN, of Lexington, North Carolina. Ms. Pearce's term as president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) will soon come to an end.

Throughout her presidency at the AANA, Ms. Pearce has been a strong advocate for patient safety and the practice of nurse anesthesia. She has worked tirelessly to advance policies that modernize the industry and meet the unique needs of patients. Ms. Pearce has also been a vocal advocate for veterans' access to quality healthcare.

Ms. Pearce has served as a CRNA for more than 20 years and has made great contributions to the healthcare system in North Carolina. She has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to professional development having received her Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, a Certificate in Nurse Anesthesia from Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and an Associate Degree in Nursing from Davidson County Community College.

Ms. Pearce has been an active member of numerous AANA committees and has previously served in AANA leadership positions including President-Elect, Vice President, and Region 2 Director. She has even served as President of the North Carolina Association of Nurse Anesthetists. Ms. Pearce produced the AANA Public Relations award winning video, "The Best Kept Secret in Healthcare," and is nationally recognized as a distinguished speaker on anesthesia topics.

Equally as impressive to her leadership in her official capacity as a CRNA has been her involvement in philanthropic endeavors. Among other charitable acts, Ms. Pearce has served on the board of directors for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, where she started and led a "Walk to Cure Diabetes" that raised nearly \$500,000 for research.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Sharon P. Pearce, CRNA, MSN, for her notable career and her esteemed service as the most recent president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

A SACRED TRUST: CELEBRATING MEDICARE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity today to mark the 50th anniversary of Medicare and to express my strong support for the programs that provide health coverage for older Americans.

Fifty years ago, our country made a commitment to our seniors. A commitment that said

if you worked hard and paid into the system you would have access to quality healthcare in retirement. To this day, Medicare continues to provide health insurance coverage for millions of Americans age 65 and older, and adults with permanent disabilities. Medicare, along with Social Security, is a sacred trust that I have consistently fought to preserve and one that we must continue to protect for the 54 million Americans enrolled in Medicare today—and those who will enroll throughout our nation's tomorrows.

Amended and improved throughout the years, Medicare has come to play a key role in providing health coverage to millions of Americans. The Social Security Amendments of 1965, established Medicaid to ensure low-income families have access to healthcare; Social Security Amendments of 1972, extended Medicare eligibility to individuals under age 65 with long-term disabilities; then later the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2006, established the Medicare Advantage program and a new landmark prescription drug benefit known as Medicare Part D.

In addition to large scale changes to the program, I have supported and worked on policies that address specific aspects of Medicare to both raise the quality of life for beneficiaries while also saving the program money in the long run. For example, I authored legislation that was signed into law (PL 100–203) to provide Medicare coverage for therapeutic shoes for seniors with severe diabetic foot disease. At the time, Medicare covered costly amputations—which an estimated 25,600 seniors received annually—but not the therapeutic shoes that would prevent the need for those amputations. The American Diabetes Association estimated that my bill would save Medicare over \$100 million in one year alone, while the affordable and available foot care would spare seniors the trauma of an amputation.

And my work to sustain and protect the program continues. Earlier this year I was pleased to lend my support to the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (PL: 114–10) which finally repealed the flawed SGR—the statutory method for determining the annual update to the Medicare physician fee schedule. Previous temporary patches to the SGR were unsustainable and unproductive, leaving seniors questioning if they could visit their own doctors if the so-called patches were not extended.

A final repeal of the SGR modernizes the formula for determining Medicare reimbursements and will help the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid transition to a new system intended to incentivize quality of care and overall health improvements. This law allows seniors to retain access to quality healthcare, establishes predictability for the doctors who treat Medicare beneficiaries, and continues to give seniors the security and confidence they need when making healthcare decisions.

With that work successfully accomplished, we can and must do even more to strengthen Medicare and ensure the healthcare needs of all seniors are met, now and into the future.

Accordingly, yesterday, I introduced the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Innovation Act. My new bill, introduced with a group of bipartisan co-sponsors—including the lead Democratic cosponsor Rep. EARL BLUMENAUER, the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health Chairman

KEVIN BRADY and Ranking Member JIM MCDERMOTT—will allow CMS to test models that bring PACE's effective care plans to more seniors as well as individuals with disabilities.

By way of background, PACE is an effective, integrated and community-based program that works to raise quality of life of senior citizens, while keeping them in their homes and supporting their independence. It delivers the entire range of medical and long-term services including: medical care and prescription drug services; physical or occupational therapy; day or respite care; and medical specialties, such as dentistry, optometry, and podiatry.

Currently, participating in a PACE program is limited to those aged 55 and older who meet state-specified criteria for needing a nursing home level of care (LOC). However, many populations—including younger individuals, people with multiple chronic conditions and disabilities, seniors who need comprehensive care but do not yet meet the nursing home LOC standard—could benefit from the all-inclusive nature of the PACE model.

Having worked to bring the first PACE program to New Jersey, St. Francis Medical Center's Living Independently for the Elderly (LIFE) in Trenton, I've personally visited seniors who are enrolled in PACE and witnessed how this important program works to raise the quality of life of its enrollees. Today over 100 PACE programs are serving seniors throughout the country including four, soon to be five, centers in my home state of New Jersey. This bill is important to build on the success of the program and make it better, offering better comprehensive care and preserving the dignity of those most deserving of our care and attention.

To further strengthen the Medicare system and aid those individuals and families who are facing the reality of Alzheimer's disease, I also recently introduced the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act (HR 1559). My HOPE Act would provide for Medicare coverage of a care-planning session for newly diagnosed patients and their family caregivers or legal representatives.

Mr. Speaker, my Alzheimer's legislation will fill an important gap in current Medicare services. Take for example an experience of one of my constituents, Mary Gerard of Ocean New Jersey. Mary was one of the 15 million family members and friends who act as unpaid caregivers to Alzheimer's and dementia patients across the country every year.

When her mother Helen was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, Mary took charge and was there with her mother day in and day out—faithfully and lovingly—until she passed. She is a trained critical care nurse. She was equipped with knowledge and resources that many first time caregivers do not have. Yet even with a medical services background, she still struggled with the challenges of her new life as a caregiver.

Alzheimer's caregivers provide an estimated 17 billion hours of unpaid care every year. The emotional and financial toll can be immense. Many are untrained and offered little guidance to function in their new role. Navigating the long-term care system is a daunting task and can appear overwhelming, particularly for those who have only recently received the news that a loved one has Alzheimer's disease.

Upon receiving this diagnosis, patients and their families—like Mary's—are frequently at a loss for how to effectively plan for the next

stage of their lives. Passage of my legislation will empower individuals with much-needed information to outline their future treatments and care—giving patients HOPE, and a plan for their future.

As our population ages, it is imperative that we preserve and expand access to the services that enable senior citizens to live healthy and productive lives, and give seniors the security and confidence they need when planning for their future medical care.

Strengthening and preserving Medicare is a promise that every preceding generation has made and kept. It is our duty to continue to honor the senior citizens in New Jersey and around the country who have worked hard to provide for their families and help build our communities and deliver on promises made, for—at a minimum—another 50 years to come.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH BIRTHDAY OF MS. KERI LEE SMITH OF ROSEVILLE, CA

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Keri Lee Smith of Roseville, CA, as she celebrates her 50th birthday today, July 29, 2015.

A fourth generation Californian, Keri Lee is an active member in the community of Roseville. Keri graduated from CSU Chico in 1988, earning a BS in Business with a minor in Recreation Administration. She received her teaching credentials from CSU Chico in 1991. She later earned a Masters of Education from the University of LaVerne and received a G.A.T.E. certificate from UC Davis. Keri has been teaching for over a decade in the greater Roseville area, and currently teaches math and life sciences at Western Sierra Collegiate Academy in Rocklin and educates future teachers as a professor at Chapman University.

Agriculture has long been a part of Keri Lee's life. She was born in Chico and raised on a family farm her great-grandfather began in 1918 in Clarks Valley, part of the California coastal range. Later, the farming operation moved to Butte City near the Sacramento River, where her siblings continue the enterprise today. When she's not teaching, Keri finds time to be an active member of the California Women in Agriculture.

Keri Lee is a loving wife to her husband Scott and a dedicated mother to their three children: Emma, Garret, and Maddox. Keri spends much of her time shuttling the children between sports and scouts, cheering them on at ball fields, and shaping them into confident future leaders. Her role as a mother also includes service as the President of the Roseville High School Parents Club, a Girl Scout Troop Leader, and a member of the Parent-Teacher Council. In her limited spare time, Keri enjoys to read, bake, and travel.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ms. Keri Lee Smith on this special day, and in wishing her a happy 50th birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF AMOS
LYNCH

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life achievements of Amos H. Lynch, Sr.

Amos served as a leader in civil rights, business, and journalism in Columbus and throughout Ohio. Amos was relentless in pushing for a more equal and prosperous city, state, and country and he inspired a generation to continue to improve on his vision. The City of Columbus is a better place because of Amos' efforts and dedication. I am honored to have known him.

When Amos graduated from Columbus South High School in 1943, he had already spent years writing for neighborhood papers. He would go on to establish three newspapers in Columbus: the Ohio Sentinel, the Call and Post, and the Columbus Post. As a student at The Ohio State University at the height of World War II, he was drafted into the Navy and served the next three years treating wounded members of the military in New York and Illinois.

During his 2011 induction into the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame, he stated "I learned early in my life that the written word is the most powerful tool for acquiring equal civil rights for all, and that newspapers were the best method for getting the word out." Amos tirelessly called for greater economic opportunities for African-Americans and integration in schools and housing.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I would like to recognize Amos for his devotion to the great state of Ohio and to all of the communities that have benefitted from his invaluable contributions.

HONORING MS. SHAR KNUTSON

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Shar Knutson, who on October 15th, 2015 will retire from her post as the first woman to serve as president of Minnesota AFL-CIO. Ms. Knutson has led the 300,000-member state branch of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) since 2009.

The Labor movement runs deep for Ms. Knutson, who was raised in a union family and worked a union job as a single parent, experiencing firsthand the benefits of organizing for improving lives.

Prior to her election in August 2009, Ms. Knutson served as president of the St. Paul Regional Labor Federation for a decade. One of her signature victories occurred in 1999, when she led a coalition of labor and community leaders to successfully oppose then-St. Paul Mayor Norm Coleman's effort to outsource the city's public water works to a non-union firm.

Before her union work, she was a policy analyst to former St. Paul Mayor Jim Scheibel, specializing in labor, health and immigration issues. She served on the Greater Twin Cities United Way board as well as the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs Advisory Council.

As head of the Minnesota AFL-CIO, Ms. Knutson helped lead the coalition that successfully raised Minnesota's minimum wage, coordinated efforts that kept a "Right to Work" constitutional amendment off the ballot, and increased political participation among union members. Also under her leadership, the Minnesota AFL-CIO successfully passed legislation extending unemployment benefits for locked out workers, opened up new avenues for women and young workers to be involved in the labor movement, and built an infrastructure to support affiliate unions in their organizing efforts.

I am privileged to recognize the decades of tireless advocacy of Ms. Shar Knutson, whose contributions to Minnesota's workers will be felt for years to come.

TRIBUTE TO FIREFIGHTERS AT
MOYERS CORNERS FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deputy Chief Frank Crispin, Deputy Chief Steve Zaferakis, Firefighter Phil Vogt, Firefighter Ryan Whitmore, and Firefighter Jeremy Corsaro of the Moyers Corners Fire Department. On December 25, 2014, Moyers Corners Fire Department was alerted to a residential fire in Liverpool, New York. Upon arrival, these five members of the Fire Department were advised that there were victims within the residence. Working collectively, these firefighters quickly rescued the two individuals trapped within the residence. Without hesitation, upon removing the victims from the residence, these firefighters began emergency medical efforts on the victims, one of which was found to be in full cardiac arrest. Due to the rescue and life-saving medical efforts of these firefighters, both victims survived the incident, were transported to Upstate Hospital, and are recovering from their injuries.

The bravery and heroism of Deputy Chief Crispin, Deputy Chief Zaferakis, Firefighter Vogt, Firefighter Whitmore, and Firefighter Corsaro displayed on Christmas Day of 2014, have earned them the 2015 Firemen's Association of the State of New York's Firefighters of the Year Award. I am proud to recognize these courageous individuals for their service to Central New York and congratulate them on their receipt of the FASNY 2015 Firefighters of the Year Award.

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SILVETTE WOMEN'S GOLF CLUB

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 80th Anniversary of the Silvette Women's Golf Club of Staten Island.

Established in 1935, the Silvette Women's Golf Club is the oldest women's public golf club in the State of New York. The Silvettes started out as a group of ten women who came together to organize friendly tournaments. After only three years, the Silvettes grew in membership as their weekly tournaments became increasingly popular with a prize of two dollars for first and second place.

The Silvettes continue to play in many tournaments as well as interclub matches with other women's golf clubs in New York and New Jersey. However, their most important event is the annual Silvette Memorial Classic. On the first day of the Classic, the Silvettes meet in the morning on the green of the 6th hole and in a gesture of remembrance, each golfer draws the name of a deceased Silvette and plays in her memory.

Throughout their history, the Silvettes have been active in their community, and have held many tournaments to benefit various charities over the years. Their dedication to the game and their community shows why the Silvettes have had such a presence since 1935.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House join me in honoring the Silvette Women's Golf Club of Staten Island on their 80th Anniversary.

HONORING CASA ALLEGRA
COMMUNITY SERVICES

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Casa Allegra Community Services (CACS), which has been providing residential support, community integration and income earning opportunities for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities in the San Francisco Bay Area for four decades.

In 1975, Chris Bonfiglio and Eileen Falvey co-founded CACS in San Rafael, California to provide housing for five young people with disabilities facing unexpected homelessness. They not only succeeded in their goal, but have grown the organization significantly from its origins. Today CACS runs two long-term care homes along with numerous living, educational, and career programs for individuals with disabilities in seven counties across the region.

The hard work undertaken by the staff and leadership at CACS has impacted many in its 40 years. CACS' efforts extend beyond meeting basic needs—which it performs well and with compassion—by striving to encourage people with disabilities to lead meaningful lives.

CACS has played a crucial and necessary role in our community by serving as a voice for those who need it most. Mr. Speaker, it is fitting to honor and thank Casa Allegra Community Services on their 40th Anniversary for their commitment to bettering the lives of those with disabilities.

HONORING COMMUNITY CHAMPION
DR. WILLIAM DICUCCIO

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize one of my constituents from Western Pennsylvania, Dr. William DiCuccio. Dr. DiCuccio is a prestigious medical professional in Butler County, and his sincere desire to serve has had an international impact.

Dr. DiCuccio received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Saint Vincent College and then went on to attend Medical School at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. Shortly after graduation Dr. DiCuccio opened his own family practice, William A. DiCuccio M.D. & Associates, where he worked for the following 30 years. Throughout his career, Dr. DiCuccio has maintained an honorable reputation while serving in various prominent positions within the community. These positions include Vice President of Medical Affairs for Butler Health System, Medical Director for Butler County Prison, and his current position as Medical Director, at Sunnyview Nursing Home. Dr. DiCuccio humbly embraced each of these roles, taking full advantage of his ability to positively influence the lives of those around him.

Due to his professionalism and expertise, Dr. DiCuccio's involvement has been an asset to various advisory boards, including Butler County Community College (Vice Chairman, Board of Directors), World Servants (Board Member), Community Health Clinic of Butler (Chairman/Board Member), St. Vincent College-Boyer School (Board Member), Gaiser Center (Board Member), and Mission Development Villa Hermosa-Dominican Republic (Director). In addition, Dr. DiCuccio has voluntarily participated in a number of civic organizations and professional societies, continuously giving back to the community. He is currently an active member of the American Academy of Family Physicians, American Geriatrics Society, Pennsylvania Medical Society, and the Butler County Medical Society.

When he's not caring for patients, Dr. DiCuccio enjoys spending time with his family, participating within his church, traveling, and golfing. These very interests were the driving factors behind Dr. DiCuccio's first trip to the Dominican Republic, a trip which would forever change his life. While traveling abroad, Dr. DiCuccio and his wife, Marge, visited a small barrio called Villa Hermosa, a poverty-stricken town located about 70 miles from the Dominican Republic's capital city, Santo Domingo. Villa Hermosa, which means "beautiful village" in English, is home to 4,500 of the most genuine people, whose positive attitudes remain resilient despite their lack of basic necessities.

Villa Hermosa consisted of miles of shacks, constructed from scrap metal. The community was without drinking water, sewage systems, and electricity; however, there was an abundance of joy. The children that ran through the streets did not have clothing on their backs or shoes on their feet, yet there were smiles on their faces. The time spent with these wonder-

ful people was inspirational and life-changing for Dr. DiCuccio and within an hour of departure from Villa Hermosa, he realized God led him there for a very specific purpose.

Dr. William and Marge DiCuccio started the "Hope Project" which has collaborated with World Servants, various churches, and individual sponsorships, all focused on the same objective of improving the quality of life for others. Since Dr. DiCuccio took the initiative, the transformations within Villa Hermosa have been immeasurable: The local church, which serves as the heart of the community, has been repaired and expanded, allowing them to accommodate for large crowds. A brand new grade school, where 400 students are educated, fed, immunized, clothed, and cared for in general, has been constructed and developed. In addition, this school brings countless benefits to the surrounding community, one of those being the fact that it employs a number of local residents, including seven teachers, a psychologist, a principal, a secretary, and cleaning staff. In order to produce clean drinking water, a well was drilled and a water purification plant was constructed. This plant produces 4,000 gallons of water per hour, sold to benefit the people of Villa Hermosa. Most recently, a medical clinic was constructed and is currently being run by Medical Missions International. This clinic is combating the leading cause of death in the Dominican Republic, namely the spread of communicable diseases.

In serving God, his family, and all of those in need, Dr. DiCuccio is an absolute inspiration. His compassion and generosity has positively influenced the lives of so many, and will continue to do so for years to come. Therefore, on behalf of the Third Congressional District of Pennsylvania, along with Villa Hermosa, I would like to express sincere gratitude and appreciation to Dr. William DiCuccio, an admirable professional, a selfless individual, and a true Community Champion.

CELEBRATING LIBERIAN
INDEPENDENCE

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the 168th anniversary of independence for the Republic of Liberia.

In 1847, after decades under the rule of the American Colonization Society, the Republic of Liberia declared its independence in order to establish a free, sovereign state in West Africa.

Today, my home state of Rhode Island is home to a thriving Liberian-American community of 15,000 men, women, and children who help make our state such a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.

I am delighted today to celebrate this great country, its people, their traditions, its strong ties to the United States, and the lasting impact this community has made in Rhode Island and other places all across America.

Last year, I had the honor of visiting Liberia with the United Nations Foundation and speaking with officials there about ways to

strengthen ties between our two countries and support peacekeeping efforts in West Africa.

I extend my best wishes and congratulations to Liberia's President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and to all those celebrating in Liberia and around the world this week.

CELEBRATING THE MINNESOTA
SPOKESMAN-RECORDER'S 80TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate and honor the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder on its 80th Anniversary. The Spokesman-Recorder is the oldest African-American business in Minnesota and one of the oldest African-American newspapers in the United States. A longstanding pillar and voice of the Minnesota African-American community since its inception in 1934, the Spokesman-Recorder remains a journalistic force to this day.

Started as two separate papers, the Minneapolis Spokesman and the St. Paul Recorder were founded on August 10, 1934 by Cecil E. Newman. Mr. Newman was truly invested in the lives and communities his papers reached. He designed both papers as communication vehicles to unite, educate, inspire and empower the Twin Cities African-American community. When founding his publications, Mr. Newman was quoted as saying, "I didn't have enough money to begin one newspaper, so I began publishing two."

Mr. Newman was an important voice in the civil rights era, advising Senators Hubert H. Humphrey (D-MN) and Clifford P. Case (R-NJ) throughout the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as well as Senator Walter F. Mondale (D-MN) on the Fair Housing Act of 1968. Mr. Newman's commitment to civil and human rights and his bipartisan advocacy gained the papers respect and influence.

Now one publication, the Spokesman-Recorder, has been a springboard for African-American talent and continues to nurture and support talented writers, photographers and journalists. The Spokesman-Recorder helped launch the careers of internationally-renowned photographer and writer Gordon Parks and honored U.S. journalist and former Ambassador to Finland, Carl Rowan.

After Mr. Newman's passing in 1976, his wife Launa took the helm as publisher. Mrs. Newman remained in that role for 32 years until she handed the reins to their granddaughter, Tracey Williams-Dillard, in 2008. Ms. Williams-Dillard has worked to continue Cecil Newman's legacy and the Spokesman-Recorder now connects the entire state of Minnesota through print and digital content.

I am proud to represent the congressional district that the Spokesman-Recorder and the Newman family call home. Today, I congratulate the Spokesman-Recorder for its accomplishments, its lasting legacy, and the decades of hard work required to publish one of the top African-American owned newspapers in the United States.

HONORING MR. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL ON THE OCCASION OF HIS APPOINTMENT AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FEDERAL WATER POLICY AT THE CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to recognize Joaquin Esquivel on his appointment to serve as Assistant Secretary for Federal Water Policy at the California Natural Resources Agency.

Mr. Esquivel has served on U.S. Senator BARBARA BOXER'S staff for over 8 years, most recently serving as Legislative Assistant and Director of Information and Technology. During his time with Senator BOXER, Mr. Esquivel has developed policy expertise in a variety of issues critical to California including water policy, agriculture, tribal issues, and the Salton Sea. Among his many contributions to federal water policy, Mr. Esquivel has been instrumental in the creation of comprehensive drought resiliency legislation and helped write the Water in the 21st Century Act (W21).

A native to the Coachella Valley, Mr. Esquivel grew up in La Quinta. His parents both worked for Coachella Valley Unified School District and his grandparents were farmworkers. After graduating from La Quinta High School, Mr. Esquivel went on to earn a bachelor's degree in English at the University of California, Santa Barbara, fulfilling his passion for literature and its ability to reflect and catalyze social change. He then took a chance to pursue his dreams, stepping out of his comfort zone; in 2007 he moved to Washington, D.C., where he first started with Senator BOXER as an intern.

Mr. Esquivel's talent and success are an example of how our local youth can go on to make a difference for their communities. Furthermore, growing up in the Coachella Valley, he understands firsthand the unique struggles that our district faces with the decline of the Salton Sea. He has been a true champion of the Salton Sea, coordinating Senator BOXER'S efforts on this impending issue and shepherding authorizing language that would allow the Army Corps of Engineers to help with its restoration.

Mr. Esquivel's other legislative accomplishments include spearheading ideas and legislation to protect pollinators across California, which are essential to our state's almond production and other agricultural industries. Furthermore, as the Senator's lead staffer on tribal issues, Mr. Esquivel has worked to ensure the more than 100 federally recognized tribes in California have a voice in Congress.

I am proud to recognize Mr. Esquivel's contributions to our nation's water, tribal, and agricultural policies, and I look forward to seeing the vision and leadership he will bring to State of California.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE IMPROVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2015"

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I am reintroducing legislation to reform the Federal Protective Service (FPS).

The "Federal Protective Service Improvement and Accountability Act of 2015" seeks to improve FPS' ability to carry out its mission to protect the 1.4 million Federal employees and visitors that access more than 9,500 Federal facilities across the nation.

After the 1995 domestic terrorist attacks on the Alfred P. Murrah Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, there was broad recognition that Federal buildings, which are symbols of our democracy, must be protected against terrorist attacks while remaining accessible to citizens.

In recent years, the increasing number of terrorist plots against diverse U.S. government facilities in Illinois, Washington State, and New York City as well as attacks on government buildings in other western democracies, such as Canada and Norway, has brought into focus the need to strengthen U.S. Federal building security.

Unfortunately, the primary agency responsible for providing such security—the Federal Protective Service—has a range of longstanding administrative challenges that, to my mind, raise questions about its ability to provide adequate Federal building security.

To ensure that FPS makes progress on its fundamental challenges, my legislation calls for immediate attention to address staffing, training, and contractor oversight challenges that the Government Accountability Office has identified as problematic.

It also directs FPS to not only put in place uniform minimum training and certification standards for all guards, regardless of whether they are contract guards or Federal employees, but develop and implement a strategy for using covert testing to improve performance of security screening at FPS-protected facilities.

Importantly, my legislation recognizes that though FPS is responsible for security, the Interagency Security Committee, comprised of Federal agencies that are tenants, has a major role to play in ensuring that risk-based security practices are in use.

Specifically, my bill requires DHS to assess the degree to which the consensus standard for risk management, which was developed by the Interagency Security Committee, has been adopted at non-military Federal facilities.

My legislation also is forward-looking.

It directs DHS to implement a one-year pilot program to research the advantages of converting guard positions at the highest risk FPS-protected facilities from contract guard positions to Federal positions.

Additionally, my legislation requires DHS to take a hard look at whether the fee-based system under which FPS currently operates provides adequate resources to cover the actual costs that FPS incurs.

Since October 2014, when terrorists attacked government sites in Canada, FPS' has been operating at an enhanced level, at the direction of DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson.

The resulting increased tempo FPS' security operations has necessitated the deployment of more law enforcement to higher-sensitivity facilities, increases in the frequency of visitor and vehicle screening, and enhancements to explosive canine detection and patrol operations.

Each time that FPS is directed to heighten security operations, new costs are incurred. FPS has no choice but to absorb those costs, often, I suspect, at the expense of addressing longstanding administrative challenges.

GAO, since 2009, has identified weaknesses in FPS' oversight of contract guards as an issue.

Now is the time, from a security and a taxpayer perspective, to have a long overdue discussion about whether FPS' fee model is designed to not only cover surges in protective activities but also to cover the costs of implementing core oversight and administration reforms that GAO has repeatedly recommended.

That discussion must include looking at whether some combination of appropriations and fees need to be part of the equation.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I urge Members to cosponsor the "Federal Protective Service Improvement and Accountability Act of 2015".

**HONORING THE COAST GUARD'S
225TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Coast Guard's storied history of service to our nation. Next week, on August 4th, the Coast Guard will celebrate its 225th anniversary.

On that day in 1790, President George Washington signed an act establishing ten cutters, known as the Revenue Marine Service. These cutters were to be strategically positioned near our ports and used for the collection of tariffs. They were essential to our young Nation's finances, maritime security and trade activities. Over the years, several other services such as the Cutter Service, the Lighthouse Service, and the Life-Saving Service joined together to ultimately become the U.S. Coast Guard.

While the service is vastly different than originally established, the Coast Guard has evolved with the changing threats to our nation. Following the events of September 11, 2001 the Coast Guard proved to be an even greater asset to our nation as their role in security operations significantly expanded through heightened vigilance in ports and increased presence along our coastline.

As one of the five armed forces of the United States and the only military organization within the Department of Homeland Security, the Coast Guard protects our Nation's maritime interests at home and abroad. Their presence along our rivers, in the ports, coastal regions and on the high seas is vital to our national security.

Right now there are Coast Guard men and women aboard buoy tenders and ice breakers keeping shipping lanes open ensuring a steady flow of commerce and transportation. National Security Cutters are conducting drug interdictions in the Caribbean and Eastern Pacific keeping drugs off of our streets. Air stations and small boat stations are on call

around the clock ready to save mariners in distress. Vessel examiners are inspecting commercial ships to keep them operating safely and ensuring the environmental stewardship of our waters.

The Coast Guard has a large presence in my district conducting missions vital to the safety and prosperity of the Great Lakes. I am proud to represent the Coast Guard men and women at Sector Detroit and adjoining stations, as well as Air Station Detroit which operates out of Selfridge Air National Guard Base. I know the boaters in Michigan's 10th district are in good hands.

Just two weeks ago, I met with the Commandant of the Coast Guard, Admiral Paul Zukunft, a superb leader with a bold vision that makes me optimistic for the future of this great service.

The Coast Guard's values of honor, respect, and devotion to duty are seen day in and day out by the men and women who proudly wear the uniform. We are fortunate that they go to work every day ready to serve and protect the American people.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I want to commend the men and women of the Coast Guard for their many years of service and wish them a happy 225th anniversary.

Semper Paratus.

WASHINGTON TIMES ARTICLE: AN EXCUSE FOR CRUSHING KRATOM: THE FDA'S UNDUE SCRUTINY IS UNSCIENTIFIC

HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN RADEWAGEN

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit an article from the July 23, 2015 edition of the Washington Times entitled, *An excuse for crushing kratom: The FDA's undue scrutiny is unscientific.*

(By Lloyd Billingsley—Thursday, July 23, 2015)

Last year, Americans spent an estimated \$374 billion on prescription drugs, up 13 percent from the year before. These drugs include OxyContin, Vicodin, Percocet and others that the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved for sale without regard to their potential for abuse.

Meanwhile, the "potential for abuse" was used for many years to block even a discussion of the possible medical benefits of cannabis. And now federal officials are using it again to attack another potential natural remedy, kratom.

Kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa*), which derives from a tree that grows in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, has been found to reduce pain, lessen dependence on opiates (like OxyContin), and work as a mild stimulant.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration considers kratom a "drug of concern." The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) calls it "dangerous."

Last year, U.S. marshals, at the request of the FDA, seized more than 25,000 pounds of raw kratom in Van Nuys, Calif. The action, explained Melinda Plaisier, FDA associate commissioner for regulatory affairs, "was taken to safeguard the public from this dangerous product." Ms. Plaisier called kratom "a botanical substance that poses a risk to

public health and has the potential for abuse."

Kratom's potential for benefit was of no apparent concern.

Edward Boyer, professor of emergency medicine and director of medical toxicology at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, told *Scientific American* in 2013 that kratom blunts a patient's withdrawal from opioids "awfully, awfully well."

Dr. Boyer explained that kratom binds with serotonin receptors. "So if you want to treat depression, if you want to treat opioid pain, if you want to treat sleepiness," kratom "really puts it all together." It gives addicts access to a drug that effectively treats pain without causing respiratory problems.

Oregon resident Paul Kemp occasionally uses kratom, he says, to ease back pain, help him relax and gain energy. Last year Mr. Kemp told reporters it was "ludicrous" for the FDA to stop the importation of kratom on the grounds that it "may be" dangerous, when FDA-approved products such as OxyContin are known to be dangerous.

Likewise, FDA-approved Xanax and Valium are often abused, along with the "psychostimulant" Adderall, used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

What bothers the FDA, Mr. Kemp writes, is that kratom is being used very effectively as "a way for America's prescription drug addicts to break free without experiencing the usually traumatic withdrawal symptoms that stop most victims of OxyContin and other opioids from getting clean."

Edward Boyer, the toxicology professor, acknowledges that kratom can be abused, but "speaking as a scientist, a physician and a practicing clinician, I think the fears of adverse events don't mean you stop the scientific discovery process totally," he told *Scientific American*.

If big pharma isn't behind something, the attitude seems to be in Washington, legislators and regulators don't even want to talk about it. But talk and listen they should.

Scientific research should continue. Federal and state officials need to be open-minded, see where the scientific research leads, and consider all the evidence—including the testimony of people like Paul Kemp who swear that kratom has helped them.

Banning kratom or banning its ingredients, as Indiana has done, is the wrong message at the wrong time.

A better option at this stage would be to let the voters decide, as California did in 1996 with medicinal marijuana. Let voters decide if Kratom should be banned—without proof—as a dangerous menace, or whether individuals suffering from withdrawal pain and other maladies should be free to make their own informed choices.

HONORING MARGARET A. "ANNIE"
LAUDICK

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Margaret A. "Annie" Laudick, a loving wife and the mother of my close friend, Andy Laudick.

Annie was a devoted wife to James, her husband of 47 years, as well as an adoring mother and grandmother to her two children and nine granddaughters. She was a woman of great faith, belonging to St. Mary's Catholic Church. She was also a member of the Ea-

gles Ladies Auxiliary and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Annie will be greatly missed by not only her family, but also by the Greensburg community. Her capacity for love and compassion is unrivaled, and I consider it a privilege to have known such a benevolent and sincere woman.

On a personal note, I will never forget Annie's smile. In high school, I remember going to Andy's house to swim at their pond. And, every time I visited, I would be greeted by his mom's big smile.

She was a remarkable woman who will truly be missed by everyone whose lives she touched. Today, it is my privilege to honor the life of Margaret A. Laudick.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CAREER
OF GEORGE KUBOTA, SR., AND
HIS SONS HERB AND GEORGE,
JR.

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary life and career of George Kubota, Sr., as well as the lives and careers of his sons Herb Kubota and George Kubota, Jr. After decades of service as both small business owners and public servants, we celebrate and reflect upon their positive impact in Pend Oreille County, Washington.

George Kubota, Sr. was born in Japan in 1886. As a young man, he immigrated to the United States and settled in the small north-east Washington community of Newport, Washington, where he opened the first laundry in the area. His business, Kubota Steam Laundry, primarily served the mining, logging, milling, and railroad industries. As these industries grew to the north, he and his family moved to Metaline Falls, Washington, where they expanded and diversified their business. In 1929, he founded the Metaline Falls Trading Company, a hardware store that still operates today and is an integral part of both the community in Metaline Falls and the county.

In 1942, he was detained by the FBI and was due, along with his family, to be sent to an internment camp. However, due to his positive impact on the community, many residents throughout the northern part of the county made special efforts to prevent their internment. He became a citizen after the war. George was a true patriot, pioneer, and fixture of his community, serving the citizens of Pend Oreille County for decades. George died in 1988 at the age of 102.

George Kubota, Sr. also had two sons, George and Herb, who additionally deserve recognition for their service to the communities in northeast Washington. After receiving college degrees and serving their country in the Armed Forces, Herb and George joined their dad running the Metaline Falls Trading Company in the 1950s, and, like their father, became important fixtures of their community. Herb served for years as an EMT and devoted large portions of his life to help the elderly of the community. Both Herb and George served as volunteer firefighters until the mandatory retirement age. George Kubota, Jr. has also devoted significant time to public service, serving

several terms on the town council and as mayor of Metaline Falls. He has served on the boards of numerous community organizations and was instrumental in the construction and expansion of a medical clinic in Lone, Washington. Herb sadly passed away in 2005. George, now 84, continues to run the store their father founded. The massive contributions of these three men cannot be overstated—the scale and duration of their positive influence on the communities of Pend Oreille County goes beyond that of ordinary citizens.

So today, I rise to recognize George Kubota and his sons Herb and George for their dedication to family, community, and country. They have continuously gone above and beyond as citizens and public servants, and for all their accomplishments and service, we are grateful for their positive impact on Eastern Washington.

STOP DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING
FOR WOMEN'S SERVICES ACT
STATEMENT OF INTRODUCTION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing, along with my colleague Representative SUZANNE BONAMICI, the Stop Deceptive Advertising for Women's Services Act. This important bill protects the rights of women seeking family planning services.

Women deserve to receive comprehensive, impartial, and medically accurate information when making personal health decisions. Unfortunately, there are so-called Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs) that deliberately misinform or mislead women seeking information on family planning services. They pose as sources of unbiased pregnancy counseling, using deceptive propaganda to dissuade women from considering comprehensive birth-control options or legal abortion. These fake reproductive health clinics entice women through their doors under the pretense of providing the full range of reproductive options and services, and this bill would expose their deceptive tactics.

The Stop Deceptive Advertising for Women's Services Act directs the Federal Trade Commission to promulgate rules under the Federal Trade Commission Act, declaring it an unfair or deceptive act for an entity, such as a crisis pregnancy center, to advertise as a provider of abortion services if the entity does not provide abortion services.

Clearly, deception and intimidation have no place when a woman is seeking information about her pregnancy. Working together we can help stop the fraud and confusion these Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs) are perpetrating on the women of America.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation—because women deserve access to the best, most comprehensive healthcare information. Women need and deserve accurate and comprehensive information when making personal decisions about family planning, and so-called Crisis Pregnancy Centers provide neither. Our legislation would expose and stop deceptive and false advertising from CPCs.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD ALFRED THOMAS, LONGEST SERVING AND GREATEST PATROL OFFICER IN THE HISTORY OF THE HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to retired Senior Police Officer Edward Alfred Thomas of Houston, Texas, one of the first African American police officers to integrate the Houston Police Department and the longest serving in the Department's history.

So well, so ably, and so honorably did Officer Thomas serve the citizens of Houston that last month the Houston City Council voted unanimously to rename the Houston Police Department headquarters building as the "Edward A. Thomas Houston Police Department Headquarters Building."

This honor is well deserved because, as Houston Police Chief Charles McClelland has said, Officer Edward Alfred Thomas "is the epitome of what every police officer should be" and that it is both fitting and proper that "a man of his stature, character and outstanding ethics and morals be given this honor.

Mr. Speaker, Edward Alfred Thomas was born near Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1920 and went on to attend Southern University in Baton Rouge, where he played football before being drafted to the military during World War II, where he saw action with the U.S. Army at Normandy, in northern Africa, and during the Battle of the Bulge.

After the war and his honorable discharge from the Army, Edward Thomas became one of the first African American police officers in the city of Houston when he joined the Houston Police Department on January 12, 1948 and where he remained for the next 63 years until his retirement on July 23, 2011.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Thomas' more than six decades of hard work and courage paved the way for the hundreds of additional African American and officers of color who followed, including the current Houston Police Chief, Charles McClelland.

Although Officer Thomas enjoyed a long and distinguished career, this is not to say it was easy or without challenges, especially given the fact that Officer Thomas joined the Houston Police Department in 1948, more than 15 years before the height of the Civil Rights Movement.

When he began his career Officer Thomas was assigned to foot patrol at night patrolling the African American neighborhoods of Houston, the Third, Fourth and Fifth Wards.

Because of his race, Officer Thomas was not allowed to drive a squad car or to arrest White suspects without obtaining permission from his supervisor and at one point in his career, he was disciplined for speaking to a White meter maid who asked him to walk with her in order to avoid the unwanted attention and advances of nearby construction workers.

In those early years, Officer Thomas was not allowed to congregate with his white counterparts, he could not attend roll calls with white officers, and he could not eat in the cafeteria.

But Officer Thomas persevered and helped pave the way for many other African American police officers, like Chief McClelland and the more than 1,000 African American police officers who today comprise about 20 percent of the Houston Police Department.

Mr. Speaker, naming the 26-story headquarters building of the Houston Police Department after Officer Edward Alfred Thomas is a fitting tribute to a man who is, unarguably, one of the greatest police officers in the history of the Houston Police Department and remains one of the most revered and respected.

During his years of service to the city of Houston, Officer Thomas was named The 100 Club's "Officer of the Year," awarded a Chief of Police Commendation by former Chief of Police Lee P. Brown; and recognized twice by The 100 Club with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 1998 and 2011, respectively; and has received many letters of appreciation from citizens and supervisors.

Mr. Speaker, the renaming of the Houston Police Department headquarters building in honor of Officer Thomas was supported by the Houston Police Officer's Union (HPOU), the African American Police Officer League (AAPOL), Houston Police Organization of Spanish Speaking Officers (OSSO), and the Houston Organization of Public Employees (HOPE).

Chief McClelland is absolutely correct in noting that there could be no finer tribute to any patrol officer than to name the headquarters building in honor of "a patrol officer for 65 years who underwent intense, systemic discrimination," and to have his name on the building as an inspiration and example for others to follow.

INTRODUCTION OF THE POSTAL
INNOVATION ACT OF 2015

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the United States Postal Service (USPS) provides universal connectivity all across the country and a low cost delivery service that not just individual families rely on, but businesses of all sizes.

However, the Postal Service faces growing financial problems attributable to burdensome mandates in existing law and the continued decline in mail service volumes. As a result, the Postal Service is hard-pressed to identify cost-saving initiatives that can alleviate their financial woes while at the same time maintaining their high quality of service.

That is why I have introduced the Postal Innovation Act of 2015, which will authorize the Postal Service to take simple, common-sense steps towards modernization such as updating its fleet of vehicles to align with updated environmental and safety standards, and broadening its services to reflect the evolving demands of today's consumers.

The Postal Service must be given the flexibility to innovate and provide its customers modern services. By offering basic financial services, internet connectivity, and the ability to ship beer, wine, and spirits, this Act will allow the Postal Service to not only raise revenue, but remain a cornerstone of American communities.

In addition to raising revenue and increasing services to meet consumer demands, upgrading to energy efficient technology can reduce the postal fleet's carbon emissions while simultaneously cutting costs. This is critical because the federal government ought to lead by example, not lag decades behind. Further, implementing cutting-edge active safety and crash avoidance technology across the postal fleet will make streets safer for all users in every community in America.

The Postal Service is a vast and sprawling enterprise that touches almost every household six days a week. We will all benefit from preserving and improving this vital piece of America's infrastructure and fabric of life.

SUPPORT AN END TO CORRUPTION
IN GUATEMALA

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, one year ago, a surge of unaccompanied child migrants from Central America was front-page news. Although that humanitarian crisis at our borders appears to have abated, the difficulties and life-threatening challenges faced by many citizens in Central America continue. The region urgently needs support in order to address the root causes of outmigration—economic and social inequality, insecurity and injustice.

It is encouraging that the Obama Administration has worked with the governments of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras to present a request for \$1 billion to tackle the structural and multidimensional causes of migration through investments and programs to create jobs, expand education and social protection, strengthen public security and the judicial system, and improve transparency and efficiency in public administration. Congress is now considering this aid package in the House and Senate versions of the FY 2016 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bills. While I support the overall amount of the request, I do have concerns about how best to target funds so that they reach vulnerable and poor communities, and especially youth and families in those communities, who are most in need of support, while at the same time strengthening human rights and judicial systems in each of these countries.

In this context, I believe it is important to focus attention on the situation in Guatemala, which today is facing a critical juncture. Recent revelations of cases of widespread and deep-seated corruption in Guatemala raise serious concerns about the capacity of that government to be an effective partner in reducing poverty and inequality in the region. Evidence of massive and shameless looting of the state by high level Guatemalan officials in the Perez Molina government, the legislature and political parties has sparked a remarkable citizen mobilization. What started as urban, middle-class protests organized through social media networks has morphed into nationwide demonstrations demanding the resignation of President Perez Molina, and the immediate passage and implementation of fundamental reforms to electoral, judicial, civil service, and procurement systems. Some are calling for a 'government of national renovation' as a tran-

sition to begin to renew the political leadership and help restore citizen confidence in government.

I want to honor this unprecedented, continuing, and fearless rise of the Guatemalan people—students, people of all ethnic and religious groups, civil society organizations, and ordinary citizens of all ages are coming together with a common agenda against corruption and in favor of reform. That said, I note that frustration is growing as proposed reforms supported by the National Platform for Reform of the State—a coalition of over 100 civil society and academic organizations—are not progressing as demanded. And there are legitimate concerns expressed by civil society organizations that national elections scheduled for September 6th will take place in an environment that will enable fraud through illicit financing and in which threats will be used to intimidate voters. In this crucial moment, every citizen who is speaking out peacefully needs to be protected, defended and encouraged.

I also want to recognize the brave and excellent work of the International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala, CICIG, whose technical capacity has supported the bold investigative initiatives undertaken by the Guatemalan Attorney General's office to uproot corruption. When CICIG was established in 2007, it was described as a choice between the past and future. Guatemala recognized that it needed help controlling illegal, clandestine and corrupt power structures in the post-conflict years. CICIG is now at the heart of this challenging but potentially promising moment in Guatemala's history. Together with civil society and some dedicated leaders in Guatemala's justice system, the good women and men of CICIG are playing a critical role in helping move Guatemala towards justice and a better future. They, too, need protection and encouragement to keep up the good work.

Clearly, the next few weeks and months are critically important as the Guatemalan people work to figure out how to best address the challenges they face. At this important juncture, I urge the Obama Administration, including our U.S. diplomats and other agency representatives in Guatemala, to do their utmost to support Guatemalan civil society efforts to hold their own government accountable. Over the next weeks and months we will see whether Guatemala is capable of carrying out real change and moving closer to establishing a just, accountable and increasingly secure, equitable and prosperous country for all its citizens.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. CASSIE
WELCH

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Cassie Welch for her service to my office and the 21 Congressional District of California over the past year.

Ms. Welch was born in Savannah, Tennessee to Donnie and Marilyn Welch. After spending her youth in Savannah and completing her high school education, Ms. Welch attended the University of North Alabama, where she received a Bachelor's of Science in

Biology, Mississippi State University, where she received a Master's of Science in Animal Nutrition, and the University of Idaho, where she received a Doctorate of Philosophy in Animal Physiology.

After completing her education, Ms. Welch accepted a Fellowship in my Washington, D.C. office through the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Federation of Animal Science Societies. During her time in my office, she handled several legislative portfolios, including agriculture, animal rights, budget, housing, labor, natural resources, and social security.

On August 21, 2015, Ms. Welch's time in my office will come to an end. Ms. Welch will be moving to Iowa to begin the next chapter of her life. While I know she is very excited about her upcoming journey, she will be greatly missed as a member of my team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Cassie Welch for her public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing her well in this next chapter of her life.

RECOGNIZING THE BRANSON FFA
TRAP TEAM'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Branson High School Future Farmers of America Trap Team on their senior division championship win and overall third place victory at the 2015 Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation National Championship.

The Senior Division team, made up of Kennedy Mattox, Kory Gray, Jacob Anderson, Gage Dixon and Colten Calvert, hit 974 of 1,000 clay pigeons to take first place in their division. During the competition, Kennedy missed only one target, placing him above 697 other shooters to earn third place in the individual standings.

The Pirates' trap team earned a third place victory overall. It is the culmination of the Open Division team's fifth place victory, the Intermediate Advanced team's fourth place victory, the Intermediate Entry's third place victory and many other individual medals in sporting clays, handicap trap and regular trap.

The 2015 Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation National Championship had a record breaking number of entries, further showing the team's sharp skill and national achievement. The program is designed to use shooting sports to teach valuable skills such as sportsmanship, responsibility and teamwork to young individuals.

The Branson team, led by Coach Joe Henderson, has seen ample success in recent years and will compete at The American Trap Association's AIM Grand Nationals in August.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Branson High School FFA Trap Team for their accomplishments and hard work and in wishing them luck in their future endeavors.

HIRE VETS ACT OF 2015

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, as a combat veteran, I'm deeply concerned that the men and women of our military continue to struggle to find employment upon reentering civilian life. These individuals have not only displayed great courage but have acquired distinctive skills that make them ideal candidates for employment. Veterans who serve this country honorably shouldn't struggle to find employment, which is why I'm introducing the HIRE Vets Act of 2015.

The HIRE Vets Act is a bipartisan bill that would promote private sector recruiting, hiring, and retaining of men and women who served honorably in the U.S. military through a voluntary and effective program. Specifically, it would create an awards program recognizing the meaningful, verifiable efforts undertaken by employers—both large and small—to hire and retain veterans.

This program, designed to be self-funded and within the U.S. Department of Labor, will allow employers to proudly display one of four Presidential Awards on their products and marketing materials. These "HIRE Vets Medallions"—Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum—would be awarded to employers that achieve specific hiring and retention goals each year.

The program also establishes similar tiered awards for small and mid-sized employers with fewer than 500 employees. To ensure proper oversight, the Secretary of Labor would be required to provide Congress with annual reports on the success of the program and the hiring and retention levels of veterans.

This bill goes beyond simply recognizing that a business hires veterans. The HIRE Vets Act is an opportunity for Americans to see which companies truly live up to the employment promises they make to veterans. It is our duty to ensure veterans are given the benefits and resources they've earned through their service to this country, and this includes encouraging meaningful job opportunities. This bill creates an innovative system to encourage and recognize employers who make veterans a priority in their hiring practices, incentivizing the creation of thousands of jobs for veterans.

HONORING ANGELA PEATMAN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Angela Peatman, an outstanding member of the Napa Valley community and my dear friend, on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

Born on July 30, 1935, Ms. Peatman has been a dedicated public servant, a devoted mother, and a tireless advocate for families in the Napa Valley. She began her public service at the Cope Family Resource Center in Napa, where she served as a board member and later as president. Ms. Peatman flourished in her role at the nonprofit organization, where

she cherished the opportunity to work directly with her local community.

Ms. Peatman also served as a founding board member and president of the Puertas Abiertas Community Resource Center. Founded in 2005, the Center offers educational programs and advocacy services to support personal growth and family stability in the Latino community throughout Napa County. The organization also works to bridge the gap between service providers and the Latino community by providing culturally sensitive intake and referral services for over 500 families every year.

In 2010, Ms. Peatman was named "Citizen of the Year" by the Napa Chamber of Commerce in recognition for her years of service to the valley's community. She was also named "Associate" by her alma mater, Stanford University. This prestigious title is given to a select few alumni who have demonstrated significant volunteer service to the university.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we recognize Ms. Peatman on the occasion of her 80th birthday for her years of valued service to the Napa Valley community. We wish her a very happy birthday and many years of health and happiness.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the City of South Tucson, a community known for the resiliency, determination, and independence of its residents.

As a native of Tucson, Arizona, I am privileged to represent the City of South Tucson in the United States Congress. The support and loyalty I have received from the residents of South Tucson during my entire public life is a great honor for me personally.

Over 6,000 people and 300 businesses call the City of South Tucson home. This square mile city incorporated by its residents, rather than losing its identity to the City of Tucson, continues after 75 years to assert its independence and be the unique and proud community it has always been through its history.

South Tucson is about family and community, offering to the much larger metropolis of Tucson a view of our past and a dynamic view of what a community can do to retain its character while looking forward.

South Tucson boasts the best Mexican cuisine found anywhere; Las Artes, a model for integrating public art and education; and public services from the state of the art San Lena library to excellent public schools Ochoa and Mission View. South Tucson has a sophisticated network of social service providers and City of South Tucson first responders who place the safety of their residents first.

The greatest asset that the City of South Tucson has is its people, a diverse group representing Native-Americans, African-Americans, and Anglos, and families that have contributed so much to the region.

From South Tucson have come generations of political leaders, tradesmen, educators,

decorated war veterans, business leaders, civil leaders, and so many hardworking people whose dignity and determination better us all.

Like all small towns and cities in America, the City of South Tucson faces challenges, but the drive to meet those challenges and prosper for the next 75 years is without a doubt the city's future.

I wish to congratulate the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson and the residents of the city on its 75th anniversary. The commemoration ceremony on September 19, 2015 at the Music and Arts Festival will be a day in which we pause and acknowledge the history, achievements, and the future of the City of South Tucson. Congratulations to South Tucson.

NICK BERARDINO'S RETIREMENT

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments and contributions of Nick Berardino, the General Manager of Orange County Employees Association.

Born and raised in Los Angeles to Italian immigrants, Nick is a Marine Veteran and served our country for two years in Vietnam.

He became active in the civil rights movement, the first of what would become a lifetime of commitment to those who are oppressed or discriminated against.

I have known Nick for years and he always looked for doing the best for his organization and the people he represented.

From pension reform to workplace rights, he has led OCEA through a series of monumental achievements for the working men and women he represented.

I am honored to recognize Nick Berardino's distinguished career of exemplary service and leadership in strengthening the middle class, fighting for social justice and dignified working conditions for 18,000 public employees and instilling integrity at the Orange County Employees Association.

HONORING MR. ART COVIELLO

HON. C. A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mr. Art Coviello, an international expert on cybersecurity, on the occasion of his retirement after more than 30 years as a strategic, operating and financial-management expert in high-technology companies.

Mr. Coviello graduated magna cum laude from the University of Massachusetts in 1975 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. He started his career as a certified public accountant at Deloitte, Haskins & Sells and held positions in financial and operating management at several technology companies.

He joined RSA, the Security Division of EMC, in 1995 and was the driving force in the

company's rapid growth during his tenure, increasing revenue from \$25 million to more than \$1 billion in 2014. Under his leadership, RSA evolved from its roots in authentication and encryption to a leader in security technology, including forensics, compliance and detection. Among his many acquisitions, Mr. Coviello played a key role in the successful acquisitions of Xcert International, 3G International, TransIndigo and Securant Technologies, and in strategic partnerships with Microsoft and Accenture. He retires as Executive Chairman.

While his well-deserved awards and accolades are too numerous to mention in their entirety, Mr. Coviello in 2013 was named a "Top 25 Innovator" by CRN. He has served as co-chair of the National Cyber Security Summit's Corporate Governance Task Force, a public-private effort organized by the Department of Homeland Security and leading industry associations. He is a founding Board Member of the Cyber Security Industry Alliance.

In his retirement, Mr. Coviello works with companies, industries, and governments to continue informing and shaping the evolution of security strategy to meet the challenges facing organizations today and tomorrow. He continues to play key roles in national and international cyber-security initiatives and is a regular speaker at conferences and forums around the world. Mr. Coviello is also a venture partner at Rally Ventures, a Board Observer for Synchrony Financial, and serves on the Board of Directors at EnerNOC.

Mr. Speaker, I have considered Mr. Coviello a friend and colleague for many years. I know him to be a man of intellect and, more importantly, integrity. His expertise has made our country stronger. It is with great pride that I congratulate him on his retirement and wish him continued success and happiness in the next chapter of his life.

VIDEOS ABOUT PLANNED PARENTHOOD ARE GROSSLY MISLEADING

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to share with my colleagues and the American public this insightful editorial from the San Jose Mercury News, "Videos about Planned Parenthood are grossly misleading." This editorial clearly lays out how the Republican Party's embrace of this video "exposé" is really just a continuation of their War on Women, in particular low-income women.

Anyone with half a brain can see through the heavily edited "gotcha" videos purporting to show Planned Parenthood officials illegally bargaining to sell tissue from aborted fetuses. The videos are grossly misleading and politically irresponsible.

The research that fetal tissue makes possible at respected universities across the country has produced vaccines that have saved millions of lives and now targets Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and other fatal, heart-breaking diseases. Planned Parenthood does not profit from it. But Republicans in Congress and in the presidential free-for-all are having a field day with "facts" from Fox News.

California Attorney General Kamala Harris fortunately is investigating the videos'

producers, the so-called Center for Medical Progress, which may have broken federal and California law in the scheme to bring down Planned Parenthood. As an example, one of the interviews of a California doctor may have been recorded without her consent.

U.S. Rep. Zoe Lofgren of San Jose is pushing U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch to investigate as well. The organization has tax-exempt status as a biomedical charity but appears to be a fake limited liability corporation.

It has never been a secret that Planned Parenthood and many other clinics collect tissue for research. The unedited videos show repeated attempts by Planned Parenthood doctors to explain that they're only trying to recoup costs for their work. Planned Parenthood likely loses money on the whole thing, but the numbers are a tiny part of its budget.

Republicans in the House and the Senate shamelessly are using this supposed exposé to argue that Congress should defund Planned Parenthood.

And so the War on Women continues.

Planned Parenthood and its 800 clinics provide health care, particularly family planning, for nearly 3 million low income women a year. It receives more than \$500 million in government funding, but not a penny of that pays for abortions—which make up just 3 percent of the organization's work. Cutting Planned Parenthood funding means cutting health care to poor women, period.

Scientists using cultures from fetal kidney cells won the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1954 for developing the polio vaccine. Fetal tissue research helped produce vaccines for chicken pox and rubella. These advances alone have saved countless millions of lives, particularly children's.

The National Institutes of Health spent more than \$70 million on fetal research in 2014, tackling diseases such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's. Stem cell research is gradually replacing fetal tissue research, but we can't afford to stop work on these diseases while alternative methods ramp up.

More tapes are expected this week, including possibly showing the process of tissue removal. It's ugly to watch, but so are most significant surgical procedures.

The core political issue here is abortion. The Center for Medical Progress and many Republican officials and candidates want to eliminate the right of American women to choose to end a pregnancy.

In fact Planned Parenthood has done more to prevent abortion than any other organization in this country by giving poor women access to birth control and to prenatal care to have healthy babies. It continues to provide safe abortions because refusing will not stop abortion, it will just drive women to unsafe alternatives. (Speaking of ugly procedures.)

Women's ability to control their own reproductive future is the best way to prevent abortion. A Congress really concerned about women and unborn children would give more, not less, to Planned Parenthood.

TRIBUTE TO MASHAL HUSAIN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mashal Husain for being named a 2015 Woman of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, the Des Moines Business Record.

Since 2000, the Des Moines Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of female leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities either personally or professionally, forging a path for other women to follow. The women given this prestigious award are individuals who have selflessly dedicated their time and proven their leadership abilities across a variety of professional fields.

Before moving to the United States, Ms. Husain was raised all across the globe starting in Pakistan, then Tanzania, followed by Thailand and finally the Philippines. Once in the United States she earned her BA studying psychology and Spanish at the University of Texas at Austin, and she didn't stop there. She moved on to Cornell University where she earned a Master's in Healthcare Administration. Shortly after, Ms. Husain finished a post-graduate Fellowship at the Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

Throughout her life Ms. Husain has taken on a variety of leadership roles, not only in the professional world at businesses, like Iowa Health Systems and Principal Financial Group, but also at a number of philanthropic organizations, like the United Way of Central Iowa and Habitat for Humanity. She is a member of the Board of Directors at both organizations. Now, as Vice President of The World Food Prize Foundation, Ms. Husain serves an integral role in the growth and development of a number of programs within the World Food Prize Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Ms. Husain in the United States Congress. It is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better her community and the State of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating her on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE GARAZI FAMILY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the continued efforts of a local family in my congressional district who have made extraordinary efforts to improve the lives of our elderly. In a few short weeks, the Garazi family will hold its 5th Annual Solomon Garazi Memorial Day at the Races to benefit the Miami Jewish Health Systems, otherwise known as the Jewish Home. The Jewish Home is a great South Florida institution that has done, and continues to do, so much to improve quality of life for seniors.

Solomon Garazi, who passed away in 2010 at the age of 85, was known for his honor, integrity, and strong spirit. In 1960, the Garazis fled the brutal Castro regime and sought refuge in Miami, where Solomon and his in-laws founded two businesses—the Suave Shoe Corporation and the Oriental Trading Company. Suave later became the first company owned by Cuban refugees to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Solomon was a very prominent member of the Jewish Community. He was one of the founders and a president of Temple Moses. He served on the Board of Directors of the Michael-Ann Russell Jewish Community Center, and was the first Cuban American to be on the board of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation. He also helped establish the Sephardic Jewish Studies Program at the University of Miami.

Additionally, Solomon was extensively involved with the Miami Jewish Health Systems. In 2009 the Jewish Home's Latin Auxiliary, which Solomon helped organize in 1980, bestowed upon him its Lifetime Achievement Award for all his work on behalf of the institution. The Miami Jewish Health Systems serves more than 12,000 patients, participants and residents annually, through more than a dozen varied healthcare programs and services. Its services include rehabilitation assistance, religious programming, and full residential care. It also is at the forefront of innovative research into dementia and other geriatric conditions. Currently, The Mental Health and Memory Center at Miami Jewish Health Systems is running an innovative clinical trial to evaluate medications to treat and potentially cure Alzheimer's.

The Solomon Garazi Memorial Day will directly support the maintenance and the expansion of the Jewish Home's Latin Auxiliary Music Therapy Program. The program offers a full-time board-certified music therapist, musical instruments, and a wide range of music media, recordings, equipment and resources.

Through musical involvement in a therapeutic context, individuals' physical, emotional, cognitive, and social needs can be addressed from a unique angle. The music serves as a powerful medium, helping them express themselves in ways words do not allow them to. It opens up a new world of language for them, one that is not bound by the need for precise articulation. The sense of empowerment that this therapy fosters improves lives.

I commend the Garazi family—Esther Garazi, Isaac and Anita Garazi, Blanca and Richard Schoonover, and their families—as well as everyone else involved with the Day at the Races, for their work in putting this event together year after year. Thank you for supporting a pillar of our South Florida community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I was attending funeral services in my state and was not present for three roll call votes on Monday, July 27, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted in this manner:

Roll Call Vote # 467—Need Based Education Aid Act of 2015—Yes.

Roll Call Vote # 468—Secret Service Improvements Act of 2015—Yes.

Roll Call Vote # 469—Keeping Our Travelers Safe and Secure Act—Yes.

H.R. 1734—IMPROVING COAL COMBUSTION RESIDUALS REGULATION ACT OF 2015

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, last week, I voted against H.R. 1734, the Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015. This dangerous and unnecessary legislation not only fails to improve coal ash regulation, it seriously undermines the EPA's efforts to regulate coal combustion waste to protect human health and the environment.

Coal ash, the waste produced from the burning of coal, contains toxic materials such as arsenic, lead and chromium. According to the EPA, in 2012, coal-fired power plants in the U.S. generated 110 million tons of coal ash. The improper or unsafe disposal of coal ash can lead to catastrophic releases of toxins if a failure occurs at the disposal site or, as is more commonly the case, contaminants slowly leach into groundwater and drinking water sources. We have known for some time of the need to regulate the disposal of coal ash and after several years, extensive consultation, and over 450,000 public comments, the EPA published a final, comprehensive rule to establish national criteria for the disposal of coal ash on April 17, 2015.

H.R. 1734 is an attempt to gut the EPA's final rule before it even has the chance to go into effect. The bill would eliminate restrictions for how close existing surface impoundments can be to drinking water sources and would eliminate liner requirements for existing surface impoundments. It authorizes states to implement coal ash management permitting programs, but these programs do not need to meet national standards. In short, it eliminates, delays or weakens environmental protections and threatens health and public safety.

There is no greater public need than access to clean and safe drinking water. I strongly oppose this legislation because it undercuts national protections and undoes important regulations to safeguard drinking water sources. We must use our legislative prerogative to protect public health and safety and not in a manner that poses risks to our communities and our environment as H.R. 1734 would do.

IN GRATITUDE OF DWIGHT SULLIVAN AND HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dwight Sullivan for twenty years of outstanding service to the House of Representatives, including eight years as a Professional Staffer with the House Judiciary Committee Democrats.

Dwight will be retiring this month and he will be missed by all who know him. I want to especially thank Dwight for his extraordinary work to provide high level communications services to the staff and Members of the Com-

mittee; developing and maintaining methods to process, manage and store communications data for the office; trouble shooting computer problems and recommending updated and cost effective resources; helping make the Judiciary Committee web site the envy of Capitol Hill; and serving as a liaison between the Judiciary Committee Democrats and House Information Resources (HIR).

Dwight is a native of North Carolina, where he received his degree from Johnson C. Smith University, and where he met his wife of forty-four years, Cheryl Sullivan. He still calls the Tar Heel state home, and spends his vacations there playing golf. In fact, those who know Dwight know that while his first love may be politics, golf is a close second. From Myrtle Beach to Boca Raton to Pinehurst, his love of golf has become legendary on Capitol Hill, where he has inspired many others to take up the game and shoot for par.

A former project manager for IBM, Dwight began his Capitol Hill career in the office of my friend and former colleague, Congressman Melvin Watt (retired), and later honed his craft at HIR, before joining the House Judiciary Committee staff in 2007.

Dwight will be missed for his ability to use good judgement to solve problems, for meeting technology challenges and keeping staff up to date on the latest and most effective approaches to keep communicating the work of the Committee. He will be missed as well for his wit, good humor, and loyalty. We wish him the best of luck in his retirement and extend to him and his family our deepest gratitude.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAJOR GENERAL NATHANAEL GREENE

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Major General Nathanael Greene, a highly decorated officer in the Continental Army and leader in the fight for independence during the Revolutionary War.

Born August 7, 1742 in Rhode Island to humble beginnings, Nathanael Greene committed his life to public service. He first answered this call when he served as a member of the Rhode Island General Assembly. As a supporter of the Patriot cause, Nathanael Greene helped form a local militia called the Kentish Guards. Although he was unable to become an officer due to a handicap, he volunteered as a private. He saw action in many significant engagements, including Trenton, Brandywine, Germantown and Princeton. Greene's talent allowed him to rise through the ranks, becoming first a Brigadier General and then a Major General—the only one to serve as a general for the entire eight year war for independence besides George Washington. Major General Greene led the Continental troops in the South and helped pave the way for Lord Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown.

The General Society Sons of the Revolution will be designating August 7, 2015 as a Day of Honor for Major General Nathanael Greene. On this day a monument will be dedicated to Greene in Valley Forge National Historic Park. His statue will forever stand there as a reminder of his service to our country during the battle for independence.

Mr. Speaker, the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania owe a great debt of gratitude to Major General Nathanael Greene.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 468.

My flight was delayed due to weather.

Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF MADISON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the City of Madison Heights, Michigan, as it celebrates its 60th anniversary this year. The City of Madison Heights was incorporated in 1955, and currently has a population 29,694 people.

I have had the pleasure of representing the City of Madison Heights, centrally located in the 9th Congressional District, in Congress for the past thirty-two years. From walking in the annual Memorial Day parade to attending numerous events in the schools, important projects like the 12 Town Drains, now known as George W. Kuhn Retention Treatment Basin and the formation of the Madison Heights Community Family Coalition to combat youth substance abuse I enjoy working in this community.

Known as the "City of Progress" Madison Heights residents have always prided themselves on a high level of community spirit, volunteerism, having top-notch city services, a rich heritage, and being known as a warm and family-oriented community. After sixty years of growth and change, the city remains embodied in that local spirit.

Madison Heights originated from pioneering families, such as the Lamphere Family, who gave the community land in 1888 for the school house at 13 Mile and John R, and the Kendal family who donated their land in 1926 when the school was moved. Later, farm families came to Madison Heights in the early 1900s from other countries for the opportunity to start fresh and be self-sufficient, farming their land and often working to buy it. These families gave rise to the life and hope of the community that became Madison Heights.

Today Madison Heights residents take advantage of the city's 13 parks covering over 140 acres; numerous recreational opportunities including a golf course, wave pool and water park, soccer complex, baseball complex, Friendship Woods and nature center, wooded walking trails, sledding hill, bowling lanes, dog park, public library and Heritage Rooms Museum. Residents also benefit from popular community events including a spring 5K run, Art Challenge and Art Exhibit, the annual Festival in the Park with fireworks, Memorial Day

parade, Afterglow Car Show in conjunction with the Woodward Dream Cruise, fall Nature Center Open House, and Tree Lighting.

While auto-related manufacturing remains an important component of Madison Heights economy, Madison Heights is quickly developing a multifaceted economy, attracting emerging industries such as defense and aerospace—Navistar Defense and IonBond to name a few. The University of Michigan recently awarded Madison Heights with an eCities 5-Star Rating and "Best Practice Community" for the City's Economic Development programs. Madison Heights is proud to now host over 100 major high-tech companies within its borders.

As the City of Madison Heights celebrates this milestone, I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating its residents, elected officials, and businesses as they celebrate their history, preserve their rich local heritage, and look forward to growth and prosperity in the future.

CONGRATULATING JESSICA CAVINESS FOR RECEIVING THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jessica Caviness, a teacher in my district at Coppell High School of Coppell, Texas. Jessica was recently selected to receive the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST), along with 107 other teachers from all 50 states. Each recipient receives an award from the National Science Foundation and is invited to an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. This award is given out annually to outstanding K–12 science and mathematics teachers from across the country. The winners are selected by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians, and educators following an initial selection process done at the state level.

Ms. Caviness, a graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University, has just completed her 11th year in Coppell, where she teaches Geometry and Algebra II. Jessica routinely creates innovative and transformative learning experiences for her students. Most notably, Jessica excels in utilizing technology in the classroom, where her classes have utilized Skype, Twitter, and the iPads distributed through Coppell Independent School District's 1:1 iPad initiative. Jessica's work has not gone unnoticed, as she has presented at conferences at the local, state, and even national level. Her ability to integrate Twitter into the learning experience has also been featured in an article for November Learning, which profiled specific ways that Ms. Caviness was able to effectively engage students outside the classroom in a way that supplemented classroom material.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring Jessica Caviness for receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. I wish her and all her stu-

dents continued success in the classroom and beyond.

MITSUBISHI CORPORATION'S APOLOGY TO AMERICAN WWII PRISONERS OF WAR

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, a member of our greatest generation from Santa Maria, California, James T. Murphy. On Sunday, July 19th, 2015, at the age of 94, Mr. Murphy had the historic honor of being offered the first Japanese corporate apology for his forced labor as an American prisoner of war (POW) in Japan during World War II.

During World War II, Mitsubishi Mining Company Ltd. used the labor of over 900 Americans in four of its coal and copper mines on mainland Japan. Mr. Murphy, one of the last surviving American former POWs to have worked as a slave laborer in one of these mines, graciously accepted an apology from the Mitsubishi Materials Corporation, the successor of Mitsubishi Mining Company, on behalf of his fellow veterans.

A Texas native, Mr. Murphy fought in the Philippines with the U.S. Army Air Corps beginning with the bombing of Nichols Field on December 8, 1941 until surrender in Bataan on April 9, 1942. He endured the Bataan Death March and a "Hell ship" to Japan. During the war, Imperial Japan assigned over 13,000 Americans to work in corporate mines, factories, and docks to support the war effort. Mr. Murphy was assigned to POW Camp Sendai #6-B and forced to mine copper at Mitsubishi's Osarizawa mine near the town of Hanawa in Sendai, Japan.

After liberation, he continued to serve with the then-new U.S. Air Force and retired in 1962 after a 23-year career. Captain Murphy later moved to my district in California, working as a civilian contractor with Lockheed Missile & Space Company at Vandenberg Air Force Base and finally retiring in 1986 to Santa Maria.

On July 19th 2015 Mr. Hikaru Kimura, a Senior Corporate Executive of Mitsubishi Materials Corporation and Senior General Manager of Global Business Management at the Paint Finishing System Division of Taikisha Ltd, delivered to him the official apology at a ceremony held at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles.

Mr. Murphy responded, "it is a glorious day." He continued, "For 70 years, we wanted such action. Today we have it so I'm elated over that, and I hope this historical occasion just spreads out through the world and helps mankind."

And it is with grateful recognition for all our veterans swept up in the Pacific battles of the first months of World War II, many of whom became POWs of Imperial Japan, that I insert both Mitsubishi Materials' historic apology statement and Captain Murphy's acceptance.

Remembering the stories of these POWs both in Japan and in the United States is important for history, for the U.S.-Japan relationship, and for all those who care about peace.

STATEMENT OF JAMES T. MURPHY, IN RESPONSE TO MITSUBISHI APOLOGY TO WWII POWS, DELIVERED AT THE MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE, SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER—LOS ANGELES, CA, JULY 19, 2015

This is a great day to be here at the Museum of Tolerance because at this place and at this time, history will truly be made.

We have just heard Mitsubishi's [Materials Corporation] representative, Mr. [Hikaru] Kimura, present a stirring, heartfelt, warm and sincere apology to former U.S. Prisoners of War who were forced to work for Mitsubishi Mining during World War II.

His apology meets all the criteria necessary to satisfy the elements of an acceptable apology. It admits to wrongdoing, it makes sincere statements showing a deep remorse for the wrongdoing and it assures that the wrongdoing will not recur.

As a former Prisoner of War of the Japanese Imperial Armed Forces who was forced to work at the Mitsubishi [Osarizawa] copper mine near Hanawa, Japan during part of 1944 and part of 1945 and being one of the few surviving workers of that time, I find it to be my duty and responsibility to accept Mr. Kimura's apology!

Hopefully, the acceptance of this sincere apology will bring some closure and relief to the age-old problems confronting the surviving former Prisoners of War and to their family members.

Additionally, even though the Japanese people and the American people have a long-standing friendly relationship, the action that we are taking today will further enhance, expand and assure an enduring trust and friendship benefitting both nations.

Furthermore, I join others in this group who foster the idea of encouraging the dozens of other Japanese companies who used forced labor by the Allied Prisoners of War to offset their workforce shortage to follow Mitsubishi Materials' progressive leadership.

Solving this long overdue problem would permit the companies and their former laborers to look forward to a better future rather than continue to look backward to their differences. Such actions would have positive results for both of our nations by strengthening our trust, confidence and friendship.

Perhaps other nations with similar problems will follow our example here today with similar actions. Such actions would result in the betterment to all mankind.

Mr. Kimura, we thank you and the other members of your team for your hard work and long hours spent formulating and presenting Mitsubishi Materials' apology.

STATEMENT BY MITSUBISHI MATERIALS CORPORATION, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER HIKARU KIMURA IN THE MEETING WITH A FORMER AMERICAN POW AND FAMILIES OF FORMER POWS

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, speaking on behalf of Mitsubishi Materials, thank you very much for this opportunity to meet with you today at the Museum of Tolerance.

Mitsubishi Mining Company Limited, the predecessor of Mitsubishi Materials, was engaged in coal and metal mining during World War II. As the war intensified, prisoners of war were placed in a wide range of industries to offset labor shortages. As part of this, close to 900 American POWs were allocated to four mines operated by Mitsubishi Mining in Japan.

I joined Mitsubishi Materials as a postwar baby-boomer and have worked in the company for 34 years. I have read the memoirs of Mr. James Murphy, who is present here at this ceremony, and those of other former POWs, as well as records of court trials. Through these accounts, I have learned

about the terrible pain that POWs experienced in the mines of Mitsubishi Mining.

The POWs, many of whom were suffering from disease and injury, were subjected to hard labor, including during freezing winters, working without sufficient food, water, medical treatment or sanitation. When we think of their harsh lives in the mines, we cannot help feeling deep remorse.

I would like to express our deepest sense of ethical responsibility for the tragic experiences of all U.S. POWs, including Mr. James Murphy, who were forced to work under harsh conditions in the mines of the former Mitsubishi Mining.

On behalf of Mitsubishi Materials. I offer our sincerest apology.

I also extend our deepest condolence to their fellow U.S. POWs who worked alongside them but have since passed away.

To the bereaved families who are present at this ceremony, I also offer our most remorseful apology.

This cannot happen again, and of course, Mitsubishi Materials intends to never let this happen again.

We now have a clear corporate mission of working for the benefit of all people, all societies and indeed the entire globe. Respecting the basic human rights of all people is a core principle of Mitsubishi Materials, and we will continue to strongly adhere to this principle.

Our management team wishes for the health and happiness of our employees every day, and we ask that all of them work not only diligently, but also with a sense of ethics.

Mitsubishi Materials supplies general materials that enrich people's lives, from cement to cellphone components and auto parts, all of which are closely related to people's lives. We also place a strong emphasis on recycling for more sustainable societies, such as recovering valuable metals from used electrical appliances and other scrapped materials.

Here in the United States, we have plants for cement and ready-mixed concrete, and a sales headquarters for our advanced materials and tools business, all in California, as well as a polysilicon plant in Alabama. We believe that our company provides fulfilling jobs for local employees and contributes to host communities through its business.

The American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor Museum in Wellsburg, West Virginia archives extensive records and memorabilia of POWs. These records and memorabilia will be handed down to future generations for educational purposes.

I will visit the museum the day after tomorrow to view the exhibits and visualize how POWs were forced to work under harsh conditions. For now, however, I am pleased to announce that Mitsubishi Materials has donated 50,000 US dollars to the museum to support its activities.

Finally, I sincerely thank Ms. Kinue Tokudome and the members of the American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor Memorial Society for creating this opportunity to meet with you today. I also express my sincere thanks to Rabbi Abraham Cooper for offering the Museum of Tolerance as a venue for the ceremony. And I express my deep gratitude to all others involved in arranging this gathering.

I would also like to thank the family members of a non-U.S. POW [Mr. Stanley Gibson from Scotland, whose father also was a slave laborer in the Mitsubishi Osarizawa mine] who have come from very far away to attend this ceremony.

I truly hope that this gathering marks the starting point of a new relationship between former POWs and Mitsubishi Materials.

Thank you very much.

HONORING CARMEN "DOLLY" VAZQUEZ FOR HER YEARS OF SERVICE TO WORCESTER COUNTY AND CONGRATULATING HER ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carmen "Dolly" Vazquez. Next month Dolly will retire from Centro Las Americas after 23 years of service to the Latino community in Worcester County.

Dolly was born and raised in Bayamon, Puerto Rico. She came to Central Massachusetts from San Francisco, California and began her cultural involvement in Worcester by volunteering at WCUW community radio station. At WCUW, she hosted a bi-weekly radio show, Herencia Puertorriqueña for 13 years.

Dolly was first hired in 1993 by Centro Las Americas to help manage their Latin American Festival, and she was later asked to head the organization's new Cultural Department.

Since that Dolly has co-produced the annual Latin American Festival, the annual Latino Film Festival and the biennial Viva El Arte art show, among other endeavors.

Dolly has been an active member of our community through her involvement with Hispanics Achieving and Celebrating Excellence of QCC, and Latino Dollars for Scholars. She is also an incorporator of the Worcester Art Museum, YWCA, the Joy of Music Program, and the Worcester Historical Museum. For eleven years she also served as board member of the Mass Cultural Council and is a former board member of You Inc.

I want to thank Dolly for her years of service to Worcester County and I wish her the best of luck in the future. She is a remarkable person who has done so much for the community. I'm also proud to call her a close and treasured friend.

CELEBRATING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF MCABW

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the 10th anniversary of The Montgomery County Association of Business Women of Montgomery County, Texas. Founded by my good friend Carol Gooch in 2005, the MCABW not only provides a forum for business women to develop and enhance professional and personal relationships with their peers, the group actively works to improve Montgomery County.

After graduating from Leadership Montgomery County in 2003, Carol decided to form a group so that women could network and grow their businesses. The group was one of the first womens' networking associations in Montgomery County and its success has spurred the creation of many more similar groups.

In addition to providing an invaluable forum for women to network, the group has continued to give back to their community. MCABW

sponsors college scholarships for women graduating high school in Montgomery County and supports members who wish to continue their education. At their inaugural fundraising event this year, the group raised \$12,000 which will be used to fund additional scholarships and charities.

Not only does the group mentor women, MCABW has helped virtually every non-profit organization in Montgomery County including: Interfaith of the Woodlands, Montgomery County United Way, Children's Safe Harbor, Humane Society, and the Montgomery County Food Bank, just to name a few.

Beyond the ranks of MCABW have grown far beyond the original 52 members in the ten years since its founding, the mission of the group has continued to focus on a team effort. By working together, the group has grown to the largest nonprofit business women's networking association in Montgomery County. Members enjoy monthly coffees, luncheons and evening mixers while continuously mentoring new members who want to start their own business, learn more about networking or social media, or who just want to meet other like-minded women in the community.

MCABW has helped organize the annual WISE (Women Inspiring, Supporting, Empowering) Conference. These conferences have given female entrepreneurs access to tremendous speakers and learning opportunities while raising money for charity. This year's WISE Conference has partnered with Rettsyndrome.org to raise funds for research for treatments and a cure for Rett Syndrome.

The women of MCABW represent all walks of life—there are members returning to the world of work, young members who are just starting their careers, and seasoned professionals willing to pass on their wisdom and knowledge.

Today, I ask all of America to join me in congratulating the dynamic Carol Gooch, and all members of the MCABW, on ten years of excellence. I can't wait to see what the future holds for the Montgomery County Association of Business Women.

CONGRATULATING PIKE COUNTY

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Pike County on their bicentennial anniversary and celebration.

For 200 years Pike County has stood proudly at the heart of Southern Ohio.

Created by the Ohio General Assembly in 1815, Pike County was named after American Brigadier General and explorer Zebulon Pike. Over the next 200 years, the people of Pike County have lived up to Pike's relentless American spirit.

Throughout its two century-long history, Pike County has proudly contributed to the strength, prosperity, and growth of our state and our nation.

Pike County residents fought and died for the United States in defense of this nation since the days of the Civil War. That service continued into the Cold War, where their hard work and industriousness in the heartland provided the nuclear technology and tools that continued to secure our blessings of freedom.

Pike County fostered the freedom and economic prosperity that are pillars of the American Dream, from an active role in the Underground Railroad to a key link in the Ohio-Erie Canal that connected commerce across Ohio.

I am honored to represent Pike County today, an area of the state with a rich history and strong community. Again, I congratulate Pike County on this historic milestone and I wish them the best over their next 200 years.

AGNES FENTON

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Agnes Fenton, who will be turning 110 years old this Saturday, August 1, 2015. Mrs. Fenton will be the oldest person living in the City of Englewood, New Jersey.

Mrs. Fenton was born in 1905 on a farm in Mississippi. After her father passed away when she was only an infant, her mother raised her alone. Upon the age of 14, Mrs. Fenton moved to Memphis, Tennessee.

It was in Memphis where Mrs. Fenton ran a restaurant called Pal's Duck Inn, which specialized in serving southern comfort food. Mrs. Fenton would be one of the first African-American women in the city to own and operate a restaurant. The days were long and the work was tiring, as she would often work from 6 a.m. to midnight on a regular basis, but Mrs. Fenton always kept her spirits high.

During her time running the restaurant, Agnes got married to Vincent Fenton. But sadly after contracting pneumonia, Mr. Fenton passed away in 1970.

Following many years of running her successful restaurant, Mrs. Fenton decided to get a new job in the kitchen of an Emerson, New Jersey company, and eventually worked for the Chapman family in nearby Oradell for many years afterwards. It was hard work and self-reliance that forged her into the strong person she has been throughout her life.

Mrs. Fenton moved to Englewood in the early 1950's. She has resided there ever since, and is known to have a remedy for any health concern that you can think of. She is also well-known for her Lemon Ice Box Pies and Apple Lattice Pies, which she has given to her family and neighbors during the Christmas holiday seasons.

Mrs. Fenton has always made room for God in her life, as she has been a member of the St. Mark's United Methodist Church in New York City since moving to Englewood. Mrs. Fenton was honored to be inducted into the Centenarian Society, where she is an active participant in the New England Centenarian Study being conducted by the Boston School of Medicine. Although the study may credit Mrs. Fenton's 110 years to her genetics, she partly attributes this to her daily regimen of consuming a shot of Johnnie Walker and three Miller High Life's a day.

Throughout her entire life, Mrs. Fenton has been able to live independently, even through hard times. She continues to cook her own meals and bake for her family and friends during the holiday season. Mrs. Fenton's life is one we can all look upon and recognize as one lived through hard work and sacrifice, but

most importantly, a life filled with so much happiness and love.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating the life achievements of individuals such as Mrs. Agnes Fenton.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Mrs. Fenton's family and friends, all those whose lives she has touched, and me, in recognizing the 110th birthday of Mrs. Agnes Fenton.

CONGRATULATING FRED AND BETTY WILLIAMS ON THEIR 70TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fred and Betty Williams, of Carrollton, Texas on achieving this incredible milestone of 70 years of marriage on August 30th, 2015.

While Fred and Betty both grew up in east Texas, they moved to Carrollton after retiring and reside there today. As long time members of the Nazarene Church, serving on the church board and in missions, they are beloved members of the community and strong role models. It is an honor to be able to call them my constituents and friends.

In their successful marriage, Fred and Betty have been blessed with a family of three children, eleven grandchildren, and fourteen great-grandchildren. It is my sincere hope that their family may gain much joy and wisdom from Fred and Betty's wonderful journey together. May their lives and inspiring story pass down through generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Fred and Betty Williams on their prosperous 70th wedding anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Centennial Anniversary of the Okaloosa County, Florida Sheriff's Department.

As a former Deputy Sheriff, I understand the important and sometimes underappreciated role that law enforcement officers play in local communities across the Nation. In Northwest Florida, we are fortunate to have many world-class Sheriff's Departments and Police Departments that are working each and every day to protect their neighbors and community. For the last 100 years, the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department has served a thriving community that has grown from a population of less than 10,000 when the department was created to a home for nearly 200,000 people today.

Yet, while the population has increased nearly twentyfold over the past century, the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department has always upheld their mission to "ensure fair and equal administration of the law, safeguarding civil liberties and preserving public safety and doing so with professionalism and unity of purpose, while being good stewards of the public's trust."

From the first Okaloosa County Sheriff, Benjamin Haywood Sutton, who initially funded the department with his own money, through to the current Sheriff, Larry Ashley, 15 different men have served as Sheriff, while countless have joined the force as deputies. Each and every one of those selfless men and women chose to stand up and serve their communities as officers of the law, and while they do not ask for any recognition in return, they certainly deserve our gratitude and thanks. There is no greater honor than to swear an oath to our Constitution to serve and protect the lives of your fellow man at the risk of your own either at home or abroad, and the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department has shown over its 100 year history that it is dedicated to serving the people of Okaloosa County.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the accomplishments and the service the Okaloosa County Florida Sheriff's Department has provided to the community over the last 100 years.

HONORING COMMUNITY ACTION OF VENTURA COUNTY

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Community Action of Ventura County on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. For five decades, this remarkable organization has promoted economic equality through an array of efforts to combat poverty in Ventura County.

Community Action of Ventura County was established in 1965 under the Economic Opportunity Act, one of the first federal anti-poverty programs in the United States. To this day, the organization's mission continues to be to serve as an auxiliary to assist poverty-stricken citizens in achieving self-sufficiency. Today, the organization has proven its effectiveness by reducing poverty rates across the region, and is a recognized leader among community-based organizations.

The services that Community Action of Ventura County provides to residents of our community have been invaluable in assisting those who live below the poverty line. Serving approximately 8,000 clients every year through impactful programs, Community Action of Ventura County has been instrumental in the effort to reduce poverty and economic inequality in Ventura County. With committed and steadfast board members, staff, and volunteers, all working toward the goal of lifting people out of poverty, this organization positively impacts our community through partnership building and advocacy for measures to help low-income individuals and families survive and rise up above poverty.

In its fifty years of service, Community Action of Ventura County has also implemented

other important programs such as Los Compadres and Successful Living. Los Compadres and Successful Living aim to work with high risk youth by providing mentors and instructional sessions that teach young people to make responsible decisions and achieve economic success. The organization has not only granted financial assistance to the community, they provide resources to those in need to promote upward mobility, be self-sufficient, and lead successful lives.

For these reasons, I am honored to recognize Community Action of Ventura County on their 50th anniversary. It is with sincere gratitude that I commend Community Action of Ventura County for its continued success and service to our community.

TRIBUTE TO DANNY AND JOYCE WESTLAKE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Danny and Joyce Westlake of Prescott, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Danny and Joyce were married on July 10, 1965 in Massena, Iowa.

Danny and Joyce's lifelong commitment to each other and their children Jeanette, Doug, Paul and Pamela, along with their grandchildren and great-grandchildren truly embodies our Iowa values. I commend this devoted couple on their 50th 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.

MEDICARE AND MEDICAID 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, in 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed two important programs into law: Medicare and Medicaid.

These two critical programs provide Americans much needed access to healthcare.

They were created out of the truth that healthcare is a right, not a privilege, and no one should fall into poverty due to a lack of healthcare or treatment.

Over the last 50 years, Medicare has helped millions of American families maintain independence and security.

Medicaid provides a health care safety net for senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and children and young adults from working families.

For example, in 2013, in my district, Ohio's third congressional district, 85,313 of the residents received Medicare and 173,991 of the residents received Medicaid.

That is why I applaud Governor Kasich for his decision to expand Medicaid in Ohio.

Our path forward should build upon President Johnson's vision by strengthening Medicare and Medicaid, improving essential benefits, and containing costs.

By closing the prescription drug "doughnut hole" and curtailing waste and fraud, the Affordable Care Act lowers costs to beneficiaries and improves benefits.

There are definitely ways to improve Medicare and Medicaid programs, and cut waste, fraud, and abuse.

But, these changes should not be on the backs of our seniors and most vulnerable citizens.

We must work in a bipartisan way to strengthen Medicare and Medicaid and ensure enhanced access to affordable, quality healthcare.

Fifty years later, Medicare and Medicaid continue to save lives, help Americans live healthier, and provide the peace of mind that comes with access to healthcare and treatment.

I will continue to support and improve these two critical programs that are an integral part of our social safety net.

RECOGNIZING MR. RANDY SHAW, KREM 2 NEWS ANCHOR ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mr. Randy Shaw, Spokane's KREM 2 News anchor for his years of service to Eastern Washington. As a broadcast journalist, Mr. Shaw has faithfully served Spokane, Washington and the entire Inland Northwest for over thirty-three years. Mr. Shaw is retiring at the end of September and I am pleased to recognize his accomplishments and contributions to our great community in Eastern Washington.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Randy Shaw covered the presidencies of Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, and George H.W. Bush. Reporting overseas in Asia, Africa, and South America, Mr. Shaw received more than three dozen journalism awards and brought a wide range of news into the homes of the people of Eastern Washington.

Making his journalistic debut in newspaper, Mr. Shaw transitioned to radio and television where he spent the majority of his career. During his time in Spokane, Mr. Shaw was awarded a Regional Edward R. Murrow award for investigative reporting and the National Association of Television Arts and Science Silver Circle for his service to our community.

As the longest serving news anchor in Spokane broadcast history, Mr. Shaw worked diligently to ensure that our citizens are well informed. Moreover, he also endeavored to serve local causes throughout our community.

Through the years, Randy supported numerous local charities and fundraising efforts, including the Inland Northwest Honor Flight, the Alzheimer's Association, the Children's Miracle Network, and the American Red Cross. Off camera, Mr. Shaw is an author, explorer, musician, singer and entertainment producer. He integrates these passions into many of his efforts.

I would like to thank Mr. Randy Shaw for his years of dedication to Spokane and to the Inland Northwest. I applaud his commitment to

the citizens of Eastern Washington and wish him the best of luck in the next chapter of his life.

RECOGNIZING THE 51ST PASSAGE
OF THE "FOOD STAMP ACT"

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 51st anniversary of the "Food Stamp Act" of 1964, an act that strengthened the agricultural economy and improved levels of nutrition among low income households.

This impactful legislative achievement was passed by the historic 88th Congress of the United States, and signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on August 31, 1964.

During the 1960's our nation was in the midst of the biggest legislative civil rights battle since the ratification of the 14th amendment of the Constitution, which addressed citizenship rights and equal protection under the law.

Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to imagine that during a time where the country was experiencing its largest uninterrupted period of economic expansion, American families were battling a war on poverty.

Leaders like President Johnson, who himself grew up in a poverty stricken family in Stonewall, Texas, had a firsthand account of these struggles that many American families faced on a daily basis.

President Johnson took action and pursued an agenda, which he called "The Great Society."

The "Food Stamp Act" is a legislative victory for his agenda that benefits those Americans who are living below the poverty line, by providing a sustainable source of food.

The impact of this legislation was simple; it helped put food on tables.

In my city of Houston, Texas, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) has helped establish nine major Food Banks that serve the city and its citizens with providing the much needed access to nutrition for families and individuals who otherwise would be unable to afford it without programs created by the "Food Stamp Act."

As President Johnson remarked when he signed this act that it, "weds the best of the humanitarian instincts of the American people with the best of the free enterprise system."

The most important benefactors of this program have been the children of this nation.

The "Food Stamp Act" at the time when it was signed into law assisted 17 million children by giving them access to hot lunches in their schools.

For many of these children this was the first time they had a lunch while at school.

Mr. Speaker, hunger in our nation does not see color or sex or religion. This is a problem that affects us all no matter our background.

While simultaneously strengthening our markets for the farmers, the "Food Stamp Act" has immeasurably improved the volume of retail food sales in our nation and around the world.

Our national food abundance should be continuously used constructively not only to

combat hunger in our communities but also to help other nations through trade as well as to assist them in providing lunches for some 40 million school children throughout the developing world.

Mr. Speaker, this is why I am proud to remember the positive impact that the "Food Stamp Act" has had on our communities, and nation as a whole, along with the millions of lives it has improved over the decades.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM
GRIGGS' SERVICE AS WYAN-
DOTTE CITY CLERK

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William Griggs for his forty two years of service to the city of Wyandotte. First elected in 1973, Bill is one of the longest serving public officials in the Downriver communities.

Bill is described by his colleagues as dedicated and kind, and is praised in the community for the dignity and professionalism he has brought to the clerk's office. His presence as a leading voice in Wyandotte has been recognized by generations of residents, and with the dedication of the City Council chambers in his honor will be recognized by many more.

Bill has served as a role model in our community, serving as the director of Wyandotte's adaptive recreation program and on the Board of Directors for the National Wheelchair Athletics Committee. He inspired people with disabilities with his participation in the 1968 and 1972 Paralympics Games, and was inducted into the Michigan Athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame in 2002.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor William Griggs for his forty two years of service and his lasting impact on the Wyandotte community. I thank him for his leadership, and wish him many years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JESSICA
BUTLER

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Jessica Butler for her service to my office and the 21st Congressional District of California over the past two and a half years.

Ms. Butler was born in Wharton, Texas to Robert and Carol Butler and spent her youth in Bay City, Texas with her siblings, Sarah and Sam. After completing her high school education, Ms. Butler studied poultry science and food safety at Texas A&M University and Auburn University.

After college, Jessica accepted a Fellowship with Congressman DEVIN NUNES through the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Federation of Animal Science Societies. Her work in Mr. NUNES' office led her to discover her passion for policy. After completing her fellowship, she joined my office

as my Legislative Assistant and became one of the few individuals who can say they worked for every Portuguese Republican from California in the House of Representatives. During her time in my office, she handled several legislative portfolios, including agriculture, energy, healthcare, homeland security, immigration, trade, and water. Last year, she was promoted to Legislative Director and handled my work on the Appropriations committee.

On August 1, 2015, Ms. Butler's time in my office will come to an end. Ms. Butler is returning to Texas, where she will marry Mr. Nathan Russell, a nuclear plant operator who has loved her since their freshman year of high school, on September 19, 2015. While I know her family will be happy to have her back in the Lone Star State, she will be greatly missed as a member of my team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Jessica Butler for her public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing her well in this next chapter of her life.

TO HONOR THE TEXAS JOB CORPS
GRADUATES

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedication of the recent graduates of the Texas Job Corps Centers.

The four Job Corps centers in Texas have served the people of our great state for over 50 years, providing a no-cost education and career technical training program that helps young Texans from ages 16 to 24 improve the quality of their lives through career technical and academic training.

By graduating from the Job Corps, these young men and women have proven that they have skills and determination to succeed and be valuable contributors to communities throughout Texas and the country.

On behalf of the people of the 29th Congressional District of Texas, I would like to congratulate the 2015 Job Corps graduates of all four centers in our state—David L. Carrasco Job Corps, Gary Job Corps, Laredo Job Corps, and North Texas Job Corps.

I would also like to recognize the Texas Job Corps for their half century of success and say thank you for the service the Job Corps Program and its graduates have provided to Texas.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIRE-
MENT OF ADMIRAL JAMES A.
WINNEFELD, JR.

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Admiral James A. Winnefeld, Jr., who is retiring July 31, 2015, after serving with distinction for more than 37 years, culminating

his career as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Throughout his service as a senior military leader, Admiral Winnefeld has provided this body, and in particular the House Armed Services Committee, with invaluable testimony and candid military advice. Over the last four years, Admiral Winnefeld has served as the ninth Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. I think I speak for all of my colleagues on the Armed Services Committee when I say his vast experience, knowledge, outstanding leadership and professionalism combined with his deep respect and consideration for all of our service men and women will be greatly missed.

During his tenure as Vice Chairman, he provided military advice to not only the legislative branch, but also to the President of the United States, Secretary of Defense, National Security Council and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on a wide range of complex military and national security issues during an extremely challenging period in our country's history.

In this challenging fiscal and security environment, Admiral Winnefeld helped lead our military through global events and threats to include the Department of Defense's rebalance to the Pacific, Iraq troop withdrawal, Afghanistan transition, the global threat of ISIL, instability in Syria and Russia's provocative actions in Eastern Europe. In addition, the Vice Chairman played key roles in advising our nation's leaders on and formulating plans for various counterterrorism efforts.

As Vice Chairman, he led the development and implementation of the 2014 Quadrennial Defense Review, an effort that involved thousands of senior leadership man-hours. Pivotal to his role as the Vice Chairman he also chaired the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (or JROC), where he worked tirelessly to transform the requirements processes to become more agile, transparent and inclusive. He focused its efforts on the immediate capability needs of the Combatant Commanders and the most pressing military issues of the Joint Warfighter. As co-chair of the Defense Acquisition Board, Admiral Winnefeld worked to link the requirements, resource and acquisition communities in developing programs to deliver appropriate capabilities to the Joint Warfighter at the right time and for the right price. Admiral Winnefeld's work as a co-chair of the nuclear weapons council ensured our military's nuclear enterprise and number one priority remained viable and relevant as a strategic deterrent to our nation's adversaries.

Admiral Winnefeld graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology and received his commission from the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps program. He subsequently served with three fighter squadrons flying the F-14 Tomcat and as an instructor at the Navy Fighter Weapons School. Admiral Winnefeld's unit commands at sea include Fighter Squadron 211, USS *Cleveland* (LPD 7) and USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65). He led "Big E" through her 18th deployment, which included combat operations in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom immediately after the terrorist acts of Sept. 11, 2001. As Commander, Carrier Strike Group TWO/Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group, he led Task Forces 50, 152 and 58 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and maritime interception operations in the Arabian Gulf. He also served as

Commander, United States SIXTH Fleet, Commander NATO Allied Joint Command Lisbon and Commander Striking and Support Forces NATO.

His shore tours include service in the Joint Staff Operations Directorate (J-3), as Senior Aide to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and as Executive Assistant to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations. As a flag officer he served ashore as director, Warfare Programs and Transformational Concepts, United States Fleet Forces Command, as Director of Joint Innovation and Experimentation at United States Joint Forces Command and as the Director for Strategic Plans and Policy (J-5) on the Joint Staff. Prior to becoming the Vice Chairman, Admiral Winnefeld served as the Commander of North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM).

As the Commander of NORAD and USNORTHCOM, Admiral Winnefeld led historic advances in the working relationship between USNORTHCOM, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Drug Enforcement Administration, Customs and Border Protection and the National Guard, specifically with the Dual-Status Commander concept. In addition, he led the U.S.-Mexican military-to-military relationship to a historic level of collaboration and brought very tangible results to our Nations' important struggle against the fast-growing transnational criminal organizations. Through his distinctive accomplishments, Admiral Winnefeld culminated a long and distinguished career in the service of our nation and his tenure leaves a lasting positive legacy to the Armed Forces. I appreciate his extraordinary reflected great credit upon himself, the United States Navy, and the Department of Defense.

For nearly forty years Admiral Winnefeld has performed his duty professionally, honestly and with great dedication. Our nation will miss his leadership and expertise.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing him and his family all the best as he moves to the next phase of his life.

RECOGNIZING COL. CHUCK
HODGES' SERVICE TO JOINT
BASE LEWIS-McCHORD AND THE
UNITED STATES

HON. DENNY HECK

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. HECK of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor my good friend and Commander of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, U.S. Army Colonel Charles Hodges, Jr.

COL Hodges will leave command next month after a tremendously successful three years at JBLM. He has played a critical role in the implementation of joint basing and has proved the success of the program to both the Department of Defense and the Army. In addition, his partnership with the surrounding community is unprecedented. He has strengthened an already robust relationship between the base and community by finding creative solutions to issues such as traffic congestion and noise abatement.

COL Hodges has also been instrumental in ensuring our separating troops can pursue job

training and career opportunities. He has worked to develop resources in the surrounding community and at the state and federal levels to provide transition assistance for all veterans.

The Army will be losing a strong leader when COL Hodges retires later this year after a long and impressive career in the Army. He started his service in the summer of 1985 when he enlisted in the Florida National Guard as an 11B Infantryman. After being commissioned as an Infantry Officer and Distinguished Military Graduate from the University of Central Florida (UCF) he completed the Infantry Officer Basic Course, Airborne School and Ranger School. He was then assigned to Germany and 3-5 Cavalry in the 3rd Armored Division. While there he participated in Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. After returning from Germany and completing the required military schooling, he commanded A Company, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry (ASSLT) in the Republic of Korea; and Company H, the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard) in Arlington, Virginia.

In 2001-2002, COL Hodges attended the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth and was then assigned to Fort Lewis, where he served as a Battalion Operations Officer and Executive Officer in 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry, (Tomahawks); and as the Operations Officer of 3-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team. While there, he was part of the team that certified the Army's first Stryker Brigade Combat Team and deployed as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

After promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, he served as the Chair of the Military Science Department at Duke University. In 2007, he returned to Fort Lewis and took command of 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry, 3-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team. He commanded the battalion for three years, and he deployed it to participate in Operation Iraqi Freedom. After command, he was selected to serve as the Director of Training, G3, for I Corps. After attending the United States Army War College, COL Hodges took command of the newly created Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) in August of 2012.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize COL Hodges' successful and decorated career. I commend him for his service, leadership, and dedication. I also wish to recognize the sacrifices and contributions made by his family including his wife Kathy and their children Shelby and Sam.

The State of Washington and our country owe COL Hodges a debt of gratitude for his work and dedication to our country. We thank him for his service to our country and congratulate him as he begins the next chapter of his career.

COMMENDING UNITED STATES-
TURKEY MILITARY COOPERATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to hear the announcement made last Thursday that Incirlik Air Base in Turkey will now be made available for both unmanned and manned airstrikes

against the Islamic State. The announcement indicates a substantial increase in cooperation with our longstanding NATO ally, the Republic of Turkey. The enhanced operations will include the direct involvement of the Turkish Air Force in conjunction with our own military.

In recent days, Islamic State terrorists have stepped up their attacks on Turkey. On July 20, a suicide bomber took the lives of 32 innocent civilians near a cultural center in Suruc, Turkey. On July 23, a non-commissioned Turkish officer was killed in an armed attack at a military border post at Elbeyli, Turkey. I wish to express my sincere condolences to our friends in Turkey for these losses, which provide further evidence of the barbaric nature of the terrorist forces now dominating much of Syria and Iraq.

It is more essential than ever that we deepen our cooperation with key allies like Turkey as we seek to bring peace and security to a troubled region. I wish to commend the continued cooperative efforts of the military leadership in both the United States and the Republic of Turkey. It is essential that this bond between our countries remains strong as we confront this strategic challenge.

TRIBUTE TO KATIE ROTH

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Katie Roth for being named the 2015 Woman Business Owner of the Year by the award-winning central Iowa publication, the Des Moines Business Record.

Since 2000, the Des Moines Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a group of standout female leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities either personally or professionally, forging a path for other women to follow. The women given this prestigious award are individuals who have selflessly dedicated their time and proven their leadership abilities across a variety of professional fields.

Ms. Roth got her start in the news business after earning her Bachelor of Arts in Broadcast Journalism from the University of Iowa. With hard work and her natural leadership qualities, Ms. Roth quickly worked her way up in the ranks, until ultimately she decided to open the doors of Portico Staffing. Since founding Portico Staffing, Ms. Roth has continued to grow the business through hard work and determination to succeed.

Ms. Roth has selflessly dedicated her time and talents to improving the lives of others. When she isn't busy expanding the size and scope of her business she invests her time in mentoring others, helping to foster the next generation of Iowa's leaders. Ms. Roth's high ethical standards and level of achievement have given her the necessary qualifications to receive this prestigious award.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Ms. Roth in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better the State of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Rep-

resentatives to join me in congratulating her on receiving this distinguished award, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING BASF ON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize BASF on their 150th Anniversary. Their longevity as a company is a testament to their innovative products, the drive of their leaders, and the hard work of their employees. BASF's presence in the United States goes back to the 1950s, and today they employ over 15,000 Americans in more than 30 states. They deserve to be commended for this milestone anniversary.

BASF is a pillar of our community in Southeast Michigan. Specifically, their plant in Wyandotte, Michigan employs over 1,000 people in good paying, high skilled jobs. Notable is their dedication to community relations and charitable activities. The company played a critical role in the founding of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, the only international wildlife refuge in this country. They worked to restore Fighting Island in the Detroit River so it is suitable for wildlife habitat, and they contributed to the trails in the Humbug Marsh unit, among numerous other activities. Their dedication to conservation, and giving back to the community, is to be commended.

When BASF was founded 150 years ago, nobody would have imagined how large the company would grow or the impact they would have on the world. Today, they continue to produce innovative products while also being responsible corporate stewards. This is significant in today's world and deserves praise. Congratulations to everyone at BASF as you celebrate your 150th Anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 150 years of success and community contributions of BASF.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, from Friday, July 24, 2015 through Tuesday, July 28, 2015, I was out of the country participating in the congressional delegation accompanying President Obama on his diplomatic visits to Kenya and Ethiopia. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

On Roll Call 467 I would have voted Aye (S. 1482, Need-Based Education Aid Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 468 I would have voted Aye (H.R. 1656, Secret Service Improvements Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 469 I would have voted Aye (Amendment to H.R. 2770, Keep Our Travelers Safe and Secure Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 470 I would have voted No (On Ordering Previous Question for H. Res. 380,

providing for consideration of H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 471 I would have voted No (On H. Res. 380, providing for consideration of H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 472 I would have voted Aye (H.R. 675, Veterans Compensation Cost of Living Adjustment Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 473 I would have voted No (Young Amendment to H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 474 I would have voted No (Smith of Missouri Amendment to H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 475 I would have voted Aye (Johnson of Georgia Amendment to H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 476 I would have voted Aye (Capps Amendment to H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 477 I would have voted Aye (Cicilline Amendment to H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 478 I would have voted Aye (Jackson Lee/Cicilline Amendment to H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 479 I would have voted Aye (Nadler Amendment to H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

On Roll Call No. 480 I would have voted Aye (Pocan Amendment to H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

On Roll Call No. 481 I would have voted Aye (Motion to Recommit H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

On Roll Call No. 482 I would have voted No (On Passage of H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015).

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MEDICAID AND MEDICARE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid.

In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Social Security Act into law—establishing the groundbreaking programs of Medicare and Medicaid and guaranteeing that a wide range of health and medical services would be available to millions of Americans previously ineligible or unable to attain basic healthcare.

Prior to this law, over half of our nation's seniors did not have access to health insurance. Yet one year after its establishment, 19 million seniors and disabled individuals were provided coverage. That figure has grown dramatically; for the last half century, Medicare and Medicaid have provided vital healthcare

services to countless seniors, individuals with disabilities and low-income families. By 2014, 54 million Americans relied on Medicare for quality health care and economic security, while 69 million—including one in three children—are benefited by Medicaid and its services.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the 50th anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid. I look forward to continuing to strengthen and protect Medicare and Medicaid to ensure that the promise of health and economic security will be there for generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 469 my flight was delayed due to weather. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

CONGRATULATING FIVE STUDENTS FROM THE 24TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS FOR RECEIVING FULBRIGHT AWARDS DURING THE 2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEAR

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Andrew Hasson of Coppell, Afshan Kamrudin of Carrollton, Matthew Lenzen of Farmers Branch, Abhishek Raj of Carrollton, and Amanda Kathleen White of Farmers Branch, who were selected to be 2014-2015 Fulbright Grantees. This is an incredibly illustrious achievement, and I am honored that these came from my Congressional District in Texas.

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 by Congress. These five join the already 360,000 past participants over seven decades in the Fulbright Program, a prestigious group selected through open, merit-based competitions. Their destinations and universities are as follows:

Andrew Hasson to Malaysia through the University of Pennsylvania. Afshan Kamrudin to South Africa through Southern Methodist University. Matthew Lenzen to Taiwan through Texas A&M University. Abhishek Raj to Germany through the University of Texas at Dallas. Amanda Kathleen White to Japan through the University of North Texas.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring Andrew Hasson, Afshan Kamrudin, Matthew Lenzen, Abhishek Raj, and Amanda Kathleen White for this tremendous achievement.

HONORING H. GRAYSON COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR JONATHAN SWEET

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks in honor of Grayson County Administrator Jonathan Sweet, who was recently named 2015 County Leader of the Year by Penton Media's "American City and County" magazine.

As is noted in the magazine's story, "Sweet started his professional career as the Director of Economic Development of Carroll County, Va., and then served Danville, Va., in their office of economic development. Sweet then moved to Bland County, Va., to become County Administrator at the age of 24—one of the youngest in the state to hold that position. However, he was tied to Grayson [County], where many of his friends and family lived. It's where he felt most at home."

Jonathan returned to Grayson in 2009 to serve as County Administrator and began addressing several difficult challenges, among them returning financial stability to the county and encouraging the growth of jobs and the economy. "As the furniture industry shrank and textile jobs moved overseas, the county really began to suffer, ultimately hitting an unemployment rate of 14.6 percent," Derek Prall wrote in the magazine. "By the time Sweet came on board, the county had taken on \$18.3 million in debt, and was relying on credit to stay afloat."

He immediately began working at the tasks at hand. In part because of Jonathan's efforts, "Grayson county went from one of the most financially challenged and distressed counties in Virginia, to becoming one of the most financially stable and well managed in the region," David Sexton, Chairman of the Grayson County Board of Supervisors, told the magazine. Further, the magazine notes, "The unemployment rate now stands at 6.9 percent, less than half of what it was at its peak."

Jonathan Sweet is a hardworking, dedicated, and passionate public servant, and I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating him on being named the 2015 County Leader of the Year. I commend Jonathan for his accomplishments and for his ongoing efforts to make Grayson County a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE OPEN AND TRANSPARENT SMITHSONIAN ACT OF 2015

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Open and Transparent Smithsonian Act of 2015 to further ensure that the Smithsonian Institution is accountable to the public for the taxpayer funds it receives. The bill provides that, for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Privacy Act, the Smithsonian should be considered a federal agency. This bill is necessary because

there is no reason why the Smithsonian should not be accountable to the public for the annual federal appropriations it receives, which account for 70 percent of its budget. Although the Smithsonian was created by Congress as a federal trust, it receives the great majority of its funding from the federal government, much like federal agencies, and has always been treated as a federal agency except for FOIA and other open government laws. In the 1990s, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit found under the current act that the Smithsonian is not a federal agency for purposes of FOIA and the Privacy Act. The Smithsonian's website states that it is "not an Executive Branch agency, and FOIA does not apply to the Smithsonian."

This bill would amend FOIA and the Privacy Act to apply to the Smithsonian, which would require the institution to make administrative staff manuals, interpretations of law or regulations, final opinions, policies, and other records available to the public. The bill would also require the Smithsonian's Board of Regents and other boards to hold meetings to the public.

The current absence of transparency at the Smithsonian should be of concern, particularly in light of its recent history of secrecy and corruption. In 2007, an independent review found that the Smithsonian Board of Regents had violated many principles of good management during the tenure of Lawrence Small as Secretary of the Smithsonian. The report indicated that the Board had failed to provide the needed oversight, had over-compensated the Secretary, and had allowed the creation of an "insular culture." The report further found that the Smithsonian's deputy secretary and chief operating officer, Sheila Burke, was frequently absent from her duties because of outside activities, including service on corporate boards, for which she earned more than \$1.2 million over six years. Importantly, the report indicated that Smithsonian leaders took great measures to keep secret these missteps and mismanagement.

While the Smithsonian has since had new leaders, who are moving away from the mistakes of the past, Congress has not ensured that the Smithsonian is a transparent entity, which should not depend on who is in charge. An entity supported primarily by federal funds must be accountable to the American people.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD J. TRACY

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Donald J. Tracy of Cedar Park, TX. A pillar of this bustling community nestled in the heart of my congressional district, Donald recently resigned from the Cedar Park City Council to start a challenging doctoral program at Texas State University.

Daily life in Cedar Park rests upon the shoulders of dedicated public servants like Donald Tracy. First elected to the City Council in 2010, Donald served as mayor pro tem and as a critical member of several city committees. Widely admired and respected for his

leadership, Donald has been a public servant both his colleagues and constituents could rely upon.

Donald's dedication to service extends to his professional endeavors as well. For over 15 years, he has worked in Central Texas as a human resource management and workforce education professional, where he has led community- and state-wide skills development initiatives focused on training workers in high-growth, high-opportunity industry clusters. He currently works for Austin Community College, where he serves as Director of Business Operations and Marketing in the Continuing Education Division. Donald's doctoral work will directly support his critical efforts to develop certification programs for adults who want to transition into new jobs.

Donald Tracy's extraordinary commitment to service reflects the best values of Central Texas. There's no doubt that Cedar Park is a better place because of him. I heartily salute his work and wish him the best of luck in all his new endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR SARA
KUROVSKI

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sara Kurovski, Mayor of Pleasant Hill, for being named the 2015 Meredith Woman of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, the Des Moines Business Record.

Since 2000, the Des Moines Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a group of standout female leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities either personally or professionally, forging a path for other women to follow. The women given this prestigious award are individuals who have selflessly dedicated their time and proven their leadership abilities across a variety of professional fields.

Mayor Kurovski's passion for public service began when she attended Drake University and received her Master's degree in public administration. Since graduation she has dedicated her time and talents to serving others and improving her community.

Elected in 2013 as Mayor of Pleasant Hill, she has worked tirelessly to improve her community. Mayor Kurovski initially was involved in a number of boards for the city of Pleasant Hill, where her passion for public service and improving the lives of others grew. But running the city of Pleasant Hill is only one aspect of her life, and her work does not stop there. She also works for Iowa based Kum & Go as their manager of sustainability. I admire her dedication to the State of Iowa and believe it is hard working people like Mayor Kurovski that will lead our future generations.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Mayor Kurovski in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better the State of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating her on receiving this esteemed

designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING CONGRESSMAN
KEN HECHLER AND CAROL
HECHLER

HON. ALEXANDER X. MOONEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Congressman Ken Hechler and Carol Hechler on reaffirming their commitment to each other in their marriage on August 8th. Congressman Hechler has honorably served the amazing state of West Virginia for over fifty years, first as a combat historian in the United States Army during World War II, then as the Representative of the 4th district and as West Virginia's Secretary of State. I am overjoyed that Congressman Hechler has decided to honor and uphold the sacred institution of marriage with his wife, Carol.

I join with their families, friends, and loved ones in congratulating Congressman Hechler and his wife Carol on this momentous occasion. I wish the reaffirmed couple the best of luck, and long, happy lives together.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. CHAD
AUDI'S SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Chad Audi's years of service to our community and the State of Michigan.

The Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries started as a soup kitchen in 1909. It had a reputation for serving hot meals, providing canned goods, and other necessities to feed many people who had so little. Today, they offer numerous services including substance abuse treatment, transitional and permanent housing, job preparation, and educational courses. Starting as a volunteer in 1994, Dr. Audi has worked tirelessly to transform this organization.

After 10 years of service, Dr. Audi became the President and CEO of the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries in 2004. Since then, he has helped to make this community institution into the largest rescue mission in the United States. The resources they offer to women, children, senior citizens, and veterans, have made the Detroit Metropolitan Area a better place to work and live. Dr. Audi's tenure and contributions reflect his passion for service, his commitment to his community, and his calling to improve the lives of others. Dr. Audi deserves our utmost respect and admiration and this world would be a better place with more people like him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the work of Dr. Chad Audi and the strength he has given to the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. ALEXIS
JOY MARIE HAYES

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Alexis Joy Marie Hayes for her service to my office and to the people of the 21st Congressional District of California.

Alexis Hayes was born and raised in Visalia, California to Mr. and Mrs. James and Kristin Hayes on February 5, 1994. Six years later, in 1999, Alexis was blessed with the birth of her sister, Riley Hayes.

Ms. Hayes attended Mountain View Elementary and Divisadero Middle School prior to attending Mt. Whitney High School, where she graduated in 2012. Following high school, Alexis began her general studies at the College of the Sequoias in Visalia, California. While in school, Ms. Hayes served as the President of the local College Republicans Chapter.

Since high school, Ms. Hayes has been an active member of her community. From an early age, she has demonstrated a strong interest in politics and an unwavering commitment to public service.

She has held positions as Office Manager for Valadao for Congress, Intern for Congressman DEVIN NUNES, and most recently, as a Constituent Services Representative in my Hanford, California office.

Friday, July 31, 2015, will be Ms. Hayes last day as a member of my staff. In August, Ms. Hayes will begin attending the University of California, Berkeley. While I am proud of her academic achievements, she will be greatly missed as a member of my team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Alexis Hayes for her public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing her well as she begins the next chapter of her life.

TRIBUTE TO WORLD WAR II
VETERAN CARL CRISP

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of a remarkable war hero from Indiana's 6th Congressional District—World War II Veteran, Carl Crisp.

Carl honorably served in the United States Army Air Corps from 1943 to 1945. He flew numerous missions with the allied forces throughout the Ardennes and played a critical role in liberating France from Nazi occupation.

It's been a long time coming, but on Saturday, August 1, 2015, Carl will be presented the French Legion of Honor Medal during a ceremony at the Henry County Historical Society Museum. This distinguished honor is given only to those who have served France or the ideals it upholds, and Carl's service in World War II makes him more than deserving.

I congratulate Carl on this recognition and thank him for his service on behalf of our great nation. The entire free world owes him a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid.

GUTHRIE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Guthrie's Chicken based in my hometown of Haleyville, Alabama for 50 years in the 4th Congressional District, Alabama and the southeastern United States.

In 1965 Hal Guthrie opened a drive-in restaurant in Haleyville serving hamburgers, barbeque, fish and fried chicken.

Eighteen years after opening, Hal Guthrie decided to add chicken fingers to the menu, which included a family created dipping sauce. Guthrie did not know at the time that his decision would make his name known from one side of Alabama to the other.

In 1982, the Guthries opened a second restaurant, this one just off campus of Auburn University. Not only was the Guthrie's chicken finger box popular with college students, people visiting Auburn for football games wanted a location in their hometown as well.

The Guthries answered that demand by opening several more stores across Alabama and also in places like Athens, Georgia, Tallahassee, Florida and even Cleveland, Ohio. If there is one thing that comes close to being as big as football in the south, it's a love for Guthrie's chicken.

A half-century after the first restaurant was opened by the Guthrie family, they are still a family owned and operated business. They are a shining example of American entrepreneurship. Having grown up in Haleyville and being in the 4th Congressional District, I am particularly proud of this great tradition and wish the Guthries another 50 years of great success.

OLDER AMERICANS ACT

HON. MARTHA MCSALLY

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, legislation that has helped countless Americans maintain their independence and dignity as they grow older.

The modest programs under the Older Americans Act make a big difference in communities across our country by providing nutrition and transportation assistance to seniors and helping them meet their daily needs.

In Pima County in my district, the Older Americans Act provides: 800 people a day with a home delivered meal; 1,200 people with assistance with bath, laundry, and other household needs; transportation to senior meal sites; and many other services.

Nearly 130,000 seniors live in the Second District, and they deserve the opportunity to live out their retirement without worrying about how they will meet basic needs.

Recently we saw the 50th anniversary of the Older Americans Act as well as the Senate unanimously pass legislation to reauthorize these critical programs. I urge my colleagues in the House to support reauthorization, so we can help give seniors the retirement security they deserve.

CANCEL AUGUST RECESS

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed that Congress plans to adjourn for August recess without addressing critical issues important to the American people.

I appreciate that district work periods allow Members to visit with folks back in their community, but it is now becoming a habit for Congress to abandon a long "to do" list in the rush to get out of town. This August is no exception.

Unfortunately, Congress has not done its job. It has not completed the work of the people; including budgeting and critical national security legislation. Our constituents expect us to stay and finish the job.

Let's clear our schedules and—in the strongest possible terms—request the Speaker to call Congress back to Washington for the month of August and to finish the business of the people.

As I have said in previous years on the eve of August recess, I'm prepared to stay in Washington as long as it takes.

These issues are too important to delay.

TRIBUTE TO KATHRYN KUNERT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kathryn Kunert for being named a 2015 Woman of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, the Des Moines Business Record.

Since 2000, the Des Moines Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a group of standout female leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities either personally or professionally, forging a path for other women to follow. The women given this prestigious award are individuals who have selflessly dedicated their time and proven their leadership abilities across a variety of professional fields.

Ms. Kunert is a true testament to hard work, dedication and commitment. She has spent the last 19 years at MidAmerican Energy and now serves as the Vice President of Business and Community Development. Throughout her time at MidAmerican she has focused on forging lasting relationships in the community and with businesses, helping to grow the size and scope of MidAmerican. Through her leadership and expertise, Ms. Kunert has had a positive and lasting impact on all she has worked with.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Ms. Kunert in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better the State of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating her on receiving this distinguished award, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD KELLER

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Howard Keller for his many years of service to the community of Adrian, Michigan.

On July 21, Mr. Keller retired after 34 years as a board member of the Lenawee Intermediate School District, most recently as board president. As an advocate for students and teachers alike, Mr. Keller's vision and dedicated servant leadership has been instrumental in moving the school district forward.

In addition to his role on the school board, Mr. Keller's tireless leadership has been evident in a number of causes. Earlier this year, Mr. Keller stepped down as a board member of the Lenawee Community Mental Health Authority after 26 years of service. He also continues to serve as the treasurer of the Maurice Spear Campus corporation board, a juvenile detention facility, a position he has held for 25 years.

Mr. Keller has left an indelible impact on our community through his dedication to promoting quality education, providing for those with developmental and emotional disabilities, and helping youth in need. He will be sorely missed, but I trust he will enjoy spending his newfound freedom with his family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Howard Keller for his many years of dedicated public service and wish him the best in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 467–482 due to congressional travel.

Had I been present, I would have voted yes on #467, yes on #468, yes on #469, no on #470, no on #471, yes on #472, no on #473, no on #474, yes on #475, yes on #476, yes on #477, yes on #478, and no on #479, yes on #480, yes on #481, and no on #482.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JOE BOB MCGINNIS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and Christian ministry of Dr. Joe Bob McGinnis. The residents of Roanoke and surrounding communities were blessed to have had such a wonderful Pastor, neighbor, and friend.

Dr. Joe Bob McGinnis was born September 30, 1947 in Brownwood to Dr. Robert W. and Joyce McGinnis. He earned his B.S. degree and doctor of divinity degree from Dallas Baptist College and his master of divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

For the past 44 years, Dr. McGinnis preached and brought the Word of God to people all over Texas. He pastored several churches including Northrich Baptist Church in Richardson, First Baptist Church in McAllen, as well as the church that he founded, Rockhaven Church in Roanoke. Joe Bob loved the Lord and his entire congregation. He offered words of comfort and peace to those who were suffering while also preaching The Word boldly and fervently.

Dr. McGinnis is survived by his wife, Brenda, daughter, Taylor Hubbard, and son Josh. Dr. McGinnis' efforts to spread the Gospel of Christ will not be forgotten as he leaves behind his beloved church and thriving congregation in Roanoke. Each year he led Trophy Club's National Day of Prayer event and delivered thoughtful and timely devotions recognizing the faith foundation of our country. I personally appreciated his prayers for myself and other public officials. It is an honor to have represented such an esteemed constituent in the U.S. House of Representatives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 21, 2015, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 448 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1557), and

"Yes" on roll call vote No. 449 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2256, as amended).

CONGRATULATING COLONEL TODD MAYER

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Military, I congratulate Colonel Todd Mayer on 30 years of valued service and dedication to his country.

Since 1985, Col. Mayer has upheld the core LDRSHIP values that are near and dear to the National Guard: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless-Service, Honor, Integrity, & Personal Courage.

A highly decorated soldier, Col. Mayer was awarded the Purple Heart in 1991 after being wounded in Operation Desert Storm and the Bronze Star in 2003 for his heroic achievement. His time in uniform is celebrated by these courageous leadership efforts. He has brought incomparable virtue to himself, his family, his uniform, and his nation.

Col. Mayer, congratulations again on your retirement and thank you for your longstanding service to the United States Army National Guard.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF KAREN IGNAGNI

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Karen Ignagni for her more than two decades of leadership as President and CEO of America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP) and to wish her every success in her new position as President and CEO of EmblemHealth.

Karen Ignagni served with great distinction at AHIP. Her intellect, broad policy knowledge and experience helped shape some of the most consequential national health policies for our country, including the Affordable Care Act. Her ability to see the benefits the Act would bring to insurers and consumers was extraordinarily important and contributed to the successes now being realized by millions of Americans.

Jay Gellert, the highly regarded President and CEO of Health Net praised Karen, saying that

"She was the face of the industry when it was attacked. Without compromising her beliefs, she handled all of that with integrity and dignity, and I think that was because from the start she was committed to the end point." He opined that after all she had done to frame the Affordable Care Act's regulatory infrastructure, she probably took on the challenges of leading EmblemHealth as a way to "play it out on the ground."

Karen Ignagni, a native of Providence, Rhode Island, is a graduate of Providence College and earned her MBA at Loyola College. Prior to her work at AHIP, she served as Director of the AFL-CIO's Department of Employee Benefits, and worked for the U.S. Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and in the office of Senator Claiborne Pell. She has written about health policy issues and has received many honors for her leadership, including the Second Century Award for Excellence in Health Care.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to Karen Ignagni and wishing her every success in her leadership of EmblemHealth. We are a stronger, better country because of Karen Ignagni and her distinguished work and I'm privileged to have worked with her and call her my friend.

EXEMPLARY VOLUNTEERISM: TOBIAS GEIGER

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and thank Tobias Geiger from East Central Electric Cooperative in my district for his service and sacrifice to put into action cooperative principle #6—cooperation among cooperatives. In March this year, Tobias traveled to Haiti as a volunteer for the NRECA International Foundation where he helped build the country's first electric cooperative. This work is

part of a rural electrification project managed by NRECA International and funded by the United Nations Environmental Program, USAID, and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Electricity is a critical element in improving the quality of life and to providing healthcare, education, access to clean water and economic opportunity. In Haiti, less than 15 percent of the population has regular access to electricity. Tobias spent two weeks in the town of Coteaux to help build a distribution system that will interconnect three towns. Upon completion, the diesel-solar hybrid electric system will provide safe, affordable and reliable power to 1600 consumers. His contribution included upgrading and installing new power lines, training locally hired linemen in proper construction methods, pole climbing techniques, proper headline use, and important safety practices.

Thank you Tobias Geiger, for your dedication and commitment.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Yankee Air Museum's observance of the 70th anniversary of Victory over Japan Day. Because of the bravery of the Greatest Generation, this day marks the end of humanity's darkest time, the spreading of liberty to many peoples across the world, and the start of the greatest peace time economic boom in American history.

On August 15th, 1945, the Empire of Japan surrendered to the United States aboard the USS *Missouri*. Seventy years after the end of the Second World War, we celebrate this historical event and honor the sacrifices of the brave men and women who served this country.

We are honored to have the Yankee Air Museum commemorate this event. Since the formation of the Yankee Air Museum in 1981, it has done excellent work to restore and preserve artifacts from World War II. Through its commemoration of Rosie the Riveter, the museum has tirelessly highlighted the efforts of the women who were the heartbeat of the Arsenal of Democracy.

Mr. Speaker, as the World War II era aircrafts fly over Yankee Air Museum, I hope my colleagues will join me to celebrate the freedom of the many because of the sacrifices of the men and women of the greatest generation.

275TH ANNIVERSARY OF CORNWALL, CONNECTICUT

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 275th anniversary of Cornwall, Connecticut.

This weekend, Cornwall will begin its celebration of this historic milestone. Over the past 275 years, Cornwall has stayed true to its roots as a small agricultural New England town. Its rich history has endured and remains evident in its rolling farmlands and colonial era architecture.

Though small in size, the town of Cornwall has been making a big impact since it was incorporated in 1740. During the 1800s, Cornwall's rich natural resources made it an ideal location for iron production. Two of Cornwall's iron firms formed part of the nationally recognized Salisbury Iron District. Cornwall is also home to the historic Covered Bridge. Built in 1864, this is one of the last standing covered bridges in Connecticut, and is still functional today. The bridge serves as an enduring symbol of Cornwall's rural New England legacy.

Cornwall exemplifies the type of small agricultural community on which our country was built. As we have grown as a nation, this community has continued to demonstrate its ability to adapt and prosper. I am honored to represent Cornwall in Congress.

Congratulations to Cornwall on its 275th anniversary.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "END OIL AND GAS TAX SUBSIDIES ACT OF 2015"

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the "End Oil and Gas Tax Subsidies Act of 2015" that will save American taxpayers more than \$40 billion over the next decade.

American taxpayers are subsidizing some of the largest and most profitable companies in the world with their tax dollars. These subsidies underwrite the costs of oil and gas production, including offsetting intangible drilling costs, the cost of tertiary injectants, and costs associated with domestic production. There are also subsidies that offset foreign taxes, provide tax shelters disguising active income with passive losses, and subsidies that allow major oil companies to discount the value of their inventories.

The "End Oil and Gas Tax Subsidies Act of 2015" would end 10 of the most egregious tax loopholes enjoyed by the oil and gas industry—tax loopholes that have helped companies like Chevron, ExxonMobil and Shell add to the billions in profits they already make every year. The legislation is very similar to President Obama's proposal to eliminate oil and gas tax preferences in his FY 2016 Budget.

Instead of padding the bottom line of oil and gas companies, taxpayer dollars could be better spent renewing and rebuilding our nation's infrastructure and investing in emerging clean resources like wind and solar that will help us combat climate change and transition to a clean energy future.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO ELISABETH BUCK

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Elisabeth Buck for being named a 2015 Woman of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, the Des Moines Business Record.

Since 2000, the Des Moines Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of female leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities either personally or professionally, forging a path for other women to follow. The women given this prestigious award are individuals who have selflessly dedicated their time and proven their leadership abilities across a variety of professional fields.

Ms. Buck has served in a wide-range of leadership roles throughout her career. At Iowa State University, where she earned a BA in political science, Ms. Buck and her peers realized her leadership abilities when she was elected student body president. That was just the beginning. She went on to serve as Deputy Chief of Staff for Iowa Governors Tom Vilsack and Chet Culver. Following her time in the Governor's Office she took on the role as Director of Iowa Workforce Development (IWD). As Director of IWD, Ms. Buck changed the culture of the state agency, creating a more efficient and effective department through the implementation of new, innovative programs.

After her work in state government, Ms. Buck joined United Way of Central Iowa in 2011 as Senior Vice President of Community Impact. Since then, she has risen through the ranks and now serves as the Chief Community Impact Officer. Her time at United Way has been concentrated on advancing their overall mission of improving lives through the mobilization of the community and rallying around a common goal. As the Chief Community Impact Officer she oversees a sizeable budget, utilizing the resources given to her in a cost-efficient and effective manner.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Ms. Buck in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her abilities to better her community and the State of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating her on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

HONORING MR. LANCE GROMME, RECIPIENT OF THE 2015 VETERAN OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR THE STATE OF WASHINGTON VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Lance

Gromme of Colville, Washington for receiving the 2015 Veteran of the Year Award for the State of Washington Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). I want to recognize Mr. Gromme for his contributions and his tireless effort to improve the lives of our Eastern Washington veterans.

This annual award honors a veteran from Washington State who has committed him or herself to the ideals of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and who shows an undying devotion to bettering the lives of the veterans within their community. Through the years, Mr. Lance Gromme has demonstrated this commitment and is well deserving of this award.

Mr. Gromme's devotion to serving his fellow veterans began forty years ago when he became a life member of the American Legion while still active duty in the United States Army. After his retirement, Lance continued to show his dedication by becoming a life member of the VFW. After joining the Colville, Washington post in 2009, Mr. Gromme quickly became a leader among his peers. After just one year of involvement at the Colville post he assumed the positions of Quarter Master, Service Officer, and Fundraising Coordinator. In addition to meticulously managing finances and running all major fundraising events, Mr. Gromme spends countless hours diligently working for veterans.

In his role, Mr. Gromme was instrumental in encouraging the Stevens County Commissioners to establish a Veterans Resource Phone line to assist veterans with a wide range of needs and issues. Moreover, when it came to his attention that some veterans were not receiving the services they needed, he joined with the Northeast Washington Hunger Coalition to help those veterans in need. Mr. Gromme is a true testament to what an involved and devoted community member looks like and continually goes above and beyond to better the lives of his fellow veterans.

So today I acknowledge these accomplishments and congratulate Mr. Lance Gromme on being a constant leader in his community and on receiving the distinct award of Veteran of the Year for the Washington State Veterans of Foreign Wars. I applaud your work and continued advocacy for the veterans in North-eastern Washington.

RETIREMENT OF COLLEEN KELLEY, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL TREASURY EMPLOYEES UNION

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Colleen Kelley who is retiring as President of the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU). Her resignation will become effective in August, following NTEU's National Convention in Hollywood, Florida.

Colleen Kelley has provided the NTEU and federal employees with skilled leadership over the past 16 years, while always advocating in an honest and forthright manner with Congress. Having served at the IRS and in various NTEU roles, her experience and unique perspective on the impacts of proposals on

federal employees was vital in educating lawmakers and constituents on the important role federal employees play in keeping our nation safe and growing our economy.

During her national presidency, federal employees have contributed \$159 billion toward deficit reduction over 10 years in pay freezes, increased pension retirement contributions, and furloughs. She has relentlessly educated the public on the important contributions made by federal employees and how cutting employee pay and benefits hurts our government's ability to recruit and retain the best workforce possible to serve the American people.

As someone who has the honor of representing over 51,000 federal employees from the 4th Congressional District of Maryland, I have been fortunate to work closely with Colleen for several years. I thank her for her dedication to federal employees and our country, and I look forward to coordinating closely with Colleen's successor to ensure America's federal employees receive the pay and benefits they deserve.

I wish Colleen continued success, happiness, and hopefully some well-earned rest. She leaves behind a legacy of service that others can and should aspire to.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 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 \$18,151,851,139,012.51. We've added \$7,524,974,090,099.43 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 COLONEL H.
CHARLES "CHUCK" HODGES JR.

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Colonel H. Charles "Chuck" Hodges Jr., a decorated and active leader in our Armed Forces.

For the past several years, Chuck has commanded Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) with passion, courage, and dedication. With unparalleled determination to forge stronger ties with the surrounding communities, improve the on-base education system, and assist with the transition from military to civilian life, Chuck has tirelessly worked to improve the lives of those both on and off the base.

During his command, Chuck has been fully aware that his influence and work extends beyond JBLM's fences. He has been recognized on numerous occasions for his work, including with the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber Military Citizen of the Year award, which honored

his tireless efforts to cultivate a stronger bond with the base's host community.

Chuck has also helped to facilitate the renovation and replacement of five aging on-base schools. These schools, modernized with Congressional funding following the efforts of the Military Child Education Initiative, are the foundation for the growth and development of the next generation of leaders, both military and civilian.

Furthermore, Chuck's focus on smoothing the transition from military to civilian life is a major asset to the Puget Sound region and our military veterans. He assisted thousands of service members by helping to facilitate job fairs, training, and career-counseling services on base. His hard work is paying off: between December 2011 and April 2014, the employment rate of service members transitioning from JBLM rose from 18 to 42 percent. While there is still work to be done, Chuck's efforts have undoubtedly left a mark in providing for our past, future and present service members.

It is with great honor that I recognize Chuck as he moves on from his position as Base Commander of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, and more importantly for his 30 years of service in the United States Army. I wish him the best and am confident that he will continue to do outstanding work in his civilian life.

HONORING THE STAFF OF THE CO-
LUMBIA COUNTY DEPARTMENT
OF SOCIAL SERVICES

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard working and dedicated staff of the Columbia County Department of Social Services.

The good people of Columbia County, New York are well served by this outstanding group of high minded professionals whose sole purpose is to serve the public. Rarely do these fine individuals receive any sort of public acclaim; nonetheless, they remain steadfast in their commitment to providing timely and effective human services. Whether it be providing funding for fuel oil to needy families each winter, finding shelter for families during hard times, protecting children from the horrors of child abuse, or reuniting a family torn apart by the ravages of substance abuse, Commissioner Jablonka and his staff are relentless in their pursuit of the public welfare.

Commissioner Jablonka, who began his illustrious career in public service as a DSS caseworker more than forty years ago, is blessed to have an outstanding staff assisting him. Deputy Commissioner Michelle Ublacker has made a tremendous contribution to the agency in the few short months since coming on board. She brings with her a strong background in human services, years of experience as a DSS caseworker and a tenacious work ethic. Her commitment to excellence is apparent to all who serve with her. Under Michelle is an exemplary group of Directors who oversee the day to day operations of the agency: Lynn Kutski, Judy Richards, Deborah Amerling and Valerie Caruso make up this exceptional team and together they have worked hard to help move the agency forward into the

twenty-first century. With leadership such as this, it is easy to see how the Department continues to excel in its efforts to serve our community.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the most important group of individuals who contribute to the success of Columbia County's Department of Social Services—the caseworkers, investigators and the clerical and legal staffs who are the backbone of the agency. They lead the way in the ongoing struggle to end poverty, child abuse, substance abuse, and domestic violence. They protect the young and the old alike, and they do so without fanfare. But today we acknowledge our caseworkers and thank them for all that they do.

May God bless each member of this team.

HONORING EDWARD "SANDY"
MOTON DAVIS III ON THE OCCA-
SION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM
THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET
OFFICE

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Mr. VAN HOLLEN of Maryland, and I would like to recognize the career and retirement of Sandy Davis, the associate director for legislative affairs for the Congressional Budget Office [CBO] and thank him for his distinguished service to the Budget Committee and the Congress.

Sandy is retiring after 36 years of dedicated service to the federal government. Sandy first joined CBO in 1996 as a senior analyst focusing on Congressional budget procedures and practices. Since 2003, he has served as the associate director for legislative affairs. In this role, Sandy has diligently served as CBO's chief liaison to the Congress and has worked closely with the Budget Committee. He has been invaluable in assisting committee members and staff in fulfilling our responsibilities under the Congressional Budget Act. During his time at CBO, Sandy has served under six Directors and in both Republican and Democratic Congresses. Prior to joining CBO, he served as an analyst and senior budget process specialist at the Congressional Research Service.

As the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Budget Committee, we greatly appreciate Sandy's exceptional service to the Budget Committee and the Congress. Sandy exemplifies CBO's high standard of professionalism, expertise, and nonpartisanship. We wish him all the best in his retirement and future endeavors.

RECOGNITION OF THE JUSTICE
FOR CONGO VICTIMS AND CONGO
REFORMS PEACE CONVENTION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I wish to submit the following

statement in recognition of the Justice for Congo Victims and Congo Reforms Peace Convention hosted at University of Texas at Arlington. I would like to express my gratitude to Richard Millsap for asking me to participate in this Peace Convention. I would also like to thank those of you who were involved in making this event happen and all of the participants who have taken time out of their schedules to be a part of such a momentous conference.

I have been a longtime advocate for peace and diplomacy over armed conflict. As many of you know, I began my A World of Women for World Peace initiative in 2001. Throughout my time in office, I have seen first-hand the pillage of war. Shortly after experiencing the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, I saw on the cover of Newsweek magazine, two boys from Liberia who were 12 and 14 years old dressed in military gear with machine guns, and I just thought enough was enough. I wondered how our world had come to this place of aggression, and I knew that I had to do something to be a part of bringing a culture of peace to the world.

My efforts started with women who are the mothers of young boys like the ones I saw on the cover of that magazine, whose lives are sacrificed in the name of war. We must recognize and empower these women to facilitate peace-building, peacemaking, and peace-keeping activities across the world. We must also recognize the experts and leaders who help us to plant the seeds of peace.

I recently participated in my A World of Women for World Peace conference in Taipei, Taiwan, where we discussed ways to build peace through culture. One panelist in particular spoke about the necessity of compassion and healing the wounds of civil wars and genocides before peace can be achieved on the ground. I strongly believe that this is the case in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The global community must recognize the tragedies of the Congo before the Congolese people can truly move forward to a place of peace. Thank you for allowing me to provide written remarks and I hope you have a productive Peace Convention.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES
ACT

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of this week's 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which was signed into law July 26, 1990.

This milestone piece of legislation marked a positive step forward in affording Americans with disabilities the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It represented a significant change in national anti-discrimination laws, making discrimination against Americans with disabilities in the private sphere illegal, and requiring reasonable public accommodation. However, there is still work to be done to improve the lives of Americans with disabilities. Some still trail the population in many economic indicators, as they are twice as likely to be poor and one-fifth as likely to be em-

ployed. The ADA was a major step toward ensuring economic independence.

In my district, the Disability Student Support Services project at Queens College was recently awarded a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Education that will help fund that program. This program aids a group of 100 students in their studies at Queens College, and provides them the support they need to ensure that they graduate.

I would like to commend my constituent, Charmaine Worthy, for her efforts in the CUNY system serving disabled students. As the University Coordinator of Student Activities, she has worked tirelessly to empower CUNY students. Thank you, Ms. Worthy, for your important work. You are a shining example of the importance of giving back to one's community.

Educational and economic gaps that persist between disabled Americans and their peers shrink through people like Ms. Worthy, institutions like CUNY, and the grants that fund these important programs.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 45TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF SOS COMMUNITY
SERVICES

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize SOS Community Services for its 45th anniversary. For 45 years, SOS has worked to end homelessness for families in Washtenaw County by providing resources and support to the community. As a result of their dedicated service and their mission to promote housing stability and self-sufficiency, SOS has immensely bettered Washtenaw County.

SOS Community Services was started in 1970 by students and faculty at Eastern Michigan University. Originally, the group provided a 24-hour crisis phone line to EMU students. It has grown into an effective and critical non-profit organization committed to ending familial homelessness in all of Washtenaw County.

SOS Community Services provides a wide range of services and support. They run a food pantry, provide temporary shelter and rehousing services, and work with families to find employment, pursue further education, and after-school and tutoring programs for children and young people. They also provide struggling families with everyday necessities such as utility assistance, bus tokens and access to computers and phones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor 45 years of ardent service to their community. With compassion and respect, vital services are provided to maintain and raise the quality of life for approximately 4,700 people. I look forward to seeing further inspiring work from SOS Community Services.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. TYLER
WILLIAM BECK

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Tyler William Beck for his service to my office and to the people of California's 21st Congressional District.

Tyler Beck was born in Salinas, California on September 14, 1991 to Mr. and Mrs. Steven and Alice Beck. Tyler and his two younger brothers, Zachary Beck and Benjamin Beck, grew up in Hanford, California, where they reside today.

Prior to high school, Mr. Beck attended St. Rose McCarthy for his elementary and middle school education. In 2006, he began high school at Hanford High School, where he graduated in 2010. Following his primary education, Mr. Beck attended the College of the Sequoias Hanford as well as West Hills College Lemoore.

Throughout his college education, Mr. Beck has served California's 21st Congressional District as an Administrative Assistant in my Hanford, California office. Mr. Beck's commitment to public service and strong ties to the community have made him an invaluable asset to my team.

Friday, August 21, 2015 will be Mr. Beck's last day as a member of my staff. With a passion for agriculture and teaching, Mr. Beck will be attending Fresno State University. While I am proud of his academic ambition, Tyler will be greatly missed by my entire team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Tyler Beck for his public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing him the very best as he begins this exciting chapter of his life.

TRIBUTE TO PAT BODDY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Pat Boddy for being named a 2015 Woman of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, the Des Moines Business Record.

Since 2000, the Des Moines Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of female leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities either personally or professionally, forging a path for other women to follow. The women given this prestigious award are individuals who have selflessly dedicated their time and proven their leadership abilities across a variety of professional fields.

Ms. Boddy started a career in journalism after moving from the St. Louis area to Des Moines. After working at WHO radio, where she found her passion for environmental engineering, she attended Iowa State University. It was there that she graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Engineering and

shortly thereafter a Master's degree in Water Resources.

Ms. Boddy has a long history of leading and serving others in a number of different roles. She has served as the Director of Polk County Conservation, the Deputy and Interim Director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and now serves as the Stewardship Director at RDG Planning and Design in Des Moines. She has worked tirelessly to support the sustainability of not only her community, but the entire state.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Ms. Boddy in the United States Congress, and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better her community and the State of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating her on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

THE 240TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MILITARY CHAPLAINCY FOUNDING

HON. TIM HUELSKAMP

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, military life is filled with unspoken hardships, extraordinary demands—physically, mentally, spiritually, and relationally—and constant sacrifice by both our military members and their families. Recognizing this tremendous cost on our soldiers and the need to lighten their burdens, at the request of George Washington, the continental Congress created the military chaplaincy 240 years ago today. In fact, George Washington believed chaplains were so essential he asked for an increase in their pay in order “to encourage men of Abilities” to become chaplains. In the anniversary of the Chaplain Corps founding, I want to take this opportunity to honor our military chaplains who courageously serve the ongoing spiritual, religious, and emotional needs of our men and women in uniform.

Since 1775 more than 25,000 chaplains have served in every major war and combat engagements our nation has fought, while hundreds have paid the ultimate sacrifice—including the late Father Emil J. Kapaun. Called a “shepherd in combat boots,” Father Kapaun was an Army captain and Roman Catholic priest from Pilsen, Kansas who died a prisoner of war in the Korean War. His surviving comrades noted how he selflessly risked his life to rescue wounded soldiers, nursed the sick and wounded, and stood steadfast in his faith and his lifesaving ministerial responsibilities despite horrific persecution. In 2013, I had the honor of witnessing this saintly chaplain be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroism posthumously.

Additionally, The Diocese of Wichita and the Vatican have begun the formal process that could lead to Father Kapaun's canonization. In 1993, it was announced that Fr. Kapaun would receive the title of “Servant of God.”

The following account of Father Kaupan's Korean War service is provided by the United States Army:

Kapaun moved fearlessly from foxhole to foxhole under direct enemy fire in order to

provide comfort and reassurance to the outnumbered Soldiers. He repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire to recover wounded men, dragging them to safety. When he couldn't drag them, he dug shallow trenches to shield them from enemy fire. As Chinese forces closed in, Kapaun rejected several chances to escape, instead volunteering to stay behind and care for the wounded. He was taken as a prisoner of war by Chinese forces on Nov. 2, 1950. After he was captured, Kapaun and other prisoners were marched for several days northward toward prisoner-of-war camps. During the march Kapaun led by example in caring for injured Soldiers, refusing to take a break from carrying the stretchers of the wounded while encouraging others to do their part. Once inside the dismal prison camps, Kapaun risked his life by sneaking around the camp after dark, foraging for food, caring for the sick, and encouraging his fellow Soldiers to sustain their faith and their humanity. On at least one occasion, he was brutally punished for his disobedience, being forced to sit outside in subzero weather without any garments. When the Chinese instituted a mandatory re-education program, Kapaun patiently and politely rejected every theory put forth by the instructors. Later, Kapaun openly flouted his captors by conducting a sunrise service on Easter morning, 1951. When Kapaun began to suffer from the physical toll of his captivity, the Chinese transferred him to a filthy, unheated hospital where he died alone. As he was being carried to the hospital, he asked God's forgiveness for his captors, and made his fellow prisoners promise to keep their faith. Chaplain Kapaun died in captivity on May 23, 1951.

As Chaplain Kapaun's compelling leadership and powerful story attests, our chaplains are vital to the wellbeing and morale of our troops—especially in the face of possible injury and death. The chaplaincy has endured for over two hundred years because of the singular and widespread recognition of its unique role in the defense and support of our nation. It is essential to ensure that those brave men and women who live out their promise to protect our sacred freedoms and guard our religious heritage are paid the proper respect. Rest assured, as long as I have a voice in Congress, I will continue to defend and protect the religious freedom of those who served and still serve our nation in the Armed Forces.

RECOGNIZING SUZANNE KUBIK FOR HER OUTSTANDING WORK AS A MATHEMATICS TEACHER

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of Suzanne Kubik, a dedicated mathematics teacher who has received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is the highest honor that a K–12 mathematics or science educator can receive for outstanding teaching in the United States, and I can think of no one more deserving than Suzanne. For the past nine years, Suzanne has served as a full-time teacher at Middleborough High School in Middleborough, Massachusetts. Cer-

tified to teach mathematics and chemistry, Suzanne is particularly known for her dedication to AP Statistics—a challenging course that students have come to love thanks to her sincerity.

Through dedication, creativity, and unwavering patience, Suzanne has mentored countless students and left a lasting and meaningful impression on many more. Her energetic lessons, passion for the material, and commitment to simplifying and translating complex concepts have served as a model for students and teachers, alike. Last year, Suzanne's outstanding attitude and impact was recognized across the Commonwealth when she received the 2014 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year Award.

Suzanne's work as an educator does not end with the last bell of the school day. She enjoys speaking at the Massachusetts Math and Science Initiative's Statistics Saturday Study Sessions, and serves on numerous organizations across the Commonwealth, including as advisor to the New England Champion Rubik's Cube Club, as co-advisor to the National Honor Society, and as co-chair to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges' Committee on Instruction. Her passion to mathematics, the sciences, and, most importantly, to her students is unparalleled.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Suzanne Kubik for receiving this prestigious award. I know all my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating her and wishing her nothing but success in the future.

THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DODD-FRANK ACT

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, last week, House Democrats celebrated the 5th anniversary of Dodd-Frank—the most sweeping financial regulatory reform in the United States since the 1930s.

Signed into law by President Obama on July 21, 2010, Dodd-Frank has changed—for the better—the way consumers, investors, and other market participants interact with our financial system.

It has provided oversight to Wall Street, giving regulators the tools to end the era of “too big to fail” entities and outrageous taxpayer bailouts, and has eliminated loopholes that allowed risky and abusive practices to go unnoticed and unregulated.

But how did we get here?

Five years ago, Dodd-Frank was enacted in the wake of profound economic devastation as our nation was reeling from the impact of the 2008 financial crisis.

Millions of Americans suffered job loss, many small businesses closed down, foreclosures skyrocketed, the stock market suffered large drops, and a looming repeat of the Great Depression was feared.

Specifically, in the six months before President Obama took office in February 2009, our economy lost a total of nearly 4 million private sector jobs—an unimaginable average of 650,000 jobs per month.

Nearly \$13 trillion in economic growth and \$16 trillion in household wealth simply disappeared while close to 9 million individuals were displaced from their homes.

2008 was truly one of the lowest economic points in U.S. history.

Yet, the American people weathered this storm and Congressional Democrats took action by passing legislation to restore responsibility and accountability in our financial system, and to give Americans confidence that we were the tools in place to avoid another economic crisis.

In fact, since Dodd-Frank's passage in July 2010, the American economy has experienced vast improvement in private sector job growth with nearly 12 million jobs added; a lower unemployment rate, to 5.3 percent from the peak of 10.0 percent in October 2009, and a recovering housing market.

Indeed, because of Dodd-Frank, financial regulators are now empowered to identify and address risks to our financial system through increased monitoring and stricter rules for our nation's biggest banks in a timely way.

Dodd-Frank also provided new authority to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), which, since 2011, has recovered more than \$9.3 billion in civil fines and penalties despite Republicans' repeated budget cuts to the agency.

Like all comprehensive reform bills, however, Dodd-Frank is not perfect.

There are a few areas that I believe can be improved.

Nonetheless, it is important that we do not let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

I believe we also have a responsibility to build upon and improve this legislation when needed.

One area of concern for many stakeholders in my district, and across the country, is the manner in which Dodd-Frank requires the Federal Reserve to subject bank holding companies with more than \$50 billion in consolidated assets to enhanced regulatory supervision.

However, if we are to subject smaller, regional bank holding companies to the same or similar supervisory requirements, then we should do so in a way that balances our nation's financial stability without placing excessive burdens on non-systemically important institutions by using a more deliberative assets-and-activities-based test should be considered in determining the "systemic importance" of bank holding companies.

Earlier this month, Chair Yellen testified that she was open to raising a threshold for determining a bank's systemic importance.

I look forward to working with her on this issue as this is at the top of my priority list for improving Dodd-Frank.

Another area of concern for me lays in the development of diversity assessment standards under Section 342 of Dodd-Frank, also known as OMWI.

Though Section 342 is not very long, it is a very significant step in the effort to improve the hiring of women and minorities in the financial services industry in which these groups remain woefully underrepresented.

However, due to misinterpretations of congressional intent, I am concerned that after five years the federal financial regulators have not developed standards requiring the disclosure of diversity data, which would provide much needed transparency to this industry regarding the promotion of diversity in its workplace.

In order to continue being a successful nation, we must capitalize on our diversity and

tackle the inequality in wage and job growth in African-American communities.

Today, I celebrate substantial achievements of Dodd-Frank and look forward to working with my congressional colleagues to find the appropriate tweaks to further facilitate its positive lasting effects on the financial markets and for consumers far beyond this five-year anniversary.

CONGRATULATING BRIGADIER
GENERAL DAVID T. BUCKALEW

HON. ALEXANDER X. MOONEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Brigadier General David T. Buckalew on a successful career in the West Virginia National Guard. Brigadier General Buckalew has honorably and selflessly served the people of West Virginia for over 44 years, and will be retiring on August 1, 2015. During those many years, Brigadier General Buckalew worked his way up in rank from an enlisted Guardsman to the Director of the Joint Staff of the West Virginia National Guard, and earned numerous awards and decorations in this time as well. We are all grateful for Brigadier General Buckalew's devoted service in protection of the freedoms we so enjoy as West Virginians.

I join with West Virginia National Guard and Brigadier General David Buckalew's friends and family in wishing him a happy retirement, and thanking him for his service to our state, and country.

HONORING MINNESOTA POLICE
AND PEACE OFFICERS

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA), the largest association representing Minnesota's rank-and-file police officers, recently met for its annual conference in Alexandria, Minnesota.

During that conference, MPPOA recognized several outstanding police officers, including Sergeant Mark Ficcadenti of the St. Paul Police Department who was named Police Officer of the Year. In addition, Officer Mark Ross of the St. Paul Police Department received an Honorable Mention Award.

Both Sergeant Ficcadenti and Officer Ross are constituents of mine and both serve with brave women and men in the St. Paul Police Department.

Sergeant Ficcadenti received this distinguished honor because of his steadfast efforts in forging a relationship between police and the local community. During his more than 30 years of service with the St. Paul Police Department, Sergeant Ficcadenti has helped organized community events that provide an opportunity for people to meet and socialize with local police officers. Some of these events include the "Safe and Sound" program and a Ramadan celebration with the local Somali

community. Last year, Sergeant Ficcadenti was responsible for organizing the First Annual East African Junior Police Academy in 2014, which involved East African women and men between the ages of 14 and 22 who were interested in pursuing law enforcement careers.

Officer Ross is a former school resource officer who subsequently became a St. Paul patrol officer. Last year, Officer Ross noticed a young female high school student who was frequently absent from school. After some investigation, Officer Ross discovered that the student's father had been abusing and neglecting her for years. Today, the young woman has graduated from high school and plans on attending college in the fall. Her father is currently serving a 25 year prison sentence.

I join MPPOA and all of my fellow Minnesotans in applauding these two distinguished public servants. I would like to take this opportunity to thank not only these two outstanding police officers, but all of MPPOA's brave women and men who keep our communities safe.

REMEMBERING DONALD CHIN

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Donald "Donnie" Chin, an unsung hero who was both a protector and savior in the International District of Seattle.

Early on the morning of Thursday, July 23rd, Seattle activist Donnie Chin was taken from our community in a senseless act of violence. A strong force for positive change in Seattle, he was doing what he had done tirelessly for the previous five decades: patrolling the streets of the International District and caring for those in need.

Throughout his years of service and as the Director of the International District Emergency Center, Donnie acted as the International District's guardian. At a young age Donnie recognized the delayed emergency response times in his community, and became well known as an effective first responder and frontline hero. From assisting with medical emergencies, to finding lost children and feeding the homeless, he took it upon himself to better the lives of those around him and earned the respect of medical professionals, residents, area business owners, and local leaders.

Guided by a love for his community and a desire to assist others, Donnie made the International District and Greater Seattle area a more welcoming and caring place with his unrivaled dedication and courage. While his passing is a tragedy, his life is an inspiration: an inspiration for us all to reach out in our own communities and lend a helping hand.

Donnie will be remembered as an active and caring member of the International District who was always ready to give of himself for his neighbors. He will be greatly missed.

HONORING RAYMOND SIMONDS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I along with Congressman MIKE THOMPSON rise today to recognize Raymond Simonds, an outstanding member our community and our friend, for his 40 years of service as a member and past president of the Solano County Fair Association Board of Directors.

Over the years, Raymond has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the diverse and changing needs of the county fair. Following his original appointment to the Board of Directors, Raymond has revitalized the county fairgrounds by consistently recruiting new and innovative attractions.

In addition to his thirty years of leadership on the county fair's racing committee, Raymond has repeatedly distinguished himself as a true supporter of vibrant local traditions and community involvement. Raymond's service will stand as an enduring inspiration to the next generation of Solano County's leaders.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that, on behalf of the grateful residents of California's Third and Fifth Congressional Districts, we recognize Mr. Simonds for his forty years of dedicated service, and we wish him well as our best wishes for his continued success in the years ahead.

IN RECOGNITION OF MISS ABIGAIL
EVELYN SUZAL

HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize Miss Abigail Evelyn Suzal from Georgia's 11th District for her efforts to recognize and appreciate children all over the world. Children are the future of this nation, and we must work hard to preserve freedom, prosperity, and hope for the generations to come.

I would like to thank Miss Suzal for her letter to my office requesting that Universal Children's Day on November 20th be added to the calendar with the possibility of the school day off and breakfast in bed. I applaud Miss Suzal for her advocacy for children worldwide.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE RETIREMENT OF DR. RUSTY STEPHENS, PRESIDENT OF WILSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate Dr. Rusty Stephens, my friend and an exemplary educator, as he retires as President of Wilson Community College located in my hometown of Wilson, North Carolina.

Before embarking on a life of service to a number of community colleges, Dr. Stephens

himself attended Miami-Dade Community College in Miami, Florida. Furthering his education, Dr. Stephens later obtained a Bachelor's and Master's degree from Florida State University. He went on to earn an Education Doctorate from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia. Dr. Stephens' experiences with his own community college education would later give him the unique perspective that allowed him to lead one of the premier community colleges in North Carolina.

Prior to moving to Wilson, North Carolina, Dr. Stephens served numerous community colleges throughout the country beginning in 1971. He has held positions ranging from instructor to his current post as president and has educated young people from Ohio to Georgia and places in between. Dr. Stephens is truly the embodiment of the American success story. He now resides in Wilson, North Carolina, with his wife, Sandra. They have been blessed with a beautiful daughter, Heather, son-in-law Alex, and two grandsons.

As President of Wilson Community College, Dr. Stephens has overseen the completion of myriad advancements and improvements to the school. He worked with then-Wilson County Schools' Superintendent Larry Price to launch Wilson Early College Academy. That program is now in its seventh year and boasts an enrollment of nearly 300 students.

In addition to his passion for education, Dr. Stevens has an immense interest in sustainable energy and sustainable environmental practices. He is a member of the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association and the Wilson Sustainable Community Council. He was the driving force behind the addition of the 70,000 square foot Student Center LEED Building to the campus of Wilson Community College. The College, the City and County of Wilson, and our state has greatly benefitted from his work and interest in environmental stewardship.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Rusty Stephens has impacted and positively influenced the lives of countless people over his nearly 44 years in education. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Dr. Stephens for his dedication to generations past and present and in offering him best wishes as he embarks on the next chapter of his life.

HONORING JIM THEOFELIS

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the work and achievements of Jim Theofelis, Founder and Executive Director of The Mockingbird Society.

With an eye towards the future, Mr. Theofelis founded The Mockingbird Society in 2001—which has worked to improve the foster care system as well as end youth homelessness for the past 14 years. The organization stands on the principle that all young people deserve the right to reach adulthood in a healthy, supportive environment with the opportunity to thrive in life.

As Executive Director of The Mockingbird Society, Jim and his team successfully advocated for a number of policies aimed at re-

forming the child welfare system. Under Jim's leadership, The Mockingbird Society pushed for legislation that allowed youth to seal their juvenile records, so they will not be automatically disqualified in obtaining employment and housing. The Mockingbird Society also advocated for extended foster care and access to medical care for youth, which established the organization as a strong national presence on juvenile policy issues.

Prior to his work at The Mockingbird Society, Jim earned a MAEd from Seattle University and served in various positions dedicated to helping youth and families ranging from direct service to senior management. Overall, he has spent nearly 35 years working with and advocating for disadvantaged children and youth—specifically in mental health—and has been widely recognized for his hard work and selfless commitment to youth causes. Of his many awards, Jim received the 2011 Jefferson Award, our country's longest standing and most prestigious celebration of public service—a testament to his commitment to the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the work Mr. Theofelis has done to reform the child welfare system in our state and in our nation. Jim's unrelenting and passionate dedication to advocating for vulnerable youth serves as an example of the tremendous impact one outstanding person can have on his community.

IN RECOGNITION OF TEACHER AND
MUSICIAN WILLIAM DEWITT

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, allow me to add to the record of the U.S. House of Representatives the story of Mr. William DeWitt, a teacher, who has brought the art of music in the Northern Mariana Islands to an unprecedented level of excellence and who has given to thousands of our young people the joy of finding within themselves their own musical talents.

Mr. William DeWitt first came to the Northern Mariana Islands in 1993, beginning his career in middle and junior high school, teaching a variety of subjects, including band, piano, and choir. He then accepted an offer to teach at Marianas High School and was successful there at reviving its band program. Enthusiasm for instrumental music education began to crescendo, and in 2002 Mr. DeWitt was invited to join the faculty of the newly inaugurated Saipan Southern High School, which was designed to be a magnet school for students with an interest in the arts and technology. He has now spent thirteen years at Saipan Southern, helping countless students fulfill their dream to make music and share it with the world. In doing so, Mr. DeWitt and the students he has guided have created a legacy, the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Band, that is certainly one of the greatest sources of pride for the Northern Marianas Public School System and, indeed, for our entire community.

When Mr. DeWitt came to Saipan 22 years ago, he could not have known what he would accomplish. Our island community has always

teemed with multi-generational musical talent and held a deep love for singing. But band music and its array of instruments—the trumpet, flute, trombone, and clarinet—were less well known. Mr. DeWitt changed that.

Mr. DeWitt also oversaw the incorporation of a growing diversity of students into our schools using music as a unifying influence and adding the international flavor of this new student body to its musical sensibility. Up to 250 students now participate in some aspect of the Manta Ray Band program at Saipan Southern. They come from many ethnicities and cultures—Chamorro, Carolinian, Palauan, Marshallese, Filipino, Korean, Hawaiian, Japanese, Chinese, Indian—and William DeWitt has helped them learn to join together as one, making music.

Perhaps, this very diversity is key to the success and world-wide recognition the Manta Ray Band has achieved under the baton of Mr. DeWitt. Five times in the last seven years the Manta Ray Band has earned the Tumon Bay Music Festival Sweepstakes Award, the most wins by any organization in the festival's history. The Manta Rays have been invited to and performed at two Olympic Games: Beijing in 2008 and London in 2012. The Band has showcased its talents at the Sydney Opera House, Carnegie Hall, Westminster Abbey, and Disneyland. And just last month, at the Los Angeles Musical Festival the Manta Ray Band earned the Gold Award as the highest scoring ensemble in festival competition.

This Gold Award is something of a fairy-tale ending to Mr. DeWitt's career. His band executed its performance with a new precision and intensity. His students displayed an infectious enthusiasm and rhythmic jaunt that gave their concert an element of variety and versatility no other ensemble could match. But backstage after the event amidst the triumph, while cameras clicked, tears flowed and hugs abounded, as the Manta Rays dealt with the recognition that this pinnacle also marked the end of an era—for Mr. William DeWitt had taken his final bow with the band.

William DeWitt and his family will now be able to spend time with his parents in California, where he will also pursue a post-graduate degree. We wish him well. And we will always be grateful to him for the way that he drew from a very small population of students their maximum talent, so inculcating them in the fundamental elements of musicianship that they were able to soar on international stages.

We will also remember as significant as what he gave to each individual student is what Mr. William DeWitt gave to the larger communities of which we are part: the pride and honor his musicians brought to Saipan Southern High School, to the Public School System, and to the Northern Mariana Islands as a whole. This musical venture he has led became a partnership for all of us. Individuals and businesses gladly supported the Manta Ray Band with contributions totaling more than a million dollars over the course of the past decade. And, as a community, we should honor William DeWitt's legacy by continuing to give our young musicians the opportunity to develop, master, and showcase their talents.

Thank you, Mr. William DeWitt. May the richness of island life always flow in your blood, just as your accomplishments will always be engraved into our island history.

TRIBUTE TO DR. SUSAN BECK

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Susan Beck for being named a 2015 Woman of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, the Des Moines Business Record.

Since 2000, the Des Moines Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of female leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities either personally or professionally, forging a path for other women to follow. The women given this prestigious award are individuals who have selflessly dedicated their time and proven their leadership abilities across a variety of professional fields.

Dr. Beck's interest in leadership and the health field began at Iowa State University, where she earned her Bachelor's degree before moving on to receive her Medical degree at the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences (now Des Moines University). Dr. Beck has been with the Katzmann Breast Center since 2000, beginning her current role as medical director in 2007.

Dr. Beck has served in a variety of leadership roles over the years at places like Mercy Medical Center, Des Moines University, Susan G. Komen, and Innervision Health Center. Dr. Beck has proven her leadership abilities time and time again. She has the special talent of bringing people together to achieve one common goal in a way that few are able to mirror. She continually strives for the best and in her spare time she continues working toward her Master's degree in Public Health.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Dr. Beck in the United States Congress. It is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better her community and the State of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating her on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH ROSSMANN

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joseph Rossmann, who will be retiring after decades of service to our country as a leader in helping countless Merit Shop construction companies provide high quality health insurance and benefits to their employees.

Mr. Rossmann has led the Associated Builders and Contractors Insurance Trust for almost three decades. Throughout that time, he has worked tirelessly to help ensure that ABC member contractors are able to provide best in class benefits to their employees.

Through his advanced industry designations, testimony in Congress on health insur-

ance issues and well-recognized thought leadership, he has helped move forward the cause of making healthcare affordable for tens of thousands of construction workers.

Mr. Rossmann's distinguished record of service to the Merit Shop construction industry and in his local community are to be commended. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Joseph Rossmann on this well-deserved occasion. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing him a wonderful retirement and many years of happiness.

HONORING WARREN K. ASHE,
PH.D.

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in remembering and honoring Warren K. Ashe, Ph.D., who passed away at the age of 85 this week after a lifetime of demonstrating what an African American can achieve, despite being denied the opportunities that were routinely available to other Americans. For purposes of disclosure, Dr. Ashe was my cousin and I am proud of the relationship.

Although born in Halifax, North Carolina, Dr. Ashe was educated in the District of Columbia public schools, including the famed Dunbar High School, in those days of segregation, the college preparatory high school in the nation's capital for Black students. Dr. Ashe served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War and was honorably discharged as a sergeant.

Dr. Ashe's achievements were outstanding by any measure. He received his Bachelor of Sciences degree, as well as his M.A. and Ph.D. in microbiology from Howard University, and his M.A. in Religious Studies.

He rose from grade GS-1 medical biology technician at the National Institute of Health to become the first African American to be a senior research scientist at the National Institute for Dental Research, a research microbiologist in the Laboratory of Oral Microbiology, and a health scientist administrator in the Soft Tissue Stomatology Program. While at NIH, Dr. Ashe also served as equal opportunity officer. His selfless dedication to equality for others led him to take considerable risks to ensure that he did not become a token African American. As a result of Dr. Ashe's work in equal opportunity, the employment of Blacks at NIH and their promotion to scientific and administrative leadership increased significantly.

In 1971, Dr. Ashe was appointed the first dean for research at Howard University. His accomplishments at Howard were remarkable: leadership in the establishment of the first clinical research center in the world with NIH funding at Howard University and establishment of the National Human Genome Center at Howard that helped in the sequencing of human genomes to tackle diseases that disproportionately affect the African diaspora. Dr. Ashe's professional accomplishments were matched by his dedication in preparing high school students for the health sciences, his activities as a member of the most distinguished professional organizations in his field, and his devotion, in particular, to his church, Turner Memorial AME, where he was a steward until his passing.

Mr. Speaker, as an African American born in 1929, when segregation nationwide barred the doors to success, Dr. Ashe could hardly have dreamed of achieving these accomplishments. Dr. Ashe did more than dream—he worked until he moved 20th century discrimination out of his way.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and work of Warren K. Ashe, Ph.D. and in sending condolences to his wife, Grace and to Dr. Ashe's entire family.

HONORING MS. TATYANA KALINGA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Tatyana Kalinga, a senior and critical member of my staff. In the coming days, Tatyana will be leaving my office after 11 years to pursue the next steps in her career.

Like many Congressional staff members, Tatyana started in my office as an intern and joined the team full-time in June of 2004.

Since she started in the office, I have relied on her professionalism, judgement and superior work product as my executive assistant, scheduler and office manager.

For the past 11 years, she has also served as my key liaison to the Congressional Black Caucus, which I had the privilege of chairing during the 111th Congress.

During her years of dedicated service, Tatyana's most valuable skill has been her ability to step up and perform nearly any task, including assisting with media interviews, making policy recommendations and representing my office in high-level meetings, including with Heads of State.

She has been and remains a consummate professional who is truly dedicated to her work and serving my constituents.

In fact, Tatyana's work has been so exemplary in my office that she is often asked to train new staffers in the offices of my colleagues.

On a personal note, I have witnessed Tatyana's growth and development from a young intern into a mature and brilliant young woman. She has a very promising future, which my staff and I look forward to witnessing. We all intend to keep Tatyana as a valued member of Team Lee within our hearts and in our deeds.

On behalf of myself and the people of California's 13th Congressional district, I'd like to thank Tatyana for her years of dedicated service.

Tatyana, we will miss you as you start this new chapter in your life but we wish you every success. We cannot wait to see all that you will accomplish!

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF STANLEY AND VIRGINIA SZEJNAR

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 70th wedding anniversary of

Stanley and Virginia Szejnar, of Hanover, Massachusetts. The Szejnars celebrate seventy years of marriage on Wednesday, July 29, 2015.

Stanley and Virginia's story is one of romance, dedication, and patience. Their love has endured from Quincy, Massachusetts to the high seas of the Pacific theater; Norfolk, Virginia to Hanover, Massachusetts. Born in Buffalo, New York, Stanley was stationed at the U.S. Naval Air Station in South Weymouth, Massachusetts during the early years of World War II. It was during this time, in 1941, that he was nervously set up on a blind date with Virginia by her friend and, later, maid of honor. After meeting in the town of Quincy, a trip for ice cream was followed by a long walk—the start of many more dates and conversations to come.

As their relationship blossomed, Stanley learned that he was being transferred to the newly commissioned USS *Ticonderoga*. He asked Virginia to come with him to Norfolk, Virginia, where the aircraft carrier was docked, and stay at the local USO. When Virginia returned home to Boston, she excitedly called her mother with a joyous announcement: she and Stanley were engaged to be married. Shortly thereafter, Stanley shipped out on the USS *Ticonderoga*. During his time at war, during which Stanley survived severe damage to the *Ticonderoga* and a deployment on the Navy destroyer, USS *Dyers*, Stanley and Virginia stayed in close contact. They may have been separated by oceans between them, but their love remained strong.

Upon his return, Stanley and Virginia were at last married in 1945. They spent their honeymoon enjoying the mists and impressive waterfalls at Niagara Falls near Stanley's hometown. Following the end of the war, they moved to Hanover, Massachusetts where they reside today. A proud veteran, Stanley is the former commander of the Post #149 American Legion and V.F.W. #178804, as well as a retired member of the Local #537 Pipe Fitters Union. After more than seventy years of love, their most precious gift and proudest achievements are their daughter, Candace Finnie, and granddaughter, Ericka, who live in Ocala, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Stanley and Virginia Szejnar on the joyous occasion of their 70th anniversary. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing them many more years of happiness.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF BISHOP RANDY BROWN ROYAL

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and remember my good friend and a cornerstone of eastern North Carolina, Bishop Randy Brown Royal, a resident of Greenville, North Carolina who was called to be with God on Sunday, July 26, 2015 at the age of 63.

Bishop Royal was born on January 6, 1952, in Craven County in New Bern, North Carolina to George Emerson and Sarah Louise Royal. He spent his formative years being educated in the Craven County School system and later

attended Shaw University in Raleigh where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Religion and a Master's degree in Divinity.

Following his matriculation at Shaw, Bishop Royal attended my alma mater of North Carolina Central University in Durham and earned a Master's Degree in Psychology. He completed his education by attaining a Doctoral degree in Religion and Clinical Psychology from the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse School of Religion in 1979.

Bishop Royal served as pastor in many churches throughout his career, including New Greenleaf Church of Christ in Goldsboro from 1973 until 1978 and Philippi Church of Christ in Greenville, North Carolina beginning in 1982. Under Bishop Royal's leadership, Philippi Church of Christ has expanded several times to accommodate the growing number of parishioners which now tops 2,500. Just last year, Bishop Royal celebrated his 36th Pastoral anniversary.

In addition to his service as a pastor, Bishop Royal was also a community activist and dedicated public servant in Pitt County, North Carolina. He served as a Pitt County Commissioner and on the board of many local organizations, including the Pitt County United Way, Pitt County Health Department and Pitt County Memorial Hospital. Bishop Royal also worked with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Bishop Royal is survived by his three adult children Bryan, Onica, and Stephanie; three brothers, Rev. Daniel Royal, Rev. George J. Royal, and Erroll Royal; four sisters, Rev. Barbara Davis, Brenda Middleton, Vonshelia Bacon, and Cathy Bacon Lyons; and six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Bishop Randy Brown Royal meant so much to so many people. His lasting contributions to his church family as Bishop and to his community and its citizens as County Commissioner will always be remembered. His community, our state of North Carolina, and our great nation are better because of Bishop Randy Royal.

I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest condolences to the family of Bishop Randy Brown Royal, his congregation, and his community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 467, my flight was delayed due to weather. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO LT. GOVERNOR KIM REYNOLDS IN THE FIRST SESSION IN THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds for being named a 2015

Woman of Influence honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, the Des Moines Business Record.

Since 2000, the Des Moines Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a group of standout female leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities either personally or professionally, forging a path for other women to follow. The women given this prestigious award are individuals who have selflessly dedicated their time and proven their leadership abilities across a variety of professional fields.

Lt. Governor Reynolds began her political career by serving four terms as the Clarke County Treasurer. She was then elected State Senator of Iowa's 48th Senate District, where she served until 2010. During her time in the Senate, the Republican nominee for Governor, Terry Branstad, asked then Senator Kim Reynolds to serve on his ticket as the nominee for Lt. Governor. She accepted his request and the rest is history.

Lt. Governor Reynolds has dedicated her life to serving the people of Iowa. As Lt. Governor she has leveraged her unique understanding of small rural communities and their governments to bring good, high paying jobs to the state. Lt. Governor Reynolds has also built strong, lasting relationships with some of Iowa's most important global trading partners. Her long list of accomplishments is a testament to her hard work, dedication and willingness to selflessly serve all Iowans.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better the State of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating her on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 22, 2015, I was detained in a meeting and unable to make the first vote in a series. I would have voted "No" on roll call vote No. 450 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 369).

IN RECOGNITION OF JANET SIKES' SERVICE AS FIRE CHIEF OF THE CITY OF WOODHAVEN

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Janet Sikes for her 29 years of service to the Woodhaven Fire Department, 18 of those served as Fire Chief. During her career, Janet has saved many lives, and enriched countless others.

Janet has served as a role model in our community as Woodhaven's first female fire

chief. Her qualifications and professionalism as an emergency medical technician, paramedic, and arson investigator have inspired others towards public service and her ability to coordinate with the department's partners is much-praised among her colleagues. Her dedication and good humor has been a tremendous asset for the city, and has helped the Fire Department offset budget restrictions and foster a greater sense of community in Woodhaven and beyond. Janet is a true gem in our community and Woodhaven is fortunate to call her their own and grateful for her contributions.

Janet's commitment to education has been evidenced by her annual trips to each elementary school in the city to teach fire safety. "Firefighter Jan" is no stranger to the classroom, and has used her experience as a physical education instructor to promote fire prevention techniques that students find as exciting as they are informative. Jan has also promoted higher education in Woodhaven, partnering with Wayne County Community College to provide two full scholarships for students in her community to pursue a career in public safety.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Chief Janet Sikes for her twenty-nine years of service and her lasting impact on the Downriver communities. I thank her for her leadership, and wish her many years of success.

URGING AWARD OF CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO PRESIDENT LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON FOR HIS EXTRAORDINARY RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT IN THE FIELD OF DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and revise and extend my remarks.

Today I introduced legislation awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to Lyndon Baines Johnson, the 36th President of the United States whose vision and leadership secured passage of the landmark Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Social Security Amendments Act (Medicare) of 1965, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Higher Education Act of 1965, and the Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1965.

The awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal is long overdue recognition of the remarkable record of achievement in the field of domestic affairs of the person most responsible for several of the nation's landmark laws that mark their 50th anniversary this year.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress from the Tenth Congressional District of Texas, as Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate, Vice-President and President of the United States, Lyndon Baines Johnson's domestic accomplishments in the fields of civil rights, education, and economic opportunity rank among the greatest achievements of the past half century.

As President, Lyndon Johnson proposed, championed, led to passage, and signed into

law on August 6, 1965 the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which swept away barriers impeding millions of Americans from meaningful participation in American political life.

On July 30, 1965, President Johnson signed into law the Social Security Amendments Act of 1965, which we today know as Medicare, which has transformed the delivery of health care in the United States and which, along with Social Security, reduced the rate of poverty among the elderly from 28.5 percent in 1966 to 9.1 percent in 2012.

On July 2, 1964 President Johnson secured passage and signed into law the most sweeping civil rights legislation since Reconstruction, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination in employment, education, and public accommodations based on race, color, religion, or national origin.

On November 8, 1965, President Johnson signed into law the Higher Education Act, which provided need-based financial aid to students in the form of scholarships, work-study grants, and loans, and thus for the first time made higher education more accessible to populations of persons who were previously unable to attend college because of economic circumstances.

On October 3, 1965, President Johnson signed into law the Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1965, which transformed the nation's immigration system by abolishing the racially based quota system that had defined American immigration policy for the previous four decades and replaced it with a policy whose central purpose was family reunification, with a preference for immigrants with specific skillsets.

According to Robert A. Caro, the pre-eminent biographer of Lyndon Baines Johnson, with the single exception of Abraham Lincoln, Lyndon Johnson was the greatest champion of the poor and underprivileged in the history of the Republic and was the President "who wrote mercy and justice into the statute books by which America was governed."

I invite all Members to join me in sponsoring this legislation awarding the Congressional Gold Medal and recognizing the extraordinary domestic achievements of President Lyndon Baines Johnson, the 36th President of the United States.

HONORING DAVID FINKEL

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the remarkable life of David B. Finkel, an honorable veteran, a distinguished civil rights attorney, an esteemed elected official, and someone I was privileged to call a friend. David deeply impacted countless lives by standing up for civil rights, freedom of speech, affordable housing, and educational equality for over six decades. David was also a longtime and devoted member of the Sholem community and will be remembered for his integrity and compassion as a "warrior for justice."

David, the son of Jewish immigrants fleeing persecution in Europe, lived through historical events such as the Great Depression and World War II. These heavy experiences

shaped David into a lifelong advocate for social justice by instilling deep values within him of humility and humanitarianism. In his youth, David served as Bal Torah at Temple B'nai Abraham under Rabbi Joachim Prinz, who advocated for equality as a speaker at the 1963 March on Washington. This experience gave David a deeper understanding of human rights that he carried with him throughout his life.

During the Cold War, David served in the U.S. Army and refused to sign the loyalty oath when his mother was brought before the House Un-American Activities Committee. David won a case before the U.S. Supreme Court when he argued that a son should not be forced to choose between the 10th Amendment to honor country and the 10th Commandment to honor family. David's involvement in this case carved a path for him to follow a career in law and justice.

Through discipline and dedication, David obtained his undergraduate degree from the University of Chicago in 1951 and earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of Southern California in 1959. In the 1960s, David worked during the Freedom Summer in Mississippi, as well as a defense lawyer of conscientious objectors during the Vietnam War.

In his noteworthy legal career, David was known for his work ethic as he tried cases representing labor unions advocating for working families, freedom of speech cases for professors and students, and discrimination cases promoting racial equality and protecting civil rights.

David began his notable political career when he became a founding member of Santa Monica Renters Rights in 1981 and was elected to the Santa Monica Rent Control Board in 1983. David was first elected to the Santa Monica City Council in 1986, where he served a period as Mayor Pro-Tempore. David was then elected to the Los Angeles Superior Court in Santa Monica in 1984. Upon retirement from the bench, David began to humbly teach at Santa Monica City College in 2002 as he wanted to contribute more to the community. In 2006, David was recruited and elected to the Santa Monica College Board of Trustees, where he served until 2014.

Those who knew David, remember him fondly as a compassionate, thoughtful, and brilliant advocate for his community. David worked with a great spirit and it was his steadfast commitment to serving his community that made for a particularly extraordinary career and life.

In heartfelt recognition and appreciation of the outstanding impact and contributions that David made to his community and country, I wish to send my sincere condolences to his wife, Bruria, his family, and to all who knew him. His work and legacy are immeasurable, and his presence in the community will be greatly missed.

CONGRATULATING THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE RAIDERS' BASEBALL TEAM AS NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Northwest Florida

State College Raiders' baseball team on their victory in the 2015 JUCO World Series, bringing home the school's first NJCAA Baseball National Championship. This hard-earned title is a testament to their dedication to excellence, commitment to teamwork, and unwavering work ethic, and all of Northwest Florida celebrates their tremendous success.

While the Raiders capped their season with a dominant 15–1 victory over McLennan Community College in the championship game, the Raiders' players, coaches, and staff proved throughout the season that they had the mettle of true champions as they persevered through difficult stretches early in the season. Despite tough early season losses that saw the team drop to 4–5 in conference play, Raiders' Head Coach Doug Martin and his players were undeterred, and they continued to work hard each day in pursuit of a championship.

Even after an impressive late season run—which saw the Raiders win 14 of their last 16 games, including a seven-game winning streak that included a sweep of the Gulf District/FCSAA State Tournament that qualified them for the World Series—the Raiders came into the JUCO World Series ranked 14th in the Nation. But, despite being an underdog, the Raiders pulled off impressive victories—defeating three top ten teams, including the number one ranked team in the country by a margin of 10–0—en route to a rematch in the National Championship game with the only team that defeated them during the World Series: McLennan Community College. In the rematch, the Raiders put in a true team performance and in the end they earned a well-deserved 15–1 victory to bring the national title back to Northwest Florida.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the Raiders players—Aaron Palmer, Onix Martinez, Danny Blanco, Corderias Dorsey, Tra'Mayne Holmes, Will Luft, Mack Hathcock, Hunter Beard, Avery Geyer, Evan Hebert, Ryan Leone, Dakota Dean, Andrew Deramo, James Granat, Tanner Halstead, Ross Goforth, Shawn Feltner, Rex Rutledge, Carlos Alayon, Brian Browning, Lukas Holub, Trey Lang, Jarren Pinkney, and Hunter Bening—Head Coach Doug Martin, Assistant Coaches Andrew Franco and Brett Stewart, Athletic Director Ramsey Ross, and the entire Raiders staff and fans on their national championship. My wife Vicki and I congratulate the entire Raiders baseball program and wish them all the best for continued success in the future.

CONGRATULATING EDWARD LEE
MCCLAIN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Edward Lee McClain High School of Greenfield, Ohio, on their 100-year anniversary and celebration.

For a century, McClain High School has stood proudly at the heart of Greenfield, educating the community's next generation and preparing them for the future.

Originally donated by Edward Lee McClain and his wife Lulu in 1915, McClain High School has since fulfilled its stated mission of

“producing graduates who are well equipped to meet the challenges of education, work, and life.”

Alongside the 100 years of quality education it has provided to the children of Greenfield, McClain has become famous for the historic art contained within its walls.

Truly a jewel of culture, students are immersed in a rich history of art and tradition, including murals, statues, and architecture.

The institution and its graduates owe a debt of gratitude to the community of Greenfield, for the continued support in preserving and maintaining the magnificent building.

McClain High School is a living legacy of Edward McClain's hopes that the Greenfield school would be an institution which encouraged “higher education, purer morals, and broader and better citizenship.”

I am honored to represent a district which contains such a quality and historic educational institution within its borders. I applaud Edward Lee McClain High School on this historic milestone, and I wish the school the very best over their next 100 years.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
CLARKDALE FRUIT FARMS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on July 19th, I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Centennial Event at the Clarkdale Fruit Farm in Deerfield, Massachusetts and celebrate 100 years of family business.

The Clarkdale Fruit Farm has generated tremendous good will and contributions to our community. I love this farm and all it stands for. Locally grown fresh fruit—apples, peaches, nectarines, plums and pears—all on beautiful land preserved for farming.

The Clark family are not only great farmers and great business people. They are not only great community activists. They're really incredible, nice people.

This is a family who works hard and cares deeply about the community.

I want to say a special thanks to Tom and Ben Clark for inviting me to join them on their beautiful farm—truly a gem in the Pioneer Valley. I also want to thank the rest of the Clark family: Becky Clark—Ben's mother and Tom's wife, Lori Clark—Ben's wife, and Emerson Clark—Ben and Lori's son. The farm is a wonderful place and they have so much to be proud of.

It was a thrill to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Clarkdale Fruit Farms, which has a rich history and a special place in the agricultural heritage of Central Massachusetts.

Clarkdale Fruit Farms is also a leading example of what sustainable agriculture can accomplish, supporting many of our region's local businesses and communities.

As we commemorate the 100th anniversary, we are not just celebrating the past. We are also celebrating the future.

Clarkdale Fruit Farm is helping to keep Massachusetts agriculture vibrant and strong and I look forward to their continued success in the years to come.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POW/
MIA FLAG

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the upcoming 25th anniversary of the POW/MIA flag.

In May of 1970, the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia was founded in Washington, D.C. One year after the first official meeting, Mary Hoff, the wife of a service member designated as missing in action during the Vietnam War, introduced the idea of creating a flag to remember and honor military men and woman like her husband.

Twenty-five years ago, on August 25, 1990, Congress designated the POW/MIA flag as “the symbol of our Nation’s concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.” Now, the POW/MIA flag flies for every man and woman who has given his or her life for our great country and remains captured or missing.

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the recognition of this flag, Wheeler-Young VFW Post 201 from Waterbury, Connecticut will lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery on August 10, 2015. VFW Post 201 is a vibrant post involved in numerous activities in the Waterbury community. They recently celebrated the grand opening of their new location. Wheeler-Young VFW Post 201 exemplifies the promise of leaving no man behind and the mission to educate and promote veterans’ issues. Post 201 is a pillar of our community.

Thank you to Post 201 for recognizing and honoring our nation’s Prisoners of War and personnel Missing in Action. I stand with you to ensure that they are not forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO MERCY CORNING
HOSPITAL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mercy Corning Hospital of Corning, Iowa, for receiving a Silver Safety Award.

Each year the National Safety Council Greater Omaha Chapter recognizes businesses, organizations, and individuals who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to safety. Mercy Corning Hospital was given this prestigious award for continuously promoting a culture of safety and accountability. Their hard work and commitment to serving others through a safe and healthy hospital environment truly embodies our Iowa values.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent the members of the Mercy Corning Hospital in the United States Congress, and it is with great pride that I congratulate them today. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them for receiving this award and thanking them for their commitment to serving others. I

wish all the employees at Mercy Corning Hospital nothing but the best moving forward.

REGULATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE
IN NEED OF SCRUTINY ACT
OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 427) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law:

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Chair, yesterday, the House voted on H.R. 427, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015. I was unavoidably detained, but if I had been present, I would have opposed this legislation. While the bill claims to accomplish well-meaning goals such as increasing “accountability for and transparency in the federal regulatory process,” it only threatens the historic separation of legislative and executive powers.

By requiring a joint resolution of approval from Congress before any “major” rules set forth by a federal agency come into effect, the REINS act attempts to undermine executive power and expand congressional regulatory authority. This partisan bill is a thinly veiled attempt to score political points by attacking the Obama Administration. And as Republican leaders take another ideological swipe at the Obama administration, a number of more pressing issues go unaddressed, especially as we leave for our District Work Period.

Second-guessing agency standards and rules that are supposed to be governed by Congressional laws is not only redundant but is reflective of the Republican’s relentless pursuit of removing important and necessary regulations. Given that the bill also has a 70-day requirement to approve any new standards, the potential for delays in enacting public safeguards is steep, particularly if bipartisan coalitions can’t quickly draft joint resolutions.

We have seen efforts to push this legislation through three times previously, and each time it has failed to pass both houses. I urge my fellow Members of Congress to reject this harmful piece of legislation once more.

REGULATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE
IN NEED OF SCRUTINY ACT
OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 427) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 427, the so-called “Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act of 2015.”

The REINS Act is yet another attempt by House Republicans to limit the ability of federal agencies to enforce commonsense rules and regulations. This legislation would require Congressional approval before an agency can issue any major new rule. Congress relies on agencies to promulgate rules, because they have expertise in a given area. However, this bill would require that congressional politics play a part in deciding complicated rules and regulations. As a result, this legislation is designed to protect special interests while undermining the ability of federal agencies from doing their jobs and working to ensure there are safeguards in place to protect the public’s health and safety.

Moreover, Congress already has considerable power to review and reject the rules issued by executive agencies. For the past two decades, Congress has had the authority to pass a joint resolution disapproving any rule within 60 days of receiving the rule. If the President signs the resolution of disapproval, the regulation is not implemented. In addition, President Obama has implemented significant reforms to the rulemaking process. In January 2010, he signed an Executive Order requiring agencies to determine if the benefits of proposed rules are justified considering their cost to society.

At a time when Congress should be doing everything it can to create jobs and improve the economy, this bill is nothing but a distraction. I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

CONGRESSWOMAN SEWELL URGES
IMMEDIATE REAUTHORIZATION
OF THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to urge the immediate reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank. The Ex-Im Bank has become a crucial driver of our economy by offering loans, capital insurance, and other financial services to businesses who wish to invest in American products and grow their businesses. It fills the gap between domestic capital and domestic investment, ensuring that each and every opportunity to expand our economy has the financial backing to do so. Furthermore, the Ex-Im Bank is an exceptional government institution insofar that it both improves our economy and makes money.

For these reasons, Ex-Im Bank reauthorization has been relatively uncontroversial in the past. During the 112th Congress, my first term in office, we reauthorized the Ex-Im Bank with a vote that crossed party lines. However, I have witnessed the agreement and goodwill surrounding this issue deteriorate during my tenure. On July 1st, 2015, this burgeoning partisanship brought the Export-Import Bank to a screeching halt. Members of this congressional body refused to renew the charter for the Ex-Im Bank, allowing it to shut down entirely.

Since the first day of this month, our obstinacy has cost our nation over fifty million dollars. Every day that we allow this shut down to continue, we are shortchanging our taxpayers another two million dollars. This inaction is irresponsible, short-sighted, and detrimental to our economy. The American people want us to create jobs and help small businesses grow, not play political games.

I urge my colleagues to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank immediately.

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, July 30, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

AUGUST 4

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Management, and Regulatory Oversight

To hold an oversight hearing to examine litigation at the Environmental Protection Agency and Fish and Wildlife Service, focusing on impacts on the

United States economy, States, local communities, and the environment.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the back-end of the nuclear fuel cycle and related legislation, including S. 854, to establish a new organization to manage nuclear waste, provide a consensual process for siting nuclear waste facilities, ensure adequate funding for managing nuclear waste.

SD-366

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine preserving families and reducing the need for foster care.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, focusing on non-proliferation, inspections, and nuclear constraints.

SD-419

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Bureau of Prisons, focusing on first-hand accounts of challenges facing the Federal prison system.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ann Calvaresi Barr, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, United States Agency for International Development, and David Malcolm Robinson, of Connecticut, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Conflict and Stabilization Operations), and to be Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization.

SD-419

3 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

AUGUST 5

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the implications of sanctions relief under the Iran agreement.

SD-538

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, focusing on opportunities to improve student success.

SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Justice's legal obligation to ensure Inspector General access to all records needed for independent oversight.

SD-226

AUGUST 6

9 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management

To hold hearings to examine agency progress in retrospective review of existing regulations.

SD-342

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the procurement, acquisition, testing, and oversight of the Navy's *Gerald R. Ford*-class aircraft carrier program.

SD-G50

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

SEPTEMBER 10

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Adam J. Szubin, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Crimes, Department of the Treasury.

SD-538