

shared her story across the North State to encourage students to consider the consequences of drinking and driving or being a passenger in a car driven by an impaired driver.

Whereas, Andi's leadership was fundamental in the development and completion of the downtown mural project. The mural is the pride and the focal point in the City of Williams. She served for 7 years as President of Citizens for a Better Williams, dedicated to the improvement of the historic downtown business district. Andi organized the City of Williams annual events and parades while developing a Summer concert series in the park. Full of fun, residents will often see Andi serving strawberry shortcakes outfitted in the old-fashioned Car-Hop tradition.

Whereas, in 2012, local hero Sgt. Alejandro Jauregui lost both legs below the knees in Afghanistan. Andi, an Army Mom, orchestrated his homecoming. With over 200 town folks and veterans cheering and waving flags in the center of town, they honored and welcomed Sgt. Jauregui home. Later, Sgt. Jauregui received a home from "Homes for our Troops" in Woodland. It was Andi who spearheaded a fundraiser that generated over \$10,000 to help pay for handicap accessible home features.

Whereas, an inspiration to many and admired by all, Andi goes above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that a call for help is answered.

Resolved, That I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Andrea Armstrong.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY IN EXTENDING SOCIAL SECURITY TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a bill that would provide flexibility to the Government of Guam in extending Social Security to local government employees. This bill provides the Government of Guam with the authority to determine employees who would participate in the Social Security program and it would help to address the significant shortfalls that many of GovGuam's employees may face when they retire from government service.

The retirement option currently provided to GovGuam employees is unsustainable and will leave many without sufficient means to care for themselves when they retire. Guam's public auditor has reported that the average government employee has about \$40,000 in their retirement account and would not have enough money to support basic needs come their retirement age.

Local leaders have proposed reforming the retirement plan offered to GovGuam employees to one that is a hybrid of federal Social Security and local defined benefit plan. I believe that the proposal to extend Social Security to GovGuam employees, while at the same time revamping the local retirement system, would be the best course of action moving forward and would provide thousands of

GovGuam employees with the resources needed to have a comfortable quality of life during their retirement.

Extending Social Security to GovGuam employees would be consistent with existing federal authority and it would be similar to an option exercised by the District of Columbia in extending Social Security to Washington, D.C. government employees. However Guam policymakers have expressed several concerns with the current federal law that requires it to extend Social Security to all employees. Specifically, the way the law currently reads, if GovGuam decides to extend Social Security to employees, it must do so for all employees regardless of their time of service or ability to benefit from the system when they retire. They are concerned that if GovGuam exercised this option, thousands of GovGuam employees who already have years of government service, would not be able to contribute enough calendar quarters to qualify for Social Security. In essence, these employees would be forced to pay into the system but would not be able to receive any benefits when they retire.

This would cause a significant financial burden on the employees as well as Guam's local treasury, and I believe that flexibility should be extended to GovGuam to ensure that employees who pay into the system can benefit from it upon their retirement. The bill that I introduced today would solve this problem by leaving it to Guam lawmakers to decide how the term "initially hired" is defined. It is my understanding that the Guam Legislature intends to extend Social Security to employees who would be able to fulfill the Social Security's requirement that beneficiaries must contribute 40 calendar quarters into the system before they are eligible for the program. The Legislature is actively considering several options that on the payment and funding source that will be used to provide for any upfront costs as well as the employer contributions for GovGuam employees. Further, I have coordinated the development of this language with the Social Security Administration to ensure that it addresses the appropriate fix in statute that is needed to fully execute the local law should it be enacted.

I hope that my colleagues will support this bill and allow government employees in Guam to contribute into and benefit from Social Security, just as most government employees and all private sector employees throughout the country already do. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance this legislation.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF ROY CURTIS OF BEREA

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the service of Roy Curtis. He served the city of Berea, Kentucky for thirty-four years as a firefighter. Mr. Curtis rose up through the ranks and eventually became fire chief. He is very well respected among his fellow firefighters and among the people of Berea.

Mr. Curtis recently retired from his position as fire chief. He was a caring and compas-

sionate leader who will be greatly missed. Mr. Curtis reported that the hardest part of the job was seeing people suffer the loss of loved ones, pets, and possessions in fires.

Mr. Curtis was also an integral part of the team of Berea firefighters. His fellow firefighters showed much respect for Chief Curtis and his leadership. As firefighter Eric Lawson said, "He's just a top-notch guy. You can't find one better than Roy".

Like all his fellow firefighters, Roy Curtis was a brave public servant who went into dangerous situations many times to save lives and property. The willingness to sacrifice and to serve the public is part of what makes America great. A grateful nation joins with the citizens of Berea to say thank you to Roy Curtis.

HONORING SANDY HOLMAN

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Sandy Holman a Cultural Competency Educator, Mentor, and one of my district's 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, on the Twenty-Second Day of September, of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen, Sandy Holman was recognized as a 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, Sandy Holman is the Director of United in Unity and The Culture C.O.-O.P. The 'C.O.-O.P.' which stands for Caring, Optimistic, Open-minded People was created to help individuals and organizations better meet the needs of diverse communities in a variety of settings. Both organizations focus on promoting respect for equitable practices, diversity, cultural competency, reading and a quality education for all.

Whereas, Sandy helped to create Davis' annual International Festival designed to bring people of all cultures together. She has written and published two beautiful children's books, 'Grandpa, Is Everything Black Bad?' and 'We All Have a Heritage.'

Whereas, known to many as 'The Purple Lady', Sandy has an unquenchable zest for life that has inspired thousands of Yolo County youth and adults over the past 30 years.

Whereas, through Sandy's mentoring programs and collaborative projects, she is a beacon of light who leaves an indelible imprint on the lives she touches.

Resolved, That I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Sandy Holman.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 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 \$18,151,061,200,913.26. We've added \$7,524,184,152,000.18 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.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
MALNUTRITION EPIDEMIC

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important, but often unnoticed, epidemic in our country and to voice my support for the fight to end it. Malnutrition negatively impacts the lives of millions of Americans who do not have adequate access to nutritious food. While the symptoms can vary from hunger to obesity, one thing has become incredibly clear—malnutrition disproportionately affects senior citizens and people of color. All throughout the United States, the problem negatively impacts the livelihood of families and takes a toll on the nation's healthcare costs.

One of the contributing factors to malnutrition in the United States is poverty and lack of access to healthy foods. According to the 2014 Census, there are 46.7 million people living in poverty in our country. The lack of financial resources means that families often have to rely on cheaper foods with artificial ingredients. These foods are frequently high in caloric intake and do not possess the necessary nutritious properties to make up a healthy diet. Many health side effects, such as obesity, come as a result of this.

Just as troubling is the existence of food deserts in the nation, which are defined as an area of land where residences have limited access to affordable and nutritious food. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, at least one food desert exists in every state in the nation. Millions of Americans often go hungry or rely on unhealthy food simply because they do not have the means to get to a grocery store near their home. This is an unacceptable problem, particularly considering that food deserts are most prevalent in poor, urban localities that are home to many minorities. In order to address the growing malnutrition epidemic in our country, we must encourage investments in our neighborhoods to make sure that everyone has easy access to nutritious foods.

Additionally, malnutrition impacts the healthcare systems in so many of our communities. Recent studies have shown that one in three patients arrive at hospitals malnourished. Patients with malnutrition have been known to be more likely to suffer longer hospital stays, have slower healing, and be at greater risk for re-hospitalizations and complications. Another study found that the economic burden of disease-associated malnutrition in the U.S. to be an estimated \$156.7 billion per year—and for those aged 65 and older, it is estimated to be \$51.3 billion per year. These numbers make clear that nutritional status deserves more attention.

A critical ingredient often lacking in malnutrition care today is engagement by the broader healthcare establishment. While healthcare

providers are beginning to utilize standardized malnutrition screening, assessment, and appropriate interventions for older adults, more development in these areas are vital to leading healthier lives and saving on healthcare costs. We cannot afford to ignore such low-cost solutions.

Focus on malnutrition care will help yield transformative policies for patient-centered medical care and make a meaningful difference in the lives of our nation's older adults. September 28 to October 2 has been designated as Malnutrition Awareness Week. Let us use this time as a call to action to increase awareness and find solutions that better support the healthy aging of all citizens across our communities.

HONORING RAMONA PRIETO

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Ramona Prieto, a Peace Officer, Public Servant, Role Model, and one of my district's 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, on the Twenty-Second Day of September, of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen, Ramona Prieto was recognized as a 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, Assistant Commissioner (Ret.) of the California Highway Patrol, Commissioner Prieto has led by example, rising through the ranks to make a visible and lasting impact over her 38-year career of public service. Assignments took her up and down the state from Los Angeles to the Yuba-Sutter area where eventually she became the highest-ranking woman in CHP history as Assistant Chief and Deputy Commissioner.

Whereas, fresh out of the CHP Academy, Prieto was assigned to Central L.A. and made agency history in 1980 when she became the first female motorcycle officer. In 1986, Prieto was assigned to oversee special projects at the academy. In 1990, she was promoted to Sergeant and subsequently to Lieutenant, Captain, Deputy Chief, Assistant Commissioner and finally Deputy Commissioner—the post she retired from earlier this year.

Whereas, Commissioner Prieto's leadership is characterized by a warm, outgoing nature coupled with the highest standards of integrity and professionalism. She has encouraged others and promoted transparency in agency operations. Thanks to her high level of leadership, more women have been hired into the CHP including her youngest daughter who has followed in her footsteps and entered into law enforcement.

Whereas, while Prieto has earned degrees in public administration and leadership, her family and husband, Ed are a top priority. She is ever mindful of setting good examples for their daughters to work hard, be goal-oriented and always strive to make things better.

Resolved, That I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Ramona Prieto.

RECOGNIZING WORLD WAR II
VETERAN EDWARD (ED) L. TURLO

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize World War II veteran Edward (Ed) L. Turlo, who passed away on September 25, 2015 at the age of 92.

Ed was born in Chicago, IL on July 13, 1923. He joined the Army after graduating high school, entering as the highest rank a civilian could join the military. He became a member of the 79th Infantry Division in the Army and was sent to fight on the D-Day invasion at Utah Beach in France. After D-Day, he began volunteering for the United National Relief and Rehabilitation Agency (UNRRA), which helped displaced citizens find their country representatives. While Ed was stationed in Germany, he met his wife Lydia, whom he married after the war.

Ed and Lydia returned to the United States after getting married, and he started college at Miami University in Florida. He earned his 4-year degree in 2½ years and was soon hired by Western Electric in Chicago, Illinois. While in Chicago, he continued his education at Northwestern University and earned a Master of Business Administration degree.

His involvement in charitable work throughout his life had a focus on inner city youth. In Chicago, Ed was involved in the Hawthorne Club, where he frequently took underprivileged children to baseball games and delivered toys and clothes to needy children. He even spent time as a member of the Board of Directors of the Hawthorne Club.

In 1962, Ed and Lydia moved to Columbus, Ohio where they began a family. In Ohio, Ed served as the senior vice commander and on the Honor Guard unit for the VFW Post #2398. He also continued his charitable work by serving at the local food pantry and taking students from the Ohio School for the Blind to the circus. In 2011, Ed was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame.

Ed Turlo served our country bravely in World War II and remained committed to service after the war. Hundreds of youth were positively impacted by his work throughout his lifetime. His commitment to service should serve as an example for us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, due to the fact that I was unavoidably detained on September 28, 2015, I missed the rollcall vote on House Bill 2835, the Border Jobs for Veterans Act of 2015. Had I been present on rollcall vote No. 519, I would have voted YEA.