

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