

our junior ranking families. In addition, our USO mails over 15,000 goodie boxes to front line troops and distributes hundreds of calling cards for deployed troops to call home. Here in Jacksonville, the USO operates Internet cyber cafes, assists families and troops with programs like United Through Reading where the deployed member reads a book on a DVD to his or her children back home. Two of the USO's most popular programs are the Welcome Center at our airport and free or reduced cost tickets to local sporting and cultural events.

On February 4, 2016, the Greater Jacksonville Area USO will celebrate 75 years of serving our military and providing help on the home front for those who give their all for the security of this nation. The Greater Jacksonville Area USO is 100 percent self-funded and relies on donations from citizens and corporations like Boeing, Jacksonville Jaguars, W.W. Gay, VyStar Credit Union, Siemens, Northrop Grumman, Florida Blue, Jacksonville International Airport and the PGA Tour among others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of the House of Representatives to join me in acknowledging the 75th Birthday of the USO and its commitment to our active duty military.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

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 \$19,012,827,698,417.93. We've added \$8,385,950,649,504.85 to our debt in 7 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call vote number 46 on February 1, 2016, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted aye.

IN RECOGNITION OF DOUG CROFT'S TENURE AS PRESIDENT OF THE THOMASVILLE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Doug Croft for his 28 years of lead-

ership to the city of Thomasville, North Carolina through his work at the Thomasville Area Chamber of Commerce. I have seen firsthand the positive impact Mr. Croft has had on his community, and I know I will not be the last to say how much he will be missed.

Under Mr. Croft's exceptional leadership, the city of Thomasville rebounded from a period of manufacturing and furniture-building job loss during the recent recession. He successfully helped turn the city around and create a business-friendly and job-creating center within the state of North Carolina. In addition to his impact on the local economic recovery, Mr. Croft played a critical role in the City of Thomasville's selection as an "All-American City" for 2013, by the National Civic League.

Mr. Croft has also been instrumental in the development and implementation of two key city-wide initiatives, the "Envision 2020" strategic plan and the "Thomasville on the Move" capital raising campaign. In fact, as a result of his hard work on the "Thomasville on the Move" campaign, Mr. Croft was recognized in 2011 as the Chamber Executive of the Year for North Carolina by the Carolinas Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Doug Croft for his successful tenure as President of the Thomasville Area Chamber of Commerce, and wishing him well as he begins the next chapter of his already distinguished career.

HONORING LIEUTENANT DEBBIE PEECOCK

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Lieutenant Debbie Peacock, of the Napa Police Department, who is retiring after 30 years of service to her community.

Debbie Peacock joined the Napa Police Department on September 9, 1985, and eventually became the first woman in Napa police history to earn her current rank of lieutenant. In this role, Lieutenant Peacock oversees the Special Operations Division of the Napa Police Department. She manages the department's Investigations Bureau, Youth Services Bureau and the Homeless Outreach Program, while also heading Napa's Canine and SWAT Units. Lieutenant Peacock further serves as the liaison between the Napa PD and the Napa Valley Unified School District, the Napa County Office of Education, and Napa County Health and Human Services.

It is difficult to overstate the impact Lieutenant Peacock has had on our community. Her consistent leadership and activism have made her a well-known and well-liked figure, one whose advice is often sought out by community members. Her influence extends beyond her work in the Police Department, as Lieutenant Peacock also works with numerous organizations and foundations, including the Continuum of Care, the Napa County Advisory Board on Alcohol and Drug Programs, the Catalyst Coalition and the Napa County DARE

and Safe Schools Foundations. She has a long history of social activism, supporting charity and nonprofit programs like Shop With A Cop, Community Action Napa Valley, and the Napa Valley Education Foundation. Lieutenant Peacock has consistently acted with remarkable dedication and character, and residents of Napa and the surrounding areas have benefitted enormously from her efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Debbie Peacock has served her community with admirable integrity and commitment for three decades. It is fitting and proper that I honor her here today. I wish Lieutenant Peacock the best in her retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE PALM BEACH TOWN SQUARE PROJECT

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the unveiling of the newly renovated Palm Beach Town Square, and to thank those involved in the project for their hard work. On Sunday, January 31st, the Town of Palm Beach dedicated the newly renovated Town Square, a symbol of Palm Beach's rich and unique history.

The Palm Beach Centennial Commission, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Town of Palm Beach's incorporation, spearheaded the effort to renovate the square. Plans for the Town Square were first approved in 1929 by the Garden Club of Palm Beach, an organization which played a role in this recent renovation as well.

The project restored the famous Seahorse Fountain and the surrounding architecture and landscape. The fountain was designed by Addison Mizner in 1929 to honor the two Palm Beach pioneers: Henry Flagler, the founder of Palm Beach, and Elisha Newton Dimick, the town's first Mayor. Funding for the original fountain was a community effort fronted by Harold S. Vanderbilt and other Palm Beach residents. Along with the fountain, this historic square includes a Memorial Park and reflecting pool and Veterans memorial wall.

Just as the original fountain was made possible by Palm Beach residents in 1929, this renovation was a community effort. I would like to thank the local clubs and organizations, town officials, and those in the community who donated their time and funds to this endeavor for their commitment to the Town of Palm Beach.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE POMPEO

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

Mr. POMPEO. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 46 and 47, I was unable to cast my vote in person due to a previously scheduled engagement. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea.