EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Patricia Donnelly for her commitment and dedication in helping foster and promote community service initiatives that have assisted countless families in New Jersey.

Ms. Donnelly is a native of Jersey City, New Jersey, and an alumnus of Marywood College in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Currently, she resides in Hoboken, New Jersey, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Hoboken-North Hudson YMCA. Furthermore, she is an active member of the Parish Council at St. Francis Church in Hoboken.

Patricia Donnelly is happily married to Arturo Martinez, her husband of 25 years. Patricia and Arturo are the proud parents of Nora and Peter.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Patricia Donnelly for her commitment and dedication in helping foster and promote community service initiatives that have assisted countless families in New Jersey.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MARC HOFTZMAN TO THE STATE OF COLORADO

Mr. McInnis, Speaker, technology has become an important tool today in terms of nearly every facet of our lives—from legislation to the completion of daily routines. It has been used to reinvent many systems and increase ties between people. Marc Holtzman, the first Secretary of Technology in the State of Colorado, has accepted this new and transformational role to merge technology with government, economies and education. I would like to recognize the work of this honorable man and all that he has done, and will continue to do, for the great State of Colorado.

Following his graduation from Leigh University, Marc founded an investment firm called MeesPierson Euramerica, which was later sold to become the 11th largest bank in the world. His time in Europe has allowed him to become an authority on political development. Now, he serves in the cabinet-level position for Governor Owens while earning only $1 per year. During the week, Marc resides in Denver, but during the weekend he travels to his house in the Roaning Fork Valley—a great opportunity to enjoy the mountain environment amidst his family.

Colorado is home to many high-tech industries and Marc plays a crucial role in securing a successful future for these companies, along with creating an environment conducive to attracting new businesses. Furthermore, Marc has been helpful in creating quasi-charter schools that aim to build a bridge across the technological divide with the support of Microsoft's Bill Gates. Throughout all of his projects, Marc has proven to be a valuable contributor to Colorado and has a high success rate in all that he does.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when technology is becoming such an important part of our world, the convergence of technology and government is inevitable. Marc is ensuring that we implement this technology and in return, benefit the people of Colorado. Additionally, his charismatic leadership has led to many innovative experiments and successes. He is truly navigating Colorado through this remarkable revolution. I would like to honor his contributions and recognize the importance of his service to the State of Colorado. I extend my warmest regards to him and wish him the best in years to come.

HONOR. HILDA L. SOLIS OF CALIFORNIA

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge one of my constituents who was lost to us this past weekend in a tragic shooting.

Mr. Adel Karas, a resident of Arcadia, was shot in his grocery store in San Gabriel on September 15, 2001 in an attempted robbery that the FBI is now investigating as a hate crime. Mr. Karas had owned and operated the International Market in San Gabriel for two decades. As a Coptic Christian, Mr. Karas fled his native Egypt in the 1970’s to escape religious persecution. It is difficult to think that despite living in the United States for 20 years, he may have lost his life because the perpetrators targeted him based on his race.

We will remember him as a warm and loving man who gave his best to his family and to his community. His family mourns his death and remembers him as a loving father to his sons and a good husband to his wife, Ronda Karas. Mr. Karas was also a care giver to his elderly parents, calling every day to check on them. Furthermore, Mr. Karas was a respected businessman and appreciated by friends and neighbors. Our community mourns the loss of one of our own as is evident by the memorial filled with heart-felt cards and hundreds of flowers that has been created outside his storefront.

I am saddened by the loss of such a fine member of our community and wish his family and loved ones my greatest sympathies by acknowledging him today. Let us remember Adel Karas as a genuine, kind, and loving son, father, husband, and American.

RECOGNIZING COUNTY COMMISSIONER BILLY CROKER, POLK COUNTY, GEORGIA

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Croker of Polk County, Georgia is one...