southwest Alabama. I am certain that his family—his wife, Tammy, and their three children, Phillip M. Garrett Jr., Matthew Ryan Garrett, and Kendall W. Smitherman—along with the Mobile Police Department and his many friends in Mobile join me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his considerable service to the city of Mobile.

On behalf of a grateful community, I wish Chief Phillip Garrett the very best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING KENNETH J. TICE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON THEIR 2009 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARD

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam speaker, I rise today to honor the Kenneth J. Tice Elementary School in the Galena Park Independent School District and our district for their dedication to academic excellence that has earned them the honored distinction of being a Blue Ribbon School in 2009.

Since 1982, the U.S. Department of Education's Blue Ribbon Schools Program has honored many of America's most successful schools, and I am proud of Tice Elementary for establishing itself as an elite academic institution by achieving this high honor. The Blue Ribbon Award honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools that are academically superior or have made dramatic gains in student achievement and helped close achievement gaps among minority and disadvantaged students over the course of the previous school year. This year 314 schools earned this coveted award.

U.S. Secretary of Education Duncan once said that ''Blue Ribbon Schools are producing outstanding results for their students. Some have shown dramatic improvements in places where students are overcoming the challenges of poverty, and others serve as examples of consistent excellence that can be a resource for other schools.'' Under the supervision of Principal Ms. Judy Holbrook, Tice Elementary is developing outstanding students who are challenged to meet high expectations with the active support of teachers, parents and the community. With a diverse student base, and a decade of being recognized as an Exemplary school by the Texas Education Agency, Kenneth J. Tice Elementary truly embodies the ideals of the Blue Ribbon Award and is an inspiration for all schools in the Houston area.

I congratulate the administration, teachers, parents, and students at Tice Elementary for their dedication to excellence and hard work.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. BARTLETT. Madam Speaker, I submit the following: Funding of $7,500,000 is necessary to adapt Precision Guidance Kit (PGK) technology to provide the same effectiveness improvements already demonstrated for 155mm artillery projectiles to all indirect fire systems. The Army and Marine Corps have recognized needs for increased precision for ground combat units. The lack of precision for either 105mm artillery or 120mm mortars creates significant operational difficulties. The 105mm artillery and 120mm mortar can be developed in parallel at a significantly accelerated schedule at a reduced cost due to technology that has already been tested and proven, and due to the ability to share common design features with the 155mm PGK. Government and industry tests to assist with design and sizing of the PGK to smaller calibers will continue through FY2009. Based on that work, FY10 funding would enable a low risk, accelerated approach to delivering a much needed operational capability to the field by 2011.

IN HONOR OF THE 100,000TH FALCON III AN/PRC–152(C) RADIO PRODUCED BY HARRIS RF COMMUNICATIONS IN ROCHESTER, NY

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join our armed services in congratulating Harris RF Communications on producing its one hundred-thousandth Falcon III AN/PRC–152(C) radio. This is an extraordinarily auspicious milestone and a testament to the dedication and hard work of the company's Rochester, New York workforce.

It is fitting to celebrate this achievement as this radio is used and sought after by every branch of the U.S. Department of Defense as well as several of our ally nations. It is a superior product and was recognized by the U.S. Army as one of 2007's greatest inventions. It has next-generation communications capabilities, but is still versatile enough to be compatible with existing communications systems. Plus it can be upgraded in the future to grow as new software and encryption technology advances.

I commend all of Harris' local employees for the critical work they perform every day in support of our soldiers. Their care and dedication is helping to keep our men and women in uniform safe while they serve our nation on faraway battlefields. Moreover, their communications systems enable our military to execute its mission efficiently and effectively so that threats are defeated while innocent lives are safeguarded.

It gives me great comfort to know that our soldiers are equipped with Harris radios because I know that Rochester's top-notch workforce makes products renowned for quality. Our service men and women depend on these radios working the first time and every time. Harris takes that responsibility seriously and I'm so proud to know that the company delivers.

This cutting edge technology that was developed and produced in New York's 28th Congressional District is yet one more example of how our region is a leader in innovation and development. Congratulations to Harris RF Communications and its employees for attaining this significant achievement.

RECOGNIZING THE KANSAS CITY ANIMAL HEALTH CORRIDOR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to House Resolution 317, which would recognize the region from Manhattan, Kansas, to Columbia, Missouri, as the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor.

While I have no issues with the larger goals of the resolution—to recognize the work that is going on in Kansas and Missouri on animal health—I do take issue with the recognition of the Manhattan, Kansas site ''as the future location for the National Bio and Agro-defense Facility (NBAF).''

I support moving the critical research activities of Plum Island onto the U.S. mainland. However, I, like many other Members, have grave concerns about the selection process that was utilized by the prior Administration to secure a site for the NBAF. I do not believe that the selection criteria were applied in a consistent manner. Accordingly, I have discomfort with the inclusion of the reference to the Manhattan, Kansas site in this resolution.

Moreover, while I have no doubt that there is salutary work on animal health being conducted in Kansas and Missouri, I have some discomfort with the statement that the Kansas-Missouri corridor has ''unmatched'' capacity to support the animal health industry. There are certainly other areas around the Nation that have a great deal of capacity.

For these reasons, I must vote ''no'' on the resolution.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF SYLVIA LEVIN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay respects to the passing of my friend Sylvia Levin who passed peacefully on Thursday, June 25, 2009 at the age of 91. Let this congressional insert serve as a tribute to her memory and celebration of her meaningful life.

Sylvia was born on September 14, 1917, in Brooklyn, NY, and grew up there and in New Jersey. She decided to move to California in the 1940s as a single mother of two. She quickly became accustomed to the southern California lifestyle while working at an aircraft plant, a garment factory, a stall at the original Farmers Market in Los Angeles, and as a beach parking lot attendant in Santa Monica.

Known for her warmth and friendliness, Sylvia's indefatigable enthusiasm and tenacity for politics would give new meaning to the grassroots movement. She was known for signing more than 47,000 people to California's voter rolls and she should be remembered for these invaluable contributions she's made to democracy. For her registration efforts, she received a State Senate resolution from the late Senator Herschel Rosenthal. Further, in 2001, she was befittingly nominated and inducted into California's Voter Participation Hall of Fame. In 2007, on her 90th birthday, the Los Angeles