

the Hopkins Police Department. Already they are witnessing a powerful positive reaction by the young immigrant children when the youth see this young man in a Hopkins Police Department uniform at the schools and in their apartment complexes. In addition, funds from this appropriation are being used to bring in successful Somali women from the community to speak to the school club, to mentor them in making positive choices, help build their self esteem, and counsel them to avoid involvement in gangs.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the Joint Community Police Partnership for being a model of excellence both in our country and abroad.

# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 2009*

Mr. LATOURETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise to object to the process by which the majority has brought the continuing resolution to the floor of the House of Representatives. While we can all agree that it is sometimes necessary to adopt a continuing resolution to keep federal government programs running in the new fiscal year as the respective Appropriations Subcommittees finalize their conference reports, attaching the resolution to the conference report for appropriations for the Legislative Branch is inappropriate and a direct attempt by the majority to stifle debate in this House.

Further, Madam Speaker, the majority's action in this instance is just one more swipe at the minority in a pattern that began at the start of this body's deliberation on Appropriations bills earlier this summer. It has continued to stifle debate throughout the process by restricting the minority's ability to offer amendments to these important funding bills. Over the summer months in which we considered all 12 appropriations bills, the majority's structured rules permitted the minority to offer just over 100 amendments, of which only approximately 50 per cent were on substantive issues directly impacting policy and/or program funding levels. That's just 50 amendments on real policy, impacting government spending on specific programs across the entire federal government.

Following on this abysmal stifling of Republican amendments on these bills, Madam Speaker, next the majority has again found a way to prevent meaningful debate on the funding resolution which continues to keep the government open by attaching it to the conference report on the Legislative Branch Appropriations bill. Since the conference report cannot be amended, there was no opportunity for another point of view in continuing the government's operations. Madam Speaker, this behavior is not merely frustrating, but it also works directly against the very backbone of our nation—a democracy with free and open debate on issues.

It is my sincere hope that in the future, Madam Speaker, regardless of which party holds the majority in the House, we can

change course from this current process and instead open these important spending bills, including the continuing resolution, to amendment through an open process.

## A TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL R. LEHNERT

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the United States Marine Corps are exceptional. For more than thirty-five years this man has served our nation in the most outstanding and dedicated manner. On the occasion of his retirement, I feel it only right to recognize the magnificent service Major General Michael R. Lehnert has performed for our country.

Major General Lehnert graduated from Central Michigan University in 1973 with an undergraduate degree in History and commissioned a Second Lieutenant through the PLC program. After attending the Marine Officers Basic School in Quantico, Virginia, he was transferred to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Assignments at Camp Lejeune included engineer platoon commander and maintenance officer LSU-32 and S-4, H&S Battalion, 2nd FSSG. Assigned to 9th Engineer Support Battalion in Okinawa Japan, he served as Bn Operations Officer and finished his tour as commander Company A, 9th Engineers.

In 1977, he was ordered to Marine Barracks, Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines as the Operations Officer. In 1978, he took command of Company A, Marine Barracks, Subic Bay. In 1979, Major General Lehnert attended the U.S. Army Advanced Engineer School at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. After graduation, he served as Executive Officer, USMC Recruiting Station, San Antonio, Texas. He was transferred to Camp Pendleton, California in 1983 and held the following assignments from 1983 to 1986. Company Commander, Company C, 1st Landing Support Battalion Commanding Officer, Combat Service Support Detachment 11 Commanding Officer, Combat Service Support Detachment 16 Executive Officer, MAU Service Support Group 17 Landing Force Support Party Cdr, BSSG 7 MEF Engineer, First Marine Amphibious Force.

In 1987, he was selected for Armed Forces Staff College. After graduation, he was assigned to the United States Southern Command in the J-3 Operations Directorate as Chief, Central American Exercise Branch. During the Panama crisis, he participated in Operation Just Cause and Operation Promote Liberty. Major General Lehnert was reassigned in 1990 as Inspector-Instructor, 6th Engineer Support Battalion, Portland, Oregon. He was selected for top level school, completed the Naval War College in 1993 and was awarded a masters degree in International and Strategic Studies.

In 1993, he was assigned to the Joint Warfighting Center in Norfolk, Virginia where he served as the Chief of the Futures Branch, Doctrine Division. In 1995, he reported to 2d MAW and participated in Operation Sea Signal, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba as Commander, Joint Task Group Bulkeley, JTF 160, where he

commanded the security forces responsible for operation of Cuban and Haitian migrant camps. Major General Lehnert commanded Marine Wing Support Group 27 at Cherry Point, North Carolina from 23 May 1996 to 28 May 1998. He was reassigned as the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4 II MEF. In 1999, he deployed to Panama as the Chief of Staff, Joint Task Force Panama to oversee the final turnover of the Canal and the remaining military bases.

His first tour as a general officer was at Headquarters Marine Corps, where he served as the Assistant Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics. He took command of 2d Force Service Support Group in July 2001 and in January 2002, he deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba as Commander, Joint Task Force 160. JTF 160's mission was to construct and operate the detention facilities for Taliban and Al Qaeda detainees. In 2003, he deployed with the 2d FSSG to the CENTCOM theater and participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom as Commander, Marine Logistics Command. His most recent assignment was as Chief of Staff, United States Southern Command, Miami, Florida.

Decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Legion of Merit with Gold Star, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Navy Commendation Medal with gold star and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Major General Lehnert has consistently shown genuine concern for those who serve in his command, regularly placing their comfort and support above his own. He and his wife, Denise, are a prototype for general officers who have the honor to follow them in command.

On the occasion of his retirement, and on behalf of the people of the United States whom he has served with courage and honor, we commemorate the exceptional service of Major General Michael R. Lehnert.

## A PROCLAMATION HONORING ALEX KNECHT FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Alex Knecht showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Alex Knecht was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Alex Knecht always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Alex Knecht on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008-2009 baseball season.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF  
STAN HASSE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Stan Haase, who recently celebrated his 85th birthday.

Stan Haase was born on July 22, 1924 in Kitchener, Ontario to Adolph Carl and Anna Caroline Haase. His parents bought a home on Cedar Street, where they raised Stan and his younger brother Gerald. The Haase family enjoyed spending their weekends together at Stan's great-grandmother's house where they took pleasure in square dancing and playing their favorite card game, pinochle. It was a spirited and loving environment in which they celebrated family and their German heritage.

At the age of eighteen, Stan Haase enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force to serve his country during World War II as a Chief Pilot Officer. Following his service, Stan returned home and went to work for his father as a truck driver. It was during his years as a driver that Stan met Katherine Schell. They were married on July 7, 1950. Their mutual desire to realize the American Dream began during their honeymoon when they immigrated to Detroit. After several years of hard work they became naturalized American citizens. Mr. Haase was a loving and devoted husband to his beloved wife, Katherine, for 53 years.

By September 1969, Stan and Katherine Haase had moved to a home on Newbury Lane in Parma Heights, Ohio to raise their three young sons, Greg, Woody and Rick. It was at this home that the family began to establish new family traditions, such as sharing the days' events with one another over dinner. Sundays were also a special time for the Haase family. Each Sunday Mrs. Haase created beautiful and elaborate meals while Mr. Haase entertained the family with stories of his childhood. The home on Newbury Lane was full of magic at Christmas time. Mr. Haase made Santa Claus come to life and Mrs. Haase decorated.

Mr. Haase has had several hobbies throughout his lifetime. As a licensed amateur radio operator he has spoken and forged friendships with people in 321 different countries. His skill as an amateur radio operator has won him many awards and certificates. In addition to gaining a reputation as a first-class repairman, Mr. Haase is also a computer enthusiast. Stan has built and programmed several of his home computers. He continues to be interested in learning new technology.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Stan Haase. Stan is a charismatic and proud man. He remains deeply committed to his family and his friends. Stan's sense of humor reflects his great appreciation for life. I wish Mr. Haase a joyous 85th year and blessings of peace, health and happiness.

CONGRATULATIONS TO  
POSTMASTER OLA HELM

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, Ola Helm, a 23 year veteran of the United States Postal Service, will be officially sworn in as the 24th postmaster for the Brazoria, Texas post office on Thursday, October first. I am pleased to extend my congratulations to Postmaster Helm.

Postmaster Helm began her postal career on May 10, 1986 as a letter carrier in her hometown of Lake Jackson, Texas. Over the years, Postmaster Helm held a variety of positions in the postal service, including window clerk, supervisor, coach postmaster and officer in charge at a variety of local post offices, including Danbury, Freeport, West Columbia, Sweeny and Needville.

Prior to being appointed postmaster for Brazoria, Ola Helm served as Postmaster for the Van Vleck office. She has spent the past 17 months familiarizing herself with the employees and patrons of the Brazoria post office. The people of Brazoria County are lucky to have such a dedicated and experienced postal veteran serving as postmaster, and I am pleased to once again extend my congratulations to Postmaster Ola Helm.

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS  
COUNCIL GOLDSTONE REPORT

**HON. MICHELE BACHMANN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, just as the United States is a symbol of hope and freedom around the globe, Israel stands as a symbol of freedom and democracy in an area historically rampant with violence and oppression. For this reason, I am compelled to voice my strong objections to the allegations made in a recent report commissioned by the United Nations Human Rights Council and carried out by former South African Judge Richard Goldstone. The report alleges human rights violations on the part of Israel.

Madam Speaker, the U.N. Human Rights Council has long been recognized for its anti-Israel bias, so it comes as little surprise they would rubber-stamp the "Goldstone Report" and its findings of "crimes against humanity" with regard to Israel's activities in Gaza. As you may know, Israel is the only country listed on the Council's permanent agenda, which examines only supposed Israeli violations of Palestinian human rights, while ignoring the threats or actions of terrorist groups, or the nations that support them, and their calls for the destruction of other U.N. Member States. To quote Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., Michael Oren, "Israel basically was the equivalent of being summoned to a court in which its guilt was already presumed . . . I can't think of any country in the world which would participate in such a farce of justice."

Indeed, while this report condemns Israel's actions, it ignores the precipitating causes of Israel's self-defensive actions, concluding that Israel's military operations were "deliberate

and systematic," and directed at the people of Gaza as a whole, failing to acknowledge Israel's right to defend itself against terrorism, namely the thousands of rockets launched daily at its citizens. Moreover, the Goldstone Report ignores the extraordinary steps taken by Israel to minimize civilian casualties, often putting its own soldiers at greater risk to do so.

The United States and Israel have shared a close relationship of friendship, cooperation, and strategic alliance that serves as an example to the rest of the world. In order to preserve and foster this relationship, I believe it is imperative for the United States to unequivocally reject the findings of the Goldstone Report. And while recent years have unfortunately been marked by escalating armed conflict between Israel and Hamas, the United States should stand steadfast in its commitment to a free and secure Israel as the Middle East comes to embrace the liberties and freedoms of democratic societies.

HONORING DR. KATHLEEN WESTON OF KENTON AND GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Kathleen Weston, a remarkable woman who has spent her life at the forefront of medical research in the field of prescription drug toxicology. Dr. Weston's work has included large-scale production development of the first Salk polio vaccine for worldwide distribution and providing legal advice on toxicology issues for a range of government agencies. At 102 years of age, Dr. Weston continues to be an active contributor to her family and community.

Dr. Weston was born in 1907 in the village of Kenton in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Born Kathleen Shingler, she was one of four children; her father worked as a general store keeper and her mother was a school teacher. After graduating from high school, one of two in her class to do so, Dr. Weston enrolled in Northern State Normal School (now Northern Michigan University) where she graduated with a degree in biology in 1929. After beginning her career teaching biology at Munising High School, Dr. Weston joined her husband, Jean K. Weston, in enrolling in graduate school at the University of Michigan earning a master's degree in anatomy and genetics in 1934.

After taking a position teaching anatomy and physiology to nursing students, Dr. Weston enrolled in medical school at Temple University. Weston credits the nurses she taught with her acceptance to the program after the dean struck a deal that he would admit her, provided she could get the nurses to pass anatomy and physiology. All of the nurses passed and Dr. Weston graduated from medical school in 1951, one of five women in a class of 125.

Upon graduation Dr. Weston moved to Detroit with her husband who worked to develop a modern toxicology laboratory for Parke-Davis and Company. As one of five pharmaceutical companies to produce the Salk polio vaccine for worldwide distribution, the head of