

and Development summits. Laura will also be expected to volunteer in her community, write articles for the Army Reserve Teen Panel's quarterly newspaper, and prepare presentations to inform Army Reserve Leadership about the issues of Army Reserve youth. I am confident that Laura will excel in her position as a member of the Army Reserve Teen Panel.

I would like to offer my continued support of the Army Reserve Teen Panel and the bright young men and women like Laura who represent our Army Reserve youth. I would like to express my gratitude, once again, to the Army Reserve members who fight for America. Once again congratulations to Laura Hahn and thank you to the military personnel and their families who sacrifice so much for our Nation.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE SEPTEMBER 11 FAMILY HUMANITARIAN RELIEF AND PATRIOTISM ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I am reintroducing the bipartisan September 11 Family Humanitarian Relief and Patriotism Act with Representatives PETER KING, JERROLD NADLER, GARY ACKERMAN, RUSH HOLT, RAUL GRIJALVA, YVETTE CLARKE, ANTHONY WEINER, ELIOT ENGEL and STEVE ISRAEL.

The losses that resulted from terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 are tremendous. For a dozen individuals, the turmoil of the attacks continues as they remain in jeopardy of being deported since their immigration status was linked to a family member who was employed at the World Trade Center. To address this situation, I am reintroducing the September 11 Family Humanitarian Relief and Patriotism Act, which would provide for the adjustment of status or the cancellation of removal for those who are the spouse, child, dependent son, or dependent daughter of victims who were killed on 9/11.

The Department of Homeland Security under the Bush administration and the Obama administration has allowed the affected spouses and children to stay here while a permanent solution is crafted by Congress. Nearly ten years later, the surviving spouses and children of legal employment-based visa holders and undocumented workers who were killed during the attacks should no longer be in limbo.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. Those who lost so much on 9/11 deserve answers and should be given legal status in the U.S.

CELEBRATING THE SRI LANKAN NEW YEAR

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, having just ended a decades long conflict

in which the government finally defeated terrorist forces within its borders, the Republic of Sri Lanka recently celebrated its second New Year at complete peace.

In his New Year address, President Mahinda Rajapaksa stated celebrating the New Year is a "time when all enjoy the freedom achieved in our Motherland. Therefore, this New Year will help bring a renewal in spirit and new expectations to the people about future progress."

I would like to wish a happy new year to the 250,000 Sri Lankan-Americans, along with the 21 million citizens of Sri Lanka, a dynamic nation of South Asia.

During this time of national reconciliation, I look forward to a new era of Sri Lankan-American relations built on economic, strategic, and political cooperation between our two democratic societies.

CELEBRATING EARTH DAY

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, on April 22nd, we celebrate the 41st Earth Day and recognize the achievements Americans have made to improve our environment.

Since the first Earth Day in 1970, Americans have worked to improve the air we breathe and the water we drink. Four decades later, we have made great strides towards protecting our planet for future generations by making investments in a clean energy economy to create millions of American jobs, lower energy costs for American families and businesses, and reduce our dependence on foreign oil and our carbon foot print.

We must tackle tough environmental challenges, such as climate change, through investments in a clean energy economy to wean our nation off of our dangerous dependence on foreign oil and create green American jobs. It is also important that as we find ways to reduce our deficit that we do not jeopardize the safeguards in place to protect our air and water.

It is necessary to continue to push forward with a clean energy plan, but the environmental challenges we face cannot be solved by laws alone. That is why it is important on this day for every American to take a moment and recognize the simple things that they can do within their own homes and communities to contribute to a cleaner and healthier planet Earth.

GASOLINE PRICES

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I'm angry.

This week, I drove down to Washington from my hometown of Hazleton—a commute I make each week. As I filled up my tank, I got angry.

At home right now, gas prices average about \$3.80 a gallon. That's almost a dollar a gallon more than just six months ago.

In some parts of my district, gas is now at \$4 a gallon.

Mr. Speaker, I am angry. People back home are angry, and this Congress should be angry.

For too long, Washington has been ignoring our nation's need for liquid fuel.

Let's be completely honest: We need liquid fuel, and we will always need liquid fuel—in my lifetime, in my children's lifetimes, in my grandson's lifetime.

So why isn't Washington doing anything to address that need?

Alternative energy is fine. Solar power, wind power, even nuclear power—those are all well and good, but they're not going to move our nation's cars. They're not going to move our nation's trucks and trains. They're not going to keep our planes in the air.

Why does every energy plan we have seem to downplay our need for liquid fuel—liquid fuel that can be and should be produced here at home?

Instead, we rely on foreign sources for our liquid fuel. The United States may be the richest, most powerful nation in the world, but we ask other countries to provide the resources we need to power our factories, drive our vehicles, heat our homes, and live our lives.

And when there is a problem virtually anywhere in the world, we pay for it here at the pump. We pay for it when we buy milk, bread and eggs. We pay for it when we pick up our kids at school. We pay for it when a police car patrols our neighborhoods. We pay for it when we go on vacation.

So much of our economy is tied to the rise and fall of gas prices. And every single sign we see—the unrest in the Middle East, the economic tiger in the Far East, the coming seasonal spike in energy prices as Americans head into the summer vacation season—compels us to act.

And what is Washington doing? Nothing.

And that's what makes me—and the American people—so angry about this problem.

It's not that we don't have the resources. We do. From the Arctic to the Gulf of Mexico, we have plenty of liquid fuel here in the United States. We also have plenty of other natural resources that can be used to free up liquid fuel to move our cars, trucks, trains, and planes.

For example, in my home state of Pennsylvania, we have up to 500 trillion cubic feet of natural gas available in the Marcellus shale. In northeastern Pennsylvania, we're sitting on more natural gas than Saudi Arabia has oil! What's more, there's research that indicates there is another, deeper layer of different shale that can yield even more natural gas in the future.

It's not that we don't have the innovators. We do. In and near my district, we have brilliant people figuring out ways to extract natural gas from Marcellus shale, and make our abundant coal cleaner, and turn that hard coal into liquid fuel.

So what's the problem?

To me, the answer is simple: Washington.

At a time when gas prices are crushing our economy, we must use all the ways we can to provide people with some relief.

Instead, we tie up liquid fuel producers in red tape.

We need to cut that tape. We need to tap in to our nation's vast natural liquid fuel resources. And we must encourage innovation for new liquid fuel sources.

Every day I come here, we talk about continuing resolutions and budgets and taxes and creating jobs.

But absolutely nothing we can do right now will stimulate our economy as much as putting more gasoline, diesel, home heating oil, aviation fuel, and other liquid fuel into the market.

What in the world is Washington waiting for?

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR DISASTER

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of more than 111,000 of my constituents who are of Polish descent, I rise to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl. We remember those in Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine, many of whom suffered the loss of life, health, and home as a result of this tragedy.

The accident at the nuclear power plant in Chernobyl occurred on April 26, 1986, and is considered to be the most serious nuclear disaster in human history. A flawed reactor ruptured, causing a cloud of highly radioactive smoke to be spread over a wide geographic area. Unaware of the seriousness of the situation, firemen and emergency workers were summoned to the catastrophe. Many received high doses of radiation and later died as a result.

The entire town of Pripjat was forced to evacuate, and, in total, it is believed that more than 200,000 people were forced to relocate due to the Chernobyl disaster. An area of more than 150,000 square kilometers is considered to be contaminated, and the immediate area around the plant is still, for the most part, uninhabited.

This tragedy came at a huge human and environmental cost, and so it is of the utmost importance that it not be forgotten. For this reason, I would like to acknowledge the work of the Kyiv Committee of the Chicago Sister Cities International Program which is working to commemorate the anniversary of this tragedy through a program highlighting response and recovery efforts.

Mr. Speaker, on this, the 25th anniversary of the Chernobyl tragedy, I invite my colleagues to remember those who suffered as a result of this disaster, as well as recognize the efforts of the Chicago Sister Cities International Program. Only by commemorating and learning from this catastrophe will we be able to move forward towards a safe and productive future for nuclear energy.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM P. HITE AND THE UNITED ASSOCIATION

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate General President William P. Hite

for his selection as the 2011 recipient of the Military Officers Association of America's Distinguished Service Award.

This most recent recognition and honor are well deserved. As General President of the 350,000 members of the United Association of Plumbers, Pipe Fitters, Welders, Sprinkler Fitters, and HVAC Technicians, Bill has worked tirelessly to ensure members of our armed forces have access to the very best careers in his industry.

His organization provides one of the best services available to our veterans. The Veterans in Piping Program trains veterans for the finest careers in the industry. The United Association's Veterans in Piping partnership with the Marines at Camp Pendleton is considered by many to be the most successful military transition program in the country. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis described it as "an awesome program" and one that "should be expanded throughout the United States." It differs from other programs in that it trains Marines prior to discharge—at no cost to the individual—in a certifiable skill, and then provides the network and connections to ensure job placement. Every graduate of the program has been successfully placed in the position of second year Apprentice or higher with the exception of a handful who have either re-enlisted or gone on to college.

General President Hite's service to our armed forces and veterans is accentuated by a distinguished career in public service. He was appointed by President George W. Bush to the Task Force on Rebuilding the Gulf Coast and to the Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations; and, by President Barack Obama to the President's Export Council. He has been called upon by the leaders of both of our political parties in recognition of his fidelity, objectivity, and candor. These characteristics have made him among the most respected labor leaders in the United States.

As we recognize General President Hite and the United Association today, I wish to point out that he is a third generation union member and the membership of the United Association voluntarily bears all of the costs of its veterans programs. The membership supports the men and women of our armed forces with a record of commitment that is second to none. I am particularly and personally proud of the work that San Diego based Local 230 has done to implement this successful and innovative program at Camp Pendleton.

HONORING YAZMIN SPEARMAN FOR WINNING THE LESSONS OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE WRITING CONTEST

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Yazmin Spearman as a winner of the second annual Lessons of the African-American Experience Creative Writing Contest. Yazmin is currently in the eighth grade at the Interdistrict School for Arts and Communication, which is located in New London, Connecticut.

In celebration of Black History Month, I sponsored a creative writing contest for all

third through eighth grade students within the Second District. As we know, Black History Month is a time to reflect on the struggles and triumphs of our nation's past. The lessons learned during this month continue to serve as the stepping stones of our nation's future. Yazmin's essay "African American Music History: The Reason I Remember Black History Month" eloquently embraces this belief.

Yazmin's essay shows a remarkable enthusiasm for learning that is inspiring to all. She identifies the principles of perseverance and discipline as embodied by Marion Anderson and Stevie Wonder. Yazmin creatively discusses how their successes and failures encourage her dreams of becoming a musician. For this, her essay was among the winners selected.

RECOGNIZING MONICA GUZMAN ON BEING NAMED THE 2011 U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S WOMEN IN BUSINESS CHAMPION OF THE YEAR FOR GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Monica Okada Guzman for her years of outstanding business leadership and community involvement on Guam. Ms. Guzman is the Chief Executive Officer and Managing Partner of Galaide Group, a full service communications and public relations firm on Guam. She was recently named the 2011 U.S. Small Business Administration's Women in Business Champion of the Year for Guam.

Ms. Guzman partnered with local artist Ron Castro in 1998 to form the Galaide Group, which provides services that combine Chamorro culture, art, and language with public relations and advertising campaigns on Guam. Under Ms. Guzman's leadership, the Galaide Group has grown to 45 employees, more than half of whom are women. The Group has expanded its services to provide a full range of communications and public relations services to public and private sector clients on Guam. Ms. Guzman's efforts with the "We Are Guam" project through the Guam Visitors Bureau identified many women leaders on Guam to serve as Village Ambassadors and promote Chamorro cultural traditions. Her business has also focused on developing small business opportunities on Guam, and it helped to coordinate the Guam Industry Forum series and the Guam Economic Forum. These projects promoted awareness of business opportunities on Guam and helped to form partnerships between local small businesses and off-island firms.

Ms. Guzman is actively involved in a variety of community organizations on Guam. She has worked with the Guam Women's Club, Women in Movement, and the Guam Make-a-Wish Foundation. She is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities and TASI, an organization dedicated to the preservation of traditional canoe construction, sailing, and navigation practices.

I congratulate Monica Guzman on being named the 2011 U.S. Small Business Administration's Women in Business Champion of