The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC.,
August 9, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JEFF DUN- CAN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOURNEN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER
The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Dear Lord, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We come to You as a Nation, indeed as a world, in the midst of great uncertainty and worry. As people look for causes and solutions, the temptation is great to seek ideological position.

We ask that You might send Your spirit of peace and reconciliation that, instead of ascendancy over opponents, the Members of this people’s House, and all elected to represent our Nation, might work together, humbly, recognizing the best in each other’s hopes, to bring stability and direction toward a strong future.

We pray also on this day in gratitude for the generations of young people who have served this assembly as congressional pages. Like so many in our Nation, their dedicated work for many years is giving way to improved technology and economic forces. May their contributions over the years never be forgotten and always appreciated, and may all pages find in their life pursuit the fulfillment of their giftedness and desire in continued service to others.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5 of House Resolution 375, the Journal of the last day’s proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4 of House Resolution 375, no legislative business will be conducted on this day.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE
The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 3, 2011.

Hon. JOHN A. BOURNEN,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(b) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on August 5, 2011 at 10:13 a.m.:

That the Senate passed H.R. 2553.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

ROBERT F. REEVES,
Deputy Clerk.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED
Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. HARRIS, on Friday, August 5, 2011:

H.R. 2553. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to sections 3 and 4 of House Resolution 375, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Friday, August 12, 2011.

Accordingly (at 10 o’clock and 5 minutes a.m.), the House adjourned until Friday, August 12, 2011, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

2723. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans;
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

By Mr. LoBIONDO (for himself, Mr. Mica, Mr. Westmoreland, Mr. King of New York, Mr. Runyan, and Mr. Connolly of Virginia):
H.R. 2814. A bill to provide authority to compensate Federal employees for the 14-day period in which authority to make expenditures from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund lapsed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TIPTON (for himself, Mr. Stark, Mr. Towns, Mr. Upton, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. DeGETTE, Mr. Hinojosa, Mr. McGovern, Mr. Reyes, Mr. Holt, Mr. Honda, Mr. Franks of Arizona, Mr. Grijalva, Mr. Ryan of Ohio, Mrs. Bachmann, Ms. Richard-son, Mr. Connolly of Virginia, Mr. Polis, Mr. Hanna, Mr. Hultgren, Mr. West, and Ms. Bordallo):
H.R. 2815. A bill to revise the Federal charter for the Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc., to reflect a change in eligibility requirements for membership; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:
100. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 142 memorializing the Congress to take such actions as are necessary to dedicate a portion of marine and fishery product import tariff to a national seafood marketing fund for the promotion of Louisiana seafood; to the Committee on Agriculture.

101. Also, a memorial of the House of Representa-tives of the State of Michigan, relative to House Resolution No. 62 memorializing the Congress to make significant reforms to the National Flood Insurance Program; to the Committee on Financial Services.

102. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Tennessee, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 111 urging the Congress to continue to support career and technical education programs; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

103. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Ohio, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution Number 4 urging the President and the Secretary of Energy to award USEC, at the earliest opportunity, the federal loan guarantee for which it applied; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

104. Also, a memorial of the House of Representa-tives of the State of Tennessee, relative to House Resolution No. 60 opposing any reduction of funding for the National Fish Hatchery Operations that would result in the closing of Erwin National Fish Hatchery; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

105. Also, a memorial of the House of Rep-resentatives of the State of Tennessee, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 304 urging the Congress to appropriate adequate funds for local governments to implement the new minimum retroreflectivity standards for traffic signs mandated by the FHWA; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

106. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Louisiana, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 57 urging the Congress to review the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Social Security benefits reductions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representa-tives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitu-tion to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. LoBIONDO:
H.R. 2814. Congress has the power to enact this legis-lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

H.R. 2815. Congress has the power to enact this legis-lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 1 (relating to the power of Congress to provide for the general welfare of the United States), clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate inter-state commerce), and clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:
H.R. 361: Mr. Hultgren.
H.R. 420: Mr. Flake.
H.R. 452: Mr. Wal-den and Mr. Forten-berry.
H.R. 733: Mr. Welch.
H.R. 860: Ms. Brown of Florida, Mr. Kucinich, Mr. David Scott of Georgia, and Mr. Bishop of New York.
H.R. 894: Mr. Brady of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 972: Mr. Brady of Texas and Mr. Yoder.
H.R. 1035: Mr. Sablan.
H.R. 1084: Mr. Thorny.
H.R. 1179: Mr. Schilling, Mr. Palazzo, and Mr. Burton of Indiana.
H.R. 1466: Mr. Cohen.
H.R. 1537: Mr. Davis of Illinois.
H.R. 1538: Mr. Yoder.
H.R. 1550: Mr. Barletta.
H.R. 1580: Mr. Issa.
H.R. 1754: Mr. Costa.
H.R. 1842: Ms. Norton and Mrs. Capp.
H.R. 1856: Mr. Costa, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Ross of Florida, Mr. Pomer-pio, Mr. Rivera, and Mr. Capuano.
H.R. 2047: Mr. Shuler, Ms. Wasserman Schultz, and Mr. Bilirakis.
H.R. 2167: Mr. Polis and Mr. Meeks.
H.R. 2214: Mrs. Schmidt.
H.R. 2238: Mr. Young of Florida.
H.R. 2231: Mr. Blumenauer and Mr. Honda.
H.R. 2385: Mr. Courtney.
H.R. 2402: Mr. King of Iowa.
H.R. 2412: Mr. Lewis of Georgia.
H.R. 2447: Mr. Rokel and Mr. Rives.
H.R. 2499: Mr. Issa.
H.R. 2541: Mr. Barr.
H.R. 2543: Mrs. Davis of California and Mr. Berman.
H.R. 2636: Mr. Al Green of Texas.
H.R. 2676: Mr. Duncan of Tennessee.
H.R. 2705: Mr. Lewis of Georgia, Ms. Moore, Mr. Olver, Mr. McDermott, Ms. Lee, and Mr. Yarmuth.
H. Res. 25: Mr. Latham.
H. Res. 385: Mr. Bowell.
The Senate met at 11 and 3 seconds a.m., and was called to order by the Honorable Jim Webb, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. Inouye).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE, Washington, DC, August 9, 2011.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable Jim Webb, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

Daniel K. Inouye, President pro tempore.

Mr. Webb thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECESS UNTIL FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 2011, AT 12 NOON

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until Friday, August 12, 2011, at 12 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 11 and 33 seconds a.m., recessed until Friday, August 12, at 12 noon.
EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO MR. OLEG SMURYGIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Oleg Smurygin for his continued contribution to the health care initiatives of his community.

Mr. Smurygin was born to a middle-class Jewish family to Yusry and Bella Smurygin on April 7, 1966, in Kiev, Ukraine. He attended school in Kiev from 1973 until 1983, when he was recruited into the army for two years. Mr. Smurygin served as a Sergeant in the army from 1985 until 1987 under Special Forces by the border of China, Khabarovsk City. Once Mr. Smurygin was discharged in 1987, he attended the University of Kiev, where he graduated with a Bachelors Degree in the Arts in 1991.

In 1992, Mr. Smurygin and his family decided to relocate to the United States as refugees. He supported his family working at Victory Memorial Hospital in Brooklyn, New York as a full time regular security guard. With more experience, Mr. Smurygin was promoted to shift supervisor and eventually to Director of Security in 2006. Spending over 10 years at Victory Memorial Hospital, he was awarded Victory Memorial Hospital 10 Year Award of Excellence.

When the Victory Memorial Hospital closed its doors in 2009, Mr. Smurygin headed to the PAIN Institute as a Business Manager.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and accomplishments of Mr. Oleg Smurygin.

A TRIBUTE TO KDLS

HON. TOM LATHAM
OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50-year anniversary of local radio station KDLS 1310 AM in Perry, Iowa.

The result of a joint venture between local newspaper publishers G.E. Whitehead and Willard Archie, KDLS was first launched on April 7, 1961. Since then, the radio station has become the voice of Perry while covering births, anniversaries, local news and sports, weather, obituaries, interviews with the local community members and many other topics.

To many, the local radio station provides a sense of pride and identity that many rural communities around Iowa and the United States seem to be losing at an increasing rate. If you talk to any of the staff at KDLS, they will attribute their success to keeping everything as local as they can. In an era of media conglomerates and corporations, it is important to remember that local content is responsible for the 50-year success of KDLS.

KDLS has demonstrated that locally owned radio stations can really bring out the personality of the community and can be the driving force behind helping businesses and other organizations reconnect with their local citizens. KDLS is characteristic of what Iowa is all about—local citizens motivated and dedicated to improving their communities and maintaining what they see as an important part of their daily lives.

I consider it an honor to represent this radio station and all members of the Perry community in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the House of Representatives will join me in congratulating KDLS for its 50 years of success and wish them continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL URBINO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Michael Urbino for his service to and excellence throughout his community as a model citizen.

Mr. Michael Urbino is a well-rounded, results-oriented, innovative, and persevering man, who fervently upholds the belief that there is no finish line, but a constant struggle that keeps one challenged.

A native of the Philippines, Mr. Urbino was a pioneer of a business conglomerate in New Jersey and New York. Since a young age, Mr. Urbino professed an interest in business and as such, he went about to complete a Bachelor of Science in Commerce with a major in Business Administration at the University of Santo Tomas, followed by a Master’s degree in Business Administration from the University of Maryland.

From 1985 to 2001 he accumulated substantial experience in sales and marketing of pharmaceuticals, while working for multinational companies like Mead Johnson-Bristol Myers, American Home Products, Abbott Laboratories and Novartis. As an executive at ABN-AMRO and at Philippine Savings Bank, prominent banks in the Netherlands and in the Philippines, respectively, Mr. Urbino became exposed to financial services.

After much experience, Mr. Urbino founded his first of three corporations, Axis Point Alternative Solutions, Inc. in 2006. Axis Point operated as an employee leasing and certification company to healthcare professionals with the State of New York and the State of New Jersey. Shortly after, in 2007, Mr. Urbino registered American Healthcare Facility Management Group (AHFMG). A three-division entity, AHFMG offers licensing, administrative, and managerial services to health professionals.

Mr. Urbino also values the importance of educating and training health providers from grass roots. This longing gave birth to Adriland Institute, which offers vocational medical courses covering various medical specialties.

Mr. Urbino has had a long professional career purposed to provide people the tools necessary to carry on an optimal future for themselves as well as society.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the work of Mr. Michael Urbino.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF PRIVATE DONALD D. OWENS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Private Donald D. Owens, a loyal son and true patriot of the United States of America. Private Owens lost his life on October 9, 1944 during World War II when his M-10 tank was attacked outside of Luneville, France. His life reflected an unwavering devotion to his country and his sacrifice will never be forgotten.

Pvt. Donald Owens was raised in Navarre, Ohio where he attended elementary school. He later relocated to Cleveland, Ohio with his father prior to starting high school. He attended James Ford Rhodes high school, where a yearbook and numerous school events have been named in his honor. Before receiving his diploma, Pvt. Owens opted to enlist in the army.

He fought with the 773rd Tank Battalion in France, and tragically lost his life during the final battle for Parroy Forest. For sixty-six years following Owens’ death his remains were unable to be located. Pvt. Owens’ name can be found among the 443 others on the Tablets of the Missing in the Lorraine American Cemetery.

Sixty-six years after Pvt. Owens lost his life, a French farmer, Gerard Louis, discovered a set of dog tags in the countryside. After contacting Sue Bennis, a Westlake, Ohio librarian, efforts to reconnect with Owens’ family began immediately. His closest living relative is his sister-in-law, Lori Owens, who lives in Mobile, Alabama, the widow of Donald’s late brother Gerald Owens. On May 16, 2011 Lori was greeted by two Army officers with a folded American flag and a bronze urn containing Donald’s remains. A funeral ceremony will be held on August 23, 2011 at Arlington Cemetery to remember Donald’s efforts during World War II.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Mr. Donald D. Owens, a true hero that embodies the American spirit. I offer my deepest condolences to his family and friends. He will always be remembered by those who knew and loved him.
HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and accomplishments of Ms. Carolyn Faulkner.

IN MEMORY OF REVEREND DR. HOWARD W. CREECY, JR.
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great man and child of God, the Reverend Dr. Howard W. Creecy, Jr. His passing is a great loss to his family, his congregation, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the Christian community.

Dr. Creecy was a paragon of what a devout servant of God should be. He was a third generation gospel preacher, teacher and community leader. His family’s legacy of leadership has exceeded over 100 years of continuous commitment to the Christian ministry. Rev. Dr. Creecy was born in Mobile, Alabama, to Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Howard W. Creecy, Sr. The family later moved to Dothan, Alabama, before settling in Atlanta, Georgia, where he pursued his education.

In honoring and acknowledging the outstanding achievements of Dr. Creecy, I am also paying homage to a family friend and someone who I considered to be one of my leading role models. The bond that my family enjoys with the Creecy family transcends different generations and is long-standing.

Like me, he was a proud Morehouse Man. He began his ministry at Morehouse College and completed his graduate work at the Morehouse School of Religion of the Interdenominational Theological Seminary. He also holds a Doctor of Divinity from Abatra Bible Institute and Seminary.

For 26 years, Dr. Creecy served as senior pastor of Saint Peter Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta. There, under his leadership, the church experienced tremendous growth, including a staff of ministers, administrators,
Using his vast experience in public finance and non-profit development, Mr. Lawrence has been able to accelerate the growth of this corporation and provide more services to the public. Mr. Lawrence began his public service career as Management Trainee at the Port Authority of New York/New Jersey and quickly gained experience in NYC’s Office of Economic Development.

Mr. Lawrence is a former non-profit developer for affordable housing and vice president in the investment banking, public finance and real estate divisions of the former Manufacturers Hanover Trust Bank. Using his knowledge, Mr. Lawrence maintains his position as the executive Director of the City’s Industrial commercial Incentive Board and Senior Finance/Development Director at the NYC Public Development Corporation.

Mr. Lawrence is a man of exceptional character and one that has been humbled through his ability serve those with greater needs. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and accomplishments of Mr. Harvey Lawrence.

INTRODUCING THE CONTINUUM OF LEARNING ACT

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO
OF HAWAII
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Continuum of Learning Act. Learning does not start in kindergarten or first grade: learning begins at birth. Decades of research have shown that quality early learning is foundational to success in school and in life. Economists, educators, business leaders, law enforcement officers, and military generals agree on the importance of quality early learning. By the time they enter kindergarten, children from low-income families have developed only half the vocabulary of their well-advantaged peers. By investing early, we can close achievement gaps early and prevent future costs for special education, dropouts, crime, incarceration, and dependence on social services later in life.

A continuum of learning from birth through the early elementary grades can strengthen students’ success in the K–12 system and beyond. The Continuum of Learning Act updates the Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA) to strengthen connections between existing early learning programs and the elementary grades. I have conducted numerous teacher listening sessions and heard from hundreds of educators and parents about early learning programs and the elementary grades. Educators want more support in doing their jobs. This bill, developed with Senator Bob CASEY of Pennsylvania, and my original cosponsors WALTER JONES of North Carolina, JARED POLIS of Colorado and DON YOUNG of Alaska, helps educators from Head Start, other early childhood education programs, and elementary schools work together so young children have a successful transition from preschool to elementary school. For example, a child who receives help on language skills or visiting a social worker in preschool can continue receiving that help, if needed, when he or she gets to kindergarten; assisting elementary schools in being “ready schools” so all children have the quality teaching, supportive services, and family engagement needed for their success. I thank Senators SHERROD BROWN (D–Ohio) and KAY HAGAN (D–North Carolina) for introducing the Continuum of Learning Act, which is included as part of this legislation; encouraging schools in need of improvement to use early childhood education as a strategy for improving student achievement.

The Continuum of Learning Act was developed with input from numerous national and Hawaii organizations, including: the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the world’s largest organization of people working with children from birth through age 8. Twenty thousand people participate in Hawaii AEYC activities each year; the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), representing the principals of 33 million children in preschool through grade 8. More than 200 of Hawaii’s public schools serve early-childhood-age children; the National Head Start Association (NHSAA) supporting Head Start providers nationwide. In Hawaii, 3,300 children are enrolled in Head Start; Pre-K Now; First Five Years Fund (FFFY); the National Women’s Law Center; Zero to Three; First Focus Campaign for Children (FFC); Early Care and Education (ECE) Consortium; High Scope Educational Research Foundation;
HONORING THE HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL OF PAINTERS

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHNEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. HINCHNEY. Mr. Speaker, in 1996, President Clinton signed into law a bill that I authored establishing the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. One of the key priorities of the National Heritage Area is to preserve and appreciate the rich heritage and scenic beauty of the Hudson Valley and to highlight its contributions to both New York and the nation through the contributions of the Hudson River School of Painters, America’s first school of art.

Now, thanks to the Architect of the Capitol, anyone who visits the U.S. Capitol and Capitol Visitor Center can enjoy two famous paintings by Albert Bierstadt, one of the major 19th century Hudson River School painters, entitled “Discovery of the Hudson” and “Entrance into Monterey.” These large paintings were originally purchased by the U.S. Congress after the Civil War and were displayed prominently in the Capitol until recently taken down to facilitate renovations. The re-hanging of these paintings is a major event for a rebirth in the study and appreciation of the Hudson River School of Painters. I encourage all members in the House and Senate to view these magnificent American landscapes and recommend to their visiting constituents that they do the same.

The Hudson River School of Painters captured the beauty and clarity of American landscapes, and not only painted throughout the Hudson Valley and in my state of New York, but created idyllic scenes never before viewed. The school’s roots are based in the works of Thomas Cole and his contemporaries Asher Durand and Frederic Edwin Church, as well as Jasper F. Cropsey, who became world-renowned for his depiction or American splendor in his painting “Autumn on the Hudson” (1860), and for his visit with Queen Victoria on one of his many trips to Europe. George Inness, who was born in my district, documented the expansion of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad and Albert Bierstadt was celebrated for his portrayal of many Western mountain ranges, so much so that Mt. Bierstadt in Colorado was named in his honor. Thomas Moran’s famous works were used to support the creation of Yellowstone National Park, and these paintings helped inspire the eventual creation of the National Park Service. Many of the painters in the Hudson River School, including Church, Bierstadt, John Kensett, and Sanford Gifford served in advisory roles in the founding of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York in 1870.

Mr. Speaker, it is also with great pleasure that I join with my colleagues from New York, Representative ELIOT ENGLE, in supporting the placement of a series of historic bronze markers along the Hudson River honoring the sites at which the Hudson River School of Painters created their works of art. These bronze sculptural markers were created by Greg Wyatt, Design Academy of the Hudson Valley, New Croton, and will be placed at Hastings-on-Hudson, Hook Mountain State Park, and in my district in the City of Newburgh. The bronze text of each marker reads: “This monument is dedicated to the memory of the Hudson River School, a fraternity of landscape painters who worked in New York City in the 1800s and celebrated American as well as foreign scenery in their works. Among these painters of the Hudson River School were Thomas Cole, Asher B. Durand, Frederic E. Church, John F. Kensett, Sanford R. Gifford, and Jasper F. Cropsey.” Today, their major works are seen in museums great and small, where they glorify the nation’s original resource and its enduring responsibility: the land.

Mr. Speaker, there will be a series of speeches and statements by my colleagues highlighting the contributions of each of the Hudson River School of Painters and the impact they had on their districts, and to America. The beauty of these paintings depicted a growing interest in American landscape and an effort to conserve and protect what I consider the first environmental movement in America in the 19th century. Please join with me in recognizing and appreciating the Hudson River School of Painters.

A TRIBUTE TO CELAL SECILMIS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Celal Secilmis for his ongoing ability to serve his community through public service and education.

Mr. Secilmis was born in Sariakamis, Turkey in 1953 and was raised in Mersin, Turkey until his early adult life. After graduating from Istanbul Academy of Economic and Commercial Sciences in 1974, he went on to complete a Graduate Certificate Program at Istanbul University, Institute of Business Economics. Mr. Secilmis has had a life in academia—deciding to move to America in 1975 after winning a Turkish Government Scholarship to do doctoral studies in the United States. Under this scholarship, Mr. Secilmis attended Georgetown University for a Masters Degree in Management, and then received an MBA degree from LIU.

Mr. Secilmis continued his dedicated studies at City University of New York’s Graduate Center in Financial Economics with emphasis on “Agency Theory: Bonding and Monitoring Costs.” Upon completion of his graduate studies, he worked as a professor of finance at Baruch College, CUNY until 1995. Mr. Secilmis had started his own business, but shortly returned to the academic arena to fill the role of adjunct professor, which is his current profession.

In addition to being an adjunct professor, Mr. Secilmis also serves as the CEO and President of CEL Group of companies: Seckin Management, CEL Management, Semerica Trading, Inc., ATA Marketing Co, Inc, and ATA Construction USA, Inc. Mr. Secilmis is also the current President of Turkish American Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as his term expires in 2012.

Mr. Secilmis is happily married to Oicya Soymen and together they have two sons Seckin and Ata and a daughter, Deniz who is married to Adam Bederman.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and success of Mr. Celal Secilmis.
PAYING TRIBUTE TO MS. BARBARA JENSEN’S 27 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR NATION

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ms. Barbara Jensen for her extraordinary dedication to duty and service to the United States of America. Ms. Jensen will retire after 27 years of distinguished service to the Nation, both as an Army officer and as an Army Civilian.

Ms. Jensen began her service as a Medical Service Corps officer. She served honorably for 21 years, commanding troops and serving as a Logistician, Commodity Manager of the Army’s critical medical supplies and equipment at Fort Carson, Colorado, Fort Lewis, Washington, Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii, and overseas in Germany.

Ms. Jensen was assigned to ever higher levels of responsibility because her experience and reputation as a skilled leader, manager, and advisor grew. As the Director of Logistics for the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, she played a key role in enabling the Institute to provide world-class, life-saving diagnostic consultations. Her leadership also supported the innovative scientific research conducted at the Institute, while providing an opportunity to educate military and civilian pathologists, physicians, and various medical and scientific professionals.

Ms. Jensen became a liaison to Members of Congress and advised Army leadership on congressional interest items and legislation. With the Army Staff in the Pentagon, she provided legislative analysis on congressional actions affecting Army programs. She led numerous congressional staff visits and ensured that Members of Congress and their staff were supplied with critical, time sensitive information to afford deep understanding of the Army’s medical research programs. She became the advisor to the Army’s Surgeon General and his staff on legislation affecting military health care, thereby helping to ensure continued congressional support for medical innovation and the finest medical care for our service members.

Ms. Jensen retired from the United States Army in 2004, receiving the Legion of Merit award for her superb service. Afterwards, Ms. Jensen became a civil servant with the Department of the Army in 2005, returning to use her vast talents and expertise to serve her country once again.

As an Army Congressional Legislative Liaison, the Army entrusted Ms. Jensen to provide accurate assessments to Capitol Hill and to effectively communicate the Army’s priorities. She earned the trust and confidence of the Members of the House and Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittees, Congressional Staffers, the Office of the Secretary of Defense; Director, Army Staff and other service legislative activity directors.

Ms. Jensen most recently served as the Deputy Chief of Congressional Operations Division, Army Legislative Liaison. Ms. Jensen was an instrumental member of the legislative team, collecting information Congress needed to enact authorizations and oversee the Department of the Army. Her advice was heeded by Army leaders to include the Secretary of the Army, the Chief of Staff, the Under Secretary of the Army, the Vice Chief of Staff, and the Sergeant Major of the Army.

Ms. Jensen has continued to remain passionate about Soldiers, their Families, and ensuring quality of life for Service Members matches the quality of their service. She has made a real and lasting impact through her numerous contributions toward gaining congressional trust, confidence, and advocacy for the Army.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Nation, I join my colleagues today in saying thank you to Ms. Barbara Jensen for her extraordinary dedication to duty and service to this country throughout her distinguished career in the United States Army, both in uniform and as a Civilian. We wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. JAMES AURORA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. James Aurora for his exceptional service to his community and the youth.

James Aurora is a third generation of owners of the now famous Sonny’s Collision Specialists in Queens, New York. This renowned business has been serving the Brooklyn community for 60 years and has gained a distinct reputation for quality customer service.

Mr. Aurora has built an operation that employs 25 professionals that offer clients guaranteed personal attention. In the years that Mr. Aurora has been operating Sonny’s Collision Specialists he has never known any unsatisfied customers. Every customer of Sonny’s has only experienced top notch service in the most expeditious manner.

Jimmy Aurora knows the importance of giving. Sonny’s is not only a staple in the community for their expertise in auto body collisions, but they are famous for their giving spirit. Mr. Aurora on a yearly basis has sponsored cricket teams, baseball leagues, and boys’ clubs, along with donating thousands of dollars towards autism awareness and the American Cancer Society. He has not only provided a necessary service to his community but he has found the means to give more to those in dire need.

Mr. Aurora lives by the company’s motto: “Perfection is not an accident.” Jimmy proudly represents his heritage and family legacy by ensuring that Sonny’s Collision Specialists continues to be a leader and trendsetter in auto body collision work.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and accomplishments of Mr. James Aurora.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, August 1, I missed a rollcall vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on No. 691.
Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, page S5299

Senate met at 11:00:03 a.m. in pro forma session, and recessed at 11:00:33 a.m. until 12 noon, on Friday, August 12, 2011.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 2 public bills, H.R. 2814–2815; were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Duncan (SC) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H5899.

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea-and-Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 2011

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
12 noon, Friday, August 12

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Friday, August 12

House Chamber

Program for Friday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 10 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Austria, Steve, Ohio, R1512
Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., R1512
Graves, Sam, Mo., R1515
Hinchey, Maurice D., N.Y., R1514
Hirono, Mazie K., Hawaii, R1513
Kucinich, Dennis J., Ohio, R1511
Latham, Tom, Iowa, R1511
Towns, Edolphus, N.Y., R1511, R1511, R1512, R1512, R1513, R1514, R1514
Young, C.W. Bill, Fla., R1515

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