

In January 2009, strategic direction on how the nation would deploy missile defenses in Europe directed a renewed focus on the ballistic missile threat from the Middle East to our NATO European allies. General O'Reilly was called upon to work with the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), and the Department of State to develop and implement a four phased plan for the deployment of the European Phased Adaptive Approach (EPAA).

His work resulted in a unique solution to phase and convert shipped-based SM-3 missiles for land-based use. In December 2011, General O'Reilly and the Missile Defense Agency achieved a historical milestone by issuing a technical declaration for EPAA Phase 1 in December 2011. As a result, the United States has now successfully deployed a command and control battle management system in Germany and a forward-based radar in Turkey, and has assigned an Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) ship to patrol the Eastern Mediterranean Sea.

During his tenure, his organization further completed BMD installations on 11 Aegis warships, including the upgrade of three ships from 3.6 to 4.0.1, giving them a ballistic missile defense capability utilizing the most capable interceptors available. During this time the Aegis BMD program delivered 66 SM-3 IA interceptors and four SM-3 IBs for flight testing. At the tactical level, he oversaw the delivery of the United States Army's first two operational THAAD batteries, initiated production of two additional THAAD batteries, and managed the delivery of 51 THAAD interceptors to meet the needs of our Combatant Commanders and the needs of our allies.

General O'Reilly's missile defense vision extended far beyond the current set of fielded and planned capabilities. During his tenure, the nation witnessed the Airborne Laser Test Bed (ALTB) demonstrate revolutionary technology by achieving two historic shoot-downs of two short-range ballistic missile targets using directed energy technology. He also advocated and began program implementation to provide Precision Tracking Space System satellites to one day provide persistent overhead coverage from space as well as birth to death tracking of enemy ballistic missiles.

Mr. Speaker, these are but a few of the many accomplishments in General O'Reilly's storied and distinguished career. As I reviewed his experiences and contributions, I am reminded that his career has made national security history, and that he has also provided a vision for future generations of military officers.

I also believe all distinguished careers are helped, aided, and encouraged by friends and family. As a nation we also owe a debt of gratitude to General O'Reilly's wife, Judith, and his two daughters, Siobhan and Brigid. General O'Reilly and family, thank you for your service to God and Country. General O'Reilly, you have held true to your West Point Class of 1978 motto—"Proud and Great '78."

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JAMES M.
NAUGHTON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of newsman James M.

Naughton who died at the age of 73 from complications of prostate cancer. He is survived by his wife Diana, three daughters, one son, and four grandchildren.

Mr. Naughton was born in Painesville, Ohio and earned his college degree from the University of Notre Dame while working summers at the local newspaper, The Painesville Telegraph. Upon his graduation in 1960, he served as a lieutenant in the Marine Corps for two years. In 1962, Naughton found himself back in Ohio writing about politics and urban affairs for the Cleveland Plain Dealer—a job he held for seven years.

From 1969 to 1977, Mr. Naughton worked at the New York Times as a White House and national correspondent covering the Nixon, Ford and Carter eras. During his tenure on the Times, he covered such stories as when Senator Muskie emotionally responded to a New Hampshire newspaper's attack aimed at his wife, former Vice President Agnew's admission of tax evasion in order to avoid bribery charges, and the Congressional impeachment hearings that arose out of the Nixon Watergate scandal. He later served as executive editor of The Philadelphia Inquirer during the time they earned 18 Pulitzers in 17 years, and from 1996 to 2003, Naughton served as the President of the Poynter Institute for Media Studies in St. Petersburg, FL where he eventually retired.

Jim Naughton was a "prank loving" reporter with a witty spirit. He was known for showing up to a presidential news conference wearing the head of a chicken costume, and often placed a wide variety of animals in his colleagues' offices; he always believed such a mischievous spirit provided for an atmosphere of creativity and cohesion.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the life and achievements of James M. Naughton.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office; the national debt was \$ 10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$ 16,020,975,194,914.83. We've added \$5,394,098,146,001.80 dollars to our debt in 3½ years. This is \$5.3 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 579 had I been present, I would have voted "no."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF SERGEANT FIRST CLASS KITO KAJUAN WILKINS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Sergeant First Class Kito Kajuan Wilkins, who will be retiring from the US Army's 3rd Infantry Division, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade.

Originally from Anniston, Alabama, Wilkins entered the Army in 1992. Upon graduation from boot camp, he became a Bradley Vehicle Driver at Fort Benning, Georgia. Soon after, he became a Squad Leader and Platoon Sergeant in Illesheim, Germany. From 1999–2002, he was stationed in Fort Hood, where he served as a Technical Inspector. After serving as a recruiter in San Antonio, Wilkins was deployed to Iraq to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. After his deployment to Iraq, Wilkins served in Fort Eustis, Virginia as an Instructor. From 2008–2010, he was stationed at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, as a Platoon Sergeant and Section Chief. Currently, his duty location is Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Georgia. While stationed there he has deployed to Pakistan, where he took part in the Pakistani Humanitarian Mission Flood Relief, and Afghanistan, where he served his final deployment.

Because of his dedication to our country, SFC Wilkins has received countless awards. These include: 7 Army Accommodation Medals, five Army Achievement Medals, six Army Good Conduct Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, one Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, one Global War on Terror Service Medal, one Silver Recruiter Badge and one Basic Marksmanship Qualification Badge.

In addition to his dutiful service to our country, SFC Wilkins is a tireless volunteer. He has logged over 1,500 volunteer community service hours teaching youth football, basketball and soccer. Because of his volunteer efforts, Wilkins has received two Humanitarian Service Medals, a Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, an Army Service Ribbon and two Overseas Service Ribbons.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my sincerest gratitude to SFC Wilkins, a true American hero, for his service to our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 89TH ANNUAL FEAST OF ST. WENCESLAUS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Czech Catholics of Greater Cleveland on the occasion of their 89th Annual Feast of St. Wenceslaus on September 29, 2012 at St. John Nepomucene Parish.

St. Wenceslaus is the patron saint of the Czech Republic. Every year, his feast day, September 28th, is celebrated by Czech communities around the world. St. Wenceslaus was the leader of Old Bohemia during the

early part of the 10th Century. During his tenure as king, St. Wenceslaus took a vow of chastity and was devoted to his Christian faith. Killed by his brother, St. Wenceslaus was later canonized as a martyr of the Christian faith.

St. John Nepomucene is one of only two Czech congregations left in the Cleveland Catholic Diocese, along with Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.

The Czech Catholics of Greater Cleveland will gather together on September 29th for mass featuring the Most Reverend Bishop Roger W. Gries and will be followed by a celebration dinner and performance by the Hronek Czech Band.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the Czech Catholics of Greater Cleveland on the occasion of their 89th Annual Feast of St. Wenceslaus. I offer my best wishes to the Czech Catholics of Greater Cleveland and all those who attend this joyous celebration.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF MILESTONES AUTISM ORGANIZATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 10th anniversary of Milestones Autism Organization, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals on the autism spectrum and their families.

Founded in 2003 by parents to promote life-long strategies for success for individuals with autism, Milestones Autism Organization has assisted more than 4,000 individuals throughout the past decade. Milestones trains parents and professionals using research-based techniques in order to improve the level of educational and therapeutic programming available for individuals with autism. Milestones offers parent workshops and training, professional development programs, school team training, consultation services, hosts an annual Autism/Asperger's conference, and has launched a professional network, the Milestones Consortium for Autism Professionals.

As Milestones Autism Organization celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, a special tribute will be given to its founding board members, Chantal Akerib, Bart Bookatz, Carol Lader and Sally H. Wertheim.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing a decade of training and support provided by the Milestones Autism Organization.

A TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND DOCTOR DARAN HERNANDEZ MITCHELL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor the Reverend Doctor Daran H. Mitchell, a man dedicated to serving God, his family, and the community. Dr. Mitch-

ell is the pastor of the First African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, which I represent.

Dr. Mitchell earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion/Philosophy-Liberal Studies from Bethune-Cookman College, a Master of Divinity degree from Hood Theological Seminary, and the Doctor of Ministry from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, Virginia Union University.

Since his appointment to the First A.M.E. Zion Church pulpit in October 2004, Dr. Mitchell has established a ministry to men, a ministry to women, a liturgical dance ministry, a media ministry, completed over \$850,000 in capital improvements, restored the Historic Clock on its edifice, and is actively creating partnerships with churches and community leaders in the Borough of Brooklyn.

An active member of the community, Dr. Mitchell presently serves as chairman of the Board of Conference Studies for the New York Annual Conference; member of the Board of Trustees of the New York Annual Conference; member, Board of Directors, Harriet Tubman Home; chairman of the Budget Committee, New York Annual Conference; chairman of the Finance Committee for the New York City District, and a member of the Brotherhood Pension Board for the A.M.E. Zion Church.

Dr. Mitchell is married to the Reverend Lorraine Lynn Kennedy-Mitchell and they are the proud parents of a 16 year-old son, Caylen.

A gifted preacher, teacher, motivational speaker, builder, and community activist, Dr. Mitchell has sought to raise the spiritual climate and social consciousness of not only the congregation, but the community in general by becoming active in every aspect of community life. The community of Greensboro, North Carolina is gaining an extraordinary figure that will be greatly missed in Brooklyn.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Reverend Dr. Daran H. Mitchell for his tremendous contributions to his congregants and the community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Reverend Dr. Daran H. Mitchell.

HONORING 53 YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE BY THE FEDERATION OF ASIA-PACIFIC WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Federation of Asia-Pacific Women's Association (FAWA) for more than 50 years of exemplary service to our community. FAWA has strived to develop mutual cooperation and friendship through the advocacy of cultural ties among Asian and Pacific Islander women in our region since its origins with the General Federation of Women's Clubs and its founding in the Philippines in 1959.

FAWA seeks to improve the lives of members and their communities. Their motto, "Asian Women United for Service" describes their efforts to effect major changes in the status of women in Asia and to work towards a better life for the Asia-Pacific region. FAWA

accomplishes this objective through promoting closer relations and joint efforts among Asians, particularly women, by fostering a mutual appreciation of cultural, moral and socio-economic values.

As an honorary president of FAWA, I am proud and excited to host this year's convention on Guam. This year's theme, "Empowering Asia-Pacific Women Through Knowledge and Opportunities," is fitting, as this convention brings together women leaders from across the Asia-Pacific region to share experiences and promote the continued growth and preservation of women's roles in the Asia-Pacific region. The conference will address issues affecting women in the modern world, including women and sustainability, women's health issues, and women and education. These sessions offer valuable networking opportunities for participants, and I encourage all attendees to take advantage of this unique group of leaders; to make valuable connections with other empowered women in our community.

I recognize the founders, Minerva G. Laudico and Geronima T. Pecson; this organization has carried on their vision and passion across generations and national boundaries. I am confident that their legacy of service will endure. I commend my fellow Honorary President Cecilia Y. Koo, Honorary Advisor Nancy C. Nee, FAWA President Kristal Koga, FAWA 1st Vice President Charlene Yang, FAWA 2nd Vice President Mei Woo, FAWA 3rd Vice President Jung Sook Kim, Convention Chair Sylvia Crafton, Convention Co-Chairs Nancy Tan and Denise Mendiola-Hertslet, and members of the FAWA Board of Executives and all the organizing members for their efforts in ensuring that this year's conference, like past events, will be a success. I congratulate the Federation of Asia-Pacific Women's Association for their dedication and contributions, and I look forward to the continued growth of this organization for many more years to come.

THE AFFIRMING RELIGIOUS HERITAGE AND FREEDOM IN THE UNITED STATES ACT

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Affirming Religious Heritage and Freedom in the United States Act. This legislation is a simple statement recognizing the importance of religion in the lives of our nation's citizens, the strong role of Judeo-Christian heritage in the development of our nation, and the freedom for all to exercise their religious beliefs in our nation.

Our nation's history is storied with references to religious beliefs and symbols that mark their importance in the development of our nation. Those religious beliefs often inspired our nation's founding fathers, as well as presidents and lawmakers throughout our history, to stand firm in their conviction that this should be a nation of freedom, including freedom of religion.

Recently, we've heard more and more negative news stories about religion in our nation. I ask, what is wrong with faith and exercising