

Brook, Lisa spent a semester interning with Minority Leader Gephardt.

Having skillfully proved her ability to manage casework and the many important responsibilities of my constituent services operation, Lisa was promoted to manage special projects and coordinate intergovernmental affairs. She excelled in these areas and built a reputation for solving problems and delivering outstanding service to my constituents. Thus, her promotion to District Office Director in January of 2012 was well earned and richly deserved.

Lisa has proven time and again that she is self-motivated and is constantly striving to assume ever greater responsibility. I have such tremendous confidence in Lisa that I asked her to take an official leave of absence to manage my campaign for re-election in 2008. Lisa has since managed my past two campaigns in 2010 and 2012, which were the two most challenging races in my congressional career. Lisa presided over each of these three consecutive campaigns with skill, determination and an unparalleled work ethic.

Lisa has indeed proven invaluable and achieved all of this success by the age of only 30. She became a mother earlier this year and now moves on to become the Assistant Deputy County Executive for Intergovernmental Affairs for the County of Suffolk on Long Island. Lisa will be missed very much, but my staff and I are comforted in knowing that she will remain nearby and continue to serve a mutual constituency in her new capacity.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of New York's first congressional district, I thank Lisa Santeramo for her many years of outstanding service and wish her continued success in serving the residents of Suffolk County in the years ahead.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. FELMERS  
CHANNEY

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2012*

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Felmers Chaney, a civil rights leader and the first African American Sergeant in the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD). Mr. Chaney passed away on December 5, 2012 at the age of 94.

Mr. Chaney was the son of a dairy farmer and born and raised in Spooner, in northern Wisconsin. He came to Milwaukee to work as a machinist in 1941 but was unable to find work in that field. He was drafted into the Army in 1942. He was sent to officers' candidate school, graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant and commanded troops in England and France.

After the war, he returned to Milwaukee and, at the urging of a friend, he joined the Milwaukee Police Department in 1947. Mr. Chaney became an MPD trailblazer; he was only the 4th black person to serve on the police force serving 36 years as a police officer. Mr. Chaney became the first African American to rise to the rank of Sergeant but this was not without controversy. Felmers Chaney passed the Sergeant's exam in 1954 but was asked if he would consider being a detective with the same pay and no supervision of staff. He declined the detective post; in the mid-60's he

supervised 20 officers of which only two or three were African American. He had a reputation of fairness.

Felmers Chaney was elected president of the NAACP—Milwaukee Branch where he served for 12 years. He was a true advocate for the community speaking out on a range of issues including: education, housing and minority hiring and representation. He once described discrimination against blacks in Milwaukee as a "broken record; it's been going on for the past 40–50 years"

Mr. Chaney championed Milwaukee's inner city development. He was president of the Central City Development Corporation which built the Central City Plaza and he was a founder and president of North Milwaukee State Bank, Wisconsin's first black-owned bank. Felmers Chaney also served as president of the Milwaukee Urban League.

In 2009, Mr. Chaney and his wife, Jessie attended the inauguration of President Obama. Although they both were infirm, they were determined to attend this historic event. He treasured that moment of being able to participate in an event he never dreamed could occur in his lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that Mr. Felmers Chaney a civil rights champion, public servant and trailblazer lived, worked, and served in the 4th Congressional District of Wisconsin. Mr. Chaney's legacy will live on through the many people he mentored, his family and the community.

A BIRTHDAY WISH

**HON. DUNCAN HUNTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2012*

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to take a brief moment to wish a very Happy Birthday to my son, Duncan, who turns 12 years old today. Call it a coincidence, Mr. Speaker, but he turns 12 on 12–12–12. It's a special day for a very special boy.

He's got a lot of great qualities, but it's his dedication to doing what's right when no one is looking that makes me, as his father, so proud. He's also got a great sense of humor and his energetic love for life is both infectious and inspiring. So on this occasion, Mr. Speaker, and as I think about how the last twelve years have gone by way too fast, I want to wish him a very Happy Birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JEAN  
WARD

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2012*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during the Christmas Season we remember people far and near and reminisce about those who are no longer with us. I rise to remember Jean Ward, who passed from this life on July 16, 2012.

Jean Ward was born in Detroit, Michigan on March 8, 1934 to Clarence and Agnes Ward. He graduated from Michigan State University and served in the U.S. Navy. Together he and

his wife Jean raised five daughters. His family was most precious to him.

Jean worked with the City of Toledo in forestry, and then began a career with the Toledo Area Metroparks. He became the Metroparks Director in 1985 and served until his retirement after 35 years in service to the organization. During that time he was Founding Director of the Stranahan Arboretum. His tenure brought a growth which established the Toledo Area Metroparks as a hallmark of our region. Jean Ward was "an ambassador of conservation. He had a passion and a dedication to protecting, preserving and improving natural areas for all to enjoy." His legacy will last through the ages. His extraordinary efforts brought him statewide recognition when, in 2009 he was inducted into the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Hall of Fame and later received a Lifetime Achievement Award.

I was privileged to work with Jean through many years of shared public service. Though he will be missed by all whose lives he touched, his spirit carries forward in the natural beauty his efforts enshrined for generations to come.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 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 \$16,375, 1874,429,255.52. We've added \$5,748,997,380,342.44 to our debt in nearly 4 years. This is \$5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2012*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on December 11, 2012, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for Rollcall No. 620. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 620—"yes"—On approving the Journal.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2012*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the following law enforcement officers who have been honored by the Horse Shoe Curve Benevolent Association for their service to their communities and continued willingness to put their lives on the line to protect public safety.