worth millions of dollars from foundations, corporations, city, county, state and federal governments to establish programs for disadvantaged preschool, elementary, middle and high school students. Yolanda has also partnered with school districts, city, county and state Departments of Education as well as colleges, businesses and corporate sponsors to help underprivileged youth. The Corona-Norco Family YMCA under Yolanda's leadership has continued the successful partnership with the Calvert Foundation in sponsoring the Annual Ira D. ''Cal'' Calvert Distinguished Service Awards Dinner honoring exceptional community volunteers.

In addition to the YMCA, Yolanda is a member of many other community organizations and serves on multiple boards whose programs help children in our area. She is the City of Corona Planning Commissioner and Woman's Improvement Club Treasurer, and serves on the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Riverside Community College District Child Development Department Advisory Board, Riverside-Corona Navy League Council Board, United Neighbors Involving Today's Youth (UNITY) Board and Corona Police Community Partnership Association Board. She is a member of the Corona Rotary Club and is the immediate past State Board Chair of the California Child Development Administrators Association.

In light of all Yolanda has done for Corona and Norco, the Greater Corona Valley Chamber of Commerce named Yolanda their Citizen of the Year. Yolanda's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the Inland Empire and especially our community's children. She has been the heart and soul of many community organizations and events and I am proud to call her a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for her service and salute her as she receives this prestigious award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 18, 2013

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, January 15, 2013, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 23 due to a death in my family. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on Final Passage of H.R. 152—Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013.

HONORING THE HONOREES OF THE BANGOR REGION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 18, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorees of the 2013 Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner. Founded in 1911, the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce serves Bangor and 21 surrounding communities. The positive economic effects of the Bangor Chamber's committed advocacy can always be felt throughout the state.

Each year, the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce recognizes local businesses, business leaders, and individuals who promote and advance a vital and healthy business environment. These individuals and businesses are committed to strengthening opportunity and prosperity in Maine.

This year's award recipients include Peter Vigue of Cianbro Pipe Fabrication and Coating Facility, recipient of the Norbert X. Dowd Award; Senator Richard Rosen, recipient of the Catherine Lebowitz Award for Public Service; Andy Hamilton of Eaton Peabody, recipient of the Arthur A. Comstock Professional Service Award; Geaghan's Pub and Craft Brewery, recipient of the Bion and Dorain Foster Entrepreneurship Award; WBRC Architects and Engineers, recipient of the Business of the Year Award; Hammond Street Senior Center, recipient of the Community Service Award; Children's Miracle Network Hospitals of Eastern Maine Health Care Systems, recipient of the Non-Profit of the Year Award; and Kathy Hunt of Starboard Leadership Consulting LLC, recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award.

These eight recipients are among the best that Maine has to offer. Through their leadership and incredible commitment to their communities and to the region, Maine is a better place to live and do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce and these individuals on their outstanding service and achievement.

IN RECOGNITION DR. DAN JONES

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 18, 2013

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Dan Jones, Utah's most prominent political pollster, on his impressive career and service to our State. Over a 50-year period, Dr. Jones has become synonymous with Utah politics in his roles as professor, pollster, consultant, mentor, and political expert.

As President and CEO of Dan Jones & Associates, which he founded in 1980, Dr. Jones has presided over one of the Intermountain West's most highly regarded market and political research firms. Conducting polls, focus groups and surveys for a wide range of organizations, the firm's data is routinely used by Salt Lake City's print and broadcast media organizations. Dr. Jones also has a long and distinguished history of consulting on Utah's highest profile political campaigns ranging from Utah Governors Matheson, Bangerter and Leavitt to Senators HATCH, BENNETT and GARN.

In addition to his work in the private sector, Dr. Jones has taught tens of thousands of Utah students over a career that has spanned five decades. He taught at both Utah State University in Logan, Utah and most recently at the University of Utah's famed Hinckley Institute of Politics. His teaching has frequently been singled out for accolades, including the Distinguished University Teaching Award in 2002, Adjunct Professor of the Year in 1999, and Students Choice for Professor of the Year in 1997.

Dr. Jones' distinguished career began after earning a Bachelor's degree at Idaho State University. Dr. Jones enlisted in the military, where he remained in Active Duty in the United States Army from 1957–1959, and was commissioned a Captain in the U.S.A.R. where he served until 1968.

Following his military service, Dr. Jones furthered his education by earning a master's degree in 1962 and doctorate degree in 1968 at the University of Utah. Following his graduate studies, Jones taught for twelve years at Utah State University and rose to the rank of full professor. After founding Dan Jones & Associates in 1980, Dr. Jones joined the faculty at the University of Utah where he was named a Hinckley Fellow in 2008. He eventually served as Interim Director of the Hinckley Institute of Politics from 2003–2005. Dr. Jones has also served for 12 years as a co-director of the Huntsman Seminar in Constitutional Government for Teachers.

I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of this incredible man.

IN MEMORY OF SAMUEL KEKER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 18, 2013

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and deep sadness that I rise today to mourn the passing of a dear friend, an unflinching patriot, and a proud American, Samuel Keker.

The son of immigrants, born in Colorado and raised in Detroit, Sam came to our Nation's capital as a young man, as a student at American University, prepared to give back to our country and contribute to the public debate—first as a leader on campus, later as a trendsetter and a pioneer across the country.

He was a member of the ''greatest generation,'' serving in our Navy with dignity and honor in the theaters of the Atlantic and the Pacific. He remained in the Naval Reserve until 1962, even leaving his job in the private sector to return to duty in the Korean War, ultimately retiring at the rank of Commander.

He began a lifetime of work at U.S. News and World Report as an assistant in 1946 and rose through the ranks the only way he knew how: through hard work and dedication, perseverance and persistence. He would emerge as a critical leader on the business side of the magazine, promoting thoughtful, poignant, and accurate journalism, boosting circulation, and delivering the highest-quality reporting to his readers.

He would retire at the top of his profession—the Chief Executive and Chairman of his magazine—a fitting conclusion to a long, illustrious, and successful career. He was a person of great wisdom and wit.

Sam Keker's greatest source of pride was his family—his wife, Lucy; his sons, John and Jerry; his two grandsons, Adam and Nathan; and his five great-grandchildren. His life was blessed, and his legacy will be a blessing for all who knew him. We hope it is a comfort to his entire family, to his friends and loved ones that so many share in their grief at this sad time.

REINTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION TO CREATE A HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON THE U.S. CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI, LIBYA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 18, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today I have reintroduced my resolution to establish a House Select Committee on the Terrorist Attack in Benghazi to ensure a unified investigation of the attack and the Obama Administration's response. A select committee is essential to combine the myriad existing investigations into a single, comprehensive and exhaustive review. I believe such a combined effort will yield even more information regarding the true nature of these terrorist attacks and the administration's response.

More than four months have passed since the terrorist attack on the U.S. consulate and annex that occurred during the late evening and early morning hours of September 11–12. The attack took the lives of four Americans, including a U.S. ambassador—the first ambassador to be killed in the line of duty since 1979. Yet the American people still have been told little about the timeline of this attack and the administration's response in the hours, days and weeks following. Consider that the American people still haven't been provided answers to the following serious questions:

With the inexplicable release of suspect Ali Harzi by Tunisian authorities earlier this month, why are there no suspects in custody?

Secretary Clinton, Secretary Panetta, Attorney General Holder and DNI Clapper still haven't testified before Congress—what steps did they take during the attack and in the days that followed?

What were the President's activities during the seven-hour period of attack?

Why wasn't the U.S. military deployed to assist? On the anniversary of the worst terrorist attack in American history, after multiple attacks this year on U.S. and Western interests, why were U.S. military units and assets in the region not ready, alert and positioned to respond? After all, two of the four people were killed seven hours after fighting began.

Why do we still not have clear answers on the internal process that produced the inaccurate talking points on which Ambassador Rice relied several days after the attack?

Why were the testimonies of the U.S. personnel who were evacuated from Benghazi on September 12—eyewitnesses who knew there never was a demonstration outside the Consulate—not immediately factored in to the judgments of our intelligence community?

Why wasn't Secretary Clinton interviewed by the Pickering Commission?

Was the White House aware of the FBI investigation of Gen. Petraeus? If not, why not?

There are also serious questions about links of this terrorist attack to the protests at the U.S. embassies in Cairo, Egypt, Tunis, Tunisia and Sanaa, Yemen that same week—where each American compound was breached by individuals allegedly linked to al Qaeda-affiliated groups. What, if any, were the connections between these incidents and the attack in Benghazi?

These questions are too serious—and the consequences too grave—to be brushed aside. There are critical legislative decisions the next Congress will have to make based on the answers of these questions. But more importantly, the American people deserve answers to these questions—including open hearings and an unclassified report.

The select committee I am proposing should draw from the existing congressional investigations by including the chairman and ranking member of each committee of jurisdiction—Intelligence, Foreign Affairs, Judiciary, Armed Services, Homeland Security and Oversight and Government Reform—as well as five additional Republicans appointed by the Speaker and two additional Democrats appointed by the Minority Leader.

I appreciate the support I have received for this resolution from the original cosponsors, as well as the Heritage Foundation. I also submit for the record a recent op-ed that was published on RealClearPolitics.com by former Senator Fred Thompson articulating the benefits of a unified select committee. Senator Thompson has a unique perspective on the need for this committee given his experience as counsel on the Senate select committee on Watergate.

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to the families of the victims, and the American people, to fully investigate this terrorist attack. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

[From RealClearPolitics.com, Nov. 28, 2012]

INVESTIGATING BENGHAZI: WHY WE NEED A SELECT COMMITTEE

(By Fred Thompson)

As we fixate on the latest version of Gen. David Petraeus' testimony or the misleading statements of Susan Rice, I suggest that we stop and think about the size of what we are dealing with. The Benghazi tragedy raises questions concerning the protection of our embassies, the performance and capabilities of our military and our intelligence community, as well as the decisions of high-ranking officials in the Department of Defense, the State Department, the White House and possibly the Justice Department.

The scope of the questions that involve an array of officials, and sensitive agencies and departments of our government, is unprecedented. The inquiry into what happened and why, along with who is or should be accountable, calls for a focused, responsible effort equal to the seriousness and the complexities the issues.

I've seen this rodeo before, both in a constructive manner (Watergate, where I served as a counsel) and a less-than-constructive one (Clinton-era investigations, where I chaired a committee that probed at least one facet of the various scandals). On our present course, the prospects for a relatively short but thorough, credible, bipartisan congressional investigation are not good. The prospects for a disjointed, drawn-out mess, replete with partisan bickering, are much better.

It is easy to identify at least eight congressional committees (four in each chamber) with claims of jurisdiction in the Benghazi matter. No committee has jurisdiction over all of it, and several committees have jurisdiction over parts that overlap with the jurisdictions of other committees. Some of the committee hearings will involve classified information and will be conducted behind closed doors. Members of ''Committee A'' will not know what a witness told ''Committee B'' in a closed hearing. Gen. Petraeus' recent appearance on Capitol Hill demonstrates how difficult it can be to get a consistent story when the witness is making multiple appearances before even the same committee.

Perhaps not all committees with jurisdiction will have hearings, but if half of them do it will produce competing hearings, with competing staffs and competing press conferences over much of Capitol Hill. It will also take longer than necessary, as government officials shuffle back and forth giving repeat performances. Different committee chairmen and their committees will make different rulings on document production, whether to move for immunity for witnesses who refuse to testify on the basis of the 5th Amendment, and a host of other matters.

This is simply not the most efficient and credible way to proceed. And it is less likely to arrive at the truth. The seriousness of the matter calls for something better. It calls for a select committee that is given a specific mandate, a budget and a cut-off date that can be adjusted if it is agreed upon. It needs to be comprised of members of both parties who have been selected by their leadership because of their proven integrity, reputation for fairness, and expertise in a given area.

In a matter fraught with political implications, it is especially important that Congress accept its responsibility and minimize partisanship as much as possible. History demonstrates that this goal is much easier to achieve with a handful of selected people than it is with many. Since 1789, when Congress investigated a failed military expedition, select committees have been utilized to serve such important and sensitive functions, and the Benghazi matter should follow in that long tradition, whether by means of a joint committee of both houses of Congress or by either chamber.

Most select committees have become historical footnotes. Some, however, are well remembered because of the contribution they made to helping Congress carry out its duties of legislating, overseeing the executive branch and educating the American people as to the operation of their government. Ironically, it is because of the success of these panels that some members of Congress and others oppose the formation of one in this case.

They say that forming a select committee for a matter such as Benghazi, where a consulate and four American lives were lost, would attach too much importance to the investigation. They fear that it would be equating it with Watergate. Of course, if the Watergate standard, as they define it, is now the operative standard for the formation of a select committee, then seldom, if ever, will another select committee be formed.

Critics of the select committee miss the point on several levels. First of all, if indeed a comparison is to be made, one must look at the seriousness of facts and issues presented concerning Benghazi and compare them with the seriousness of facts and issues presented at the times when other select committees, such as Watergate, were formed. So compare the Watergate burglary with what we have here. Can there be any doubt that Benghazi passes the Watergate test?

The wisdom of utilizing a select committee should not just be judged on the outcome of the committee's work; dramatic results are not always achieved or warranted. The select Watergate Committee is a beneficial reference point, not because of the end result of its investigation a year and a half after it was formed, but because of the process Congress utilized to deal with a difficult situation.

At that time, we had a Republican president and a Congress controlled by the Democrats. Yet the Senate voted unanimously to form the committee. Democratic leadership appointed Sen. Sam Ervin, reputed to be the chamber's leading constitutional scholar, to chair the committee. The Republican leader appointed Sen. Howard Baker to be the vice