and in-service classes in a variety of subjects. While at the 17th and 18th Districts, he worked in Community Policing. In the 18th District, he worked with the Police Explorers and youth programs, and in the 17th District, he was the community and elected officials liaison for quality of life enforcement. He was on a leave of absence for about 2 years as an inspector at the Illinois State Police. Ralph concluded his illustrious career on November 16, 2012 in the Intelligence Section as the Labor Liaison Officer ensuring proper police service for organized labor activities.

His dedication to his fellow officers, his job and the city he loves is an example of why Chicago is known as "The City That Works."

Ralph would be the first to tell you that his family is his first priority, and they have provided support throughout his career. He has been happily married to his wonderful wife, Antoinette, for 15 years. His family also includes his son, Ralph Schauf, Jr., who is now a Trooper with the Illinois State Police, and his wife, Jennifer, his daughter, Adriane, and his granddaughter, Olivia Ruth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Officer Schauf's years of service to the City of Chicago and the Chicago Police Department, I hope that his dedication and hard work inspire us all to see the difference we can make by serving our local communities. I wish him a happy and successful retirement and all of the best in the future.

INTRODUCING THE DONATE FOR DISASTER RELIEF ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Donate for Disaster Relief Act.

Forty-seven major disasters were declared last year. The year before that, we had 99 major disasters. Three major disasters have already been declared in 2013. On top of that, there were a number of smaller incidents that do not rank on the scale. A tornado that destroys a single house might not be a "super storm," but for the family that lost its home, that tornado certainly is a major disaster.

Things are not going to get better. There are going to be more major disasters. We are going to have to pay for the response and repair. We need to start thinking about what we can do ahead of time to be prepared for when they strike. We don't have to wait for the worst to happen before we actually do something. This bill will help us get ready beforehand. Why wait?

The Donate for Disaster Relief Act creates a completely voluntary cheek-off on income tax returns that lets taxpayers elect to donate to a disaster relief trust. This bill is an opportunity for us to share our selflessness and generosity before an emergency situation.

The harsh reality of disasters is that while we may not be able to predict when, we certainly can be prepared. The altruism of the American people is on display in their willingness to pitch in and help those in their greatest time of need. This bill creates an easy way for concerned Americans to anticipate the need for disaster relief, wherever and whenever it may be necessary. PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, due to a long-scheduled event, I was unable to be in Washington, DC for the votes that occurred on February 4, 2013. As a result, I missed the votes listed below. I regret missing these and had I been in Washington, DC, I would have voted as follows:

H.R. 297: Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2013—I would have voted yes on H.R. 297. This critical legislation, to extend and reauthorize payments to children's hospitals so that they can continue to educate the next generation of doctors, is essential not just for my district, but the entire country. As we move forward with implementing the Affordable Care Act and expanding access to health services for millions of U.S. citizens, it's essential that we continue to grow our medical workforce by partnering with our local hospitals.

H.R. 225: National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013—I would have voted yes on H.R. 225. This legislation furthers pediatric medical research by bringing together a spectrum of experts working to advance treatments and cures for our children. By using a consortium model, doctors and researchers will be fighting disease instead of with each other for scarce research dollars.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EMANUEL GOLD

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to

Gold, known to his friends as Manny. After a long fight with cancer, Manny passed away at 77.

Manny Gold began his distinguished career in Albany, New York as Counsel to the Majority Leader of the New York State Senate in 1965. At 35 years old, he was elected to the Assembly, and a year later to the New York State Senate where he would serve for 27 years.

Manny had a great sense of humor and was well regarded on both sides of the aisle. His tireless work throughout his career permanently bettered New York State, New York City and the Borough of Queens.

Óne of Manny's greatest legislative accomplishments was the "Son of Sam" law, which prohibited criminals from profiting from their crimes. This landmark legislation helped lay the foundation for similar laws around the country.

Manny was an avid photographer and could often be seen taking pictures of the State Capitol and Executive Office Building in Albany. In his earlier days Manny was a boxer, but he quickly made a transition to the less physically demanding sport of golf which he played over the course of his long life. His love for music was as strong as it was for sports and politics, exemplified by the symphony orchestras he conducted. Mr. Speaker, Manny was a tireless public servant for the citizens of New York and always made it a priority to put his constituents first. Even with the loss of his beloved sons Adam and Jeffery he continued to be a strong leading voice for the people of New York.

With work that spanned over three decades he exemplified the meaning of courage and strength by sponsoring legislation that touched the lives of many who lived and worked in Queens. These bills included a measure to mandate that New York City hospitals provide Emergency Room treatment and to make public buildings more accessible for the disabled.

The legacy that he leaves reflects the love for his New York family, but more importantly the love he had for wife Judith, his surviving children Sue and Steve, his daughter Bonnie and his granddaughters Emily and Jackie.

Mr. Speaker, for his service to New York State, advocacy for Queens, and devotion to his family and friends, I ask all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Emanuel Gold.

CONGRATULATING REV. GREGORY NELSON DAVIS ON HIS RETIRE-MENT

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, for the past 34 years, Rev. Gregory Nelson Davis has been a familiar figure in Johnston, Iowa. This month marks a bittersweet occasion: it is Rev. Davis' last month of work for the St. James Lutheran Church before he steps down as its pastor.

Joining the ministry was not Davis' first goal in life, but he attributes his career to the love he has for his congregation. After studying philosophy as an undergraduate, Davis decided to continue his education by getting a Master's Degree in Philosophy. He then decided to attend seminary, because he wanted to make a difference in people's lives every day.

For the past 28 years, Davis has been the pastor at St. James Lutheran Church, and has doubled its congregation since he started preaching there.

It is fitting that he now wants to focus on his own family after giving so much of his life to others. Once he steps down from the pulpit he is excited at the prospect of spending more time as a husband and as a grandfather to his two grandchildren.

Rev. Davis will give his last sermon on February 17th. I thank him for his years of hard work guiding people in the right direction and wish him the best in his retirement.

21ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAG-EDY IN KHOJALY, AZERBAIJAN

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, as the Co-Chairman of the House Azerbaijan Caucus, I rise today to bring attention to the tragedy that